



## Safety Planning for Pets

If you're able to prepare for your pet's departure, try to have the following pet items in a safe place where your abuser won't find them.

- Pet's vaccination and medical records
- License that proves you own your animal
- Bowls, bedding, toys, grooming supplies, a blanket, etc.
- Identification tag without your home address but with a phone number of a trusted friend or your Veterinarian
- Dog leashes
- Cat carriers (unconfined cats can easily get scared an escape. If you don't have a carrier for your cat, a pillowcase can work in an emergency.)
- Medication, if any
- A photo and an information sheet on food and feeding schedules, medical conditions, medications and schedules, likes and dislikes, and any possible behavior problems to give to a temporary caretaker

### Before leaving make sure you:

- Find a safe place ahead of time. Ask friends and family that you trust who might be willing to take your pets temporarily. Check out local safe havens for pets in your area.
- Know your pet's hiding spot so you don't have to spend time looking for them in the case of emergency. The pet's location should be kept secret in case the abuser decides to try to take control of a pet in order to take control of the victim.

**SPCALA's Animal Safety Net Program      (323) 733-0219**

Adapted from the *Making the Connection: Protecting Your Pet from Domestic Violence*, by the HSUS. Copyright *The Humane Society of the United States* and the *Violence Prevention Program, Calgary Humane Society*.