

Dog Owner Collects Donations for Medical Center

Donated pet products will go to Animal Medical Center's cancer clinic.

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Janine Franceschi and BeauJanine Franceschi and her dog Beau put out a special call to pet-friendly hoteliers and businesses to seek donated items to "Beaus Buddies," a group formed to support the upcoming DogsWalk Against Cancer in New York City.

Franceschi, president of Pet-friendly Accommodations Worldwide (PAW), said she got the word out about this newly formed organization through social networking sites such as Twitter and LinkedIn. The goal is to represent the luxury, pet-friendly hotel community and business community at the American Cancer Society's DogsWalk Against Cancer event May 3.

As an alternative way for people to participate, she asked for donated pet toys, treats and accessories. The items will be donated to the Donaldson-Atwood Cancer Clinic of the Animal Medical Center.

This Animal Medical Center in New York is the recipient of a full 10 percent of the funds raised from the event. "They have many patients and families who could put these donations to good work in the healing and recovery process," she said.

The items to be donated to the clinic include dog carriers, squeaky dog toys, harnesses, milk bones and "Bark for a Cure" dog T-shirts. Franceschi said she has had a great response and plans to make this an ongoing effort.