

Our Guidelines

Rising Above will accept applications for assistance from rescue groups and pet guardians living in the state of Tennessee or Georgia.

Rising Above will provide financial assistance for transportation, boarding, behavioral evaluations, supplies and medical cost of Great Danes in a rescue situations, such as stray, abandoned, abused, or have been adopted within the last 6 months and for who no other funding is available

Each application will be reviewed by our Board of Directors to determine if the dog is eligible for assistance through our program. Guidelines for eligibility:

- * The dog requires medical treatment and is in a rescue situation (stray, abandoned, abused, etc.) or the dog was recently adopted within the last 6 months and is in need of medical treatment the pet guardian is unable to provide due to economic hardship.
- * The dog, pet guardian and/or rescue organization is in the state of Tennessee or Georgia.
- * The dog is a Great Dane or Great Dane mix.
- * The dog must be spayed or neutered. If the dog is not already spayed or neutered, please include plans for having this procedure done when submitting the application. In some instances, funds may be provided to spay or neuter in conjunction with other procedures. This will be determined by the board.
- * Applications for the treatment of congenital orthopedic conditions will be considered with the following additional requirements:
 - o If the funding request is for surgery and the veterinarian has assessed the condition and it's of the opinion that the dog's quality of life and/or adoptability will be significantly compromised without surgery, as opposed to other maintenance treatment options.
 - o Rising Above may require the applicant to seek a second opinion and further evaluation to ensure that the suggested surgery or treatment is the only option for ensuring a good quality of life for the dog.
 - o The dog must be symptomatic. Meaning, the diagnosis was not made only from routine x-rays. The dog must be showing signs of dysfunction. Applications for funding must include a description of the symptoms being displayed by the dog.
 - o With the rising cost of vet expenses, all options for surgery should be explored by the applicant (vet schools, a vet offering an increased rescue discount, etc.). Rising Above reserves the right to provide cost effective vet options in your area.

* Rising Above will not provide funding for any medical treatment for established personal pets. However, in the following cases funding will be considered for recently adopted dogs if the application meets all other guidelines:

- o Individual Rescues: An individual has rescued a dog that was injured or ill at the time of rescue and would like to provide a permanent home for the dog, or it is determined by a veterinarian that the dog needs medical treatment for a condition that was not readily obvious at the time of rescue.

- o Adoption through a humane society or shelter, or other rescue organizations: A dog that appeared healthy or had a minor illness/injury has been adopted from a shelter or rescue organization and, after adoption, it comes apparent that the dog's condition was serious, or it is discovered that the dog needs medical treatment for a condition that was not readily obvious at the time of adoption.

- o Placements through a rescue organization: An ill or injured dog has been taken in by an established rescue organization. A permanent home is found for the dog during the funding application process, or a home is found before the organization has an opportunity to start the funding application process. The assumption will be that, in the absence of an adoptive home, the case would have met all Rising Above guidelines, and that the adoption would have been seriously jeopardized if the assistance were not available.

- o The adoptive/rescue home is expected to pay some portion of the cost. Applications must include a dollar amount that will be paid, or that has already been paid, by the new owner. The adopter must show valid proof of adoption via a contract with an acknowledged rescue organization or group.

- o In all ownership situations, funding applications will be considered on a case by case basis, taking into consideration the severity of the illness/injury and the details of the rescue.

Once it's been determined that your dog meets the funding criteria, you may want to review our application process and submit an application.