



**Healing pets. Helping people.**

420 Bronte Street South, Ste 205  
Milton, ON L9T 0H9  
Toll Free: 1.888.262.9811  
[www.farleyfoundation.org](http://www.farleyfoundation.org)

## **Ontario Veterinarians Recognized for Helping Seniors, Disabled Individuals & Abused Women Through Hard Times**

[January 28, 2009] Toronto, ON – The Farley Foundation will this week honour over 200 veterinary hospitals across Ontario for raising over \$156,000 to help seniors, disabled individuals and women at risk of abuse pay for veterinary care for the pets that mean the world to them.

The money was raised during a month-long campaign in October called “Fundraise for Farley Month” aimed at increasing awareness and raising funds to assist the Farley Foundation. The foundation is named after one of the world’s most famous cartoon characters, Farley the English sheep dog from Lynn Johnston’s internationally syndicated comic strip, *For Better or For Worse*®.

Each year, Ontario veterinary practices come up with great community-based events, such as doggy walk-a-thons, a dog wash, dog Olympics, dog treat bake sales, pet fairs, pet shows with pet/owner look-alikes contests, pet pedicure parties, pet costume parties, pet fashion shows, Santa pet pictures, “Shave Your Veterinarian's Head” raffles and teddy bear clinics, to raise money to help those in need.

Top performers of the fundraiser are recognized with a tiered awards system and are honoured at an awards ceremony at the Ontario Veterinary Medical Association Annual Conference & Trade Show.

This year’s top fundraiser, Park Road Veterinary Clinic from Brantford, raised over \$12,000 with a pet community fun fair. This is the fourth year in a row that staff at the Park Road Veterinary Clinic raised the highest amount (raising at least \$10,000 in each of 2006 and 2007 and 2008). Staff at Park Road will serve as the Official 2009 Farley Foundation Ambassadors, appearing at Farley Foundation events and media speaking engagements throughout the year.

The Farley Foundation will also pay homage to 16 veterinarians and veterinary industry members for raising over \$15,000 during this year’s Ride for Farley, an annual cycling event where individuals ride over 260 km across rugged northern Ontario terrain to raise funds and awareness for the Farley Foundation.

This year’s top fundraisers are:

### **Gold Friends of Farley (raised at least \$5,000)**

Park Road Veterinary Clinic (Brantford)  
Richmond Veterinary Clinic (Napanee)  
Thunder Bay Veterinary Hospital  
Yonge St. Animal Hospital (Toronto)  
Yorkwood Veterinary Clinic (Keswick)  
Harwood Pet Hospital (Ajax)  
Callbeck Animal Hospital (Oshawa)  
Gananoque Veterinary Clinic

### **Silver Friends of Farley (raised at least \$2,500)**

Chicopee Hills Animal Hospital (Kitchener)  
Fairmont Animal Hospital (London)

Renforth Veterinary Clinic (Etobicoke)  
 Algonquin Animal Hospital (Ottawa)  
 Chedoke Animal Hospital (Ancaster)  
 Lynwood Animal Hospital (Nepean)  
 North Bay Animal Hospital

### **Bronze Friends of Farley (raised at least \$1,000)**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Kleinburg Veterinary Hospital                | Markham Veterinary Clinic                   |
| Baxter Animal Hospital (Sudbury)             | Ayr Animal Hospital                         |
| Royal York Animal Hospital (Toronto)         | Parkdale Animal Hospital (Waterloo)         |
| Animal Health Services (St. Catherines)      | BloorMill Veterinary Clinic (Etobicoke)     |
| Springer Animal Hospital (Sturgeon Falls)    | Cornell Animal Hospital (Guelph)            |
| Green Bay Veterinary Hospital (Cloyne)       | Fletcher's Creek Animal Hospital (Brampton) |
| Laurelwood Veterinary Hospital (Waterloo)    | Mullen Small Animal Clinic (Walkerton)      |
| Welland Animal Hospital                      | Talbot Animal Hospital (London)             |
| Aylmer Veterinary Clinic                     | Abbey Animal Hospital (Oakville)            |
| Greely Animal Hospital                       | Village Animal Hospital (Lakefield)         |
| Gloucester Veterinary Hospital               | Island City Animal Hospital (Brockville)    |
| The Animal Clinic (Toronto)                  | Kingsville Animal Clinic                    |
| Lakeview Animal Hospital (Mississauga)       | Mitchell Animal Hospital                    |
| Dalton Road Animal Hospital (Jacksons Point) | Westway Animal Clinic (Toronto)             |
| Lasalle Animal Clinic (Sudbury)              | Annex Animal Hospital (Toronto)             |
| Belleway Veterinary P.C. (Belleville)        | South Porcupine Animal Hospital             |
| Taunton Road Animal Hospital (Oshawa)        |   |

### **Farley Foundation Awards Ceremony**

The Farley Foundation honours its top supporters during an awards ceremony at the 2009 OVMA Conference & Trade Show in Toronto. Media must register on-site at the OVMA Registration Desk.

|        |                                      |
|--------|--------------------------------------|
| When?  | Friday, January 30, 12 noon          |
| Where? | Westin Harbour Castle Hotel, Toronto |

### **About Farley Foundation**

The Farley Foundation assists seniors (in receipt of the Federal Guaranteed Income Supplement), disabled individuals (in receipt of the Ontario Disability Support Payment or CPP Disability), and women at risk of abuse (who are participating in OVMA's SafePet Program) by subsidizing the cost of non-elective veterinary care for their pets. Established in 2001 by OVMA, the Foundation has distributed well over \$500,000 to assist almost 1,600 pet owners and their pets. Pet owners looking for assistance should speak directly with a veterinarian. For details visit [www.farleyfoundation.org](http://www.farleyfoundation.org)

### **About OVMA's SafePet Program**

OVMA's SafePet Program assists women at risk of abuse (and their children) who are entering women's shelters to make the final decision to leave abusive situations by providing temporary housing and care for their pets while they are in women's shelters. Women seeking shelter should contact a local women's shelter or call 1.866.863.0511 (TTY 1.866.863.7868). Individuals interested in becoming pet foster parents should contact a local veterinarian or visit [www.ovma.org](http://www.ovma.org) for details.

– 30 –

For more information about the Farley Foundation or the above release, please contact:  
*Nadia Vercillo, Manager of Communications and Public Relations*  
 T. 1.888.262.9811, ext. 4, C. 416.838.3925 or [nvercillo@ovma.org](mailto:nvercillo@ovma.org)