

the Gabriel foundation®



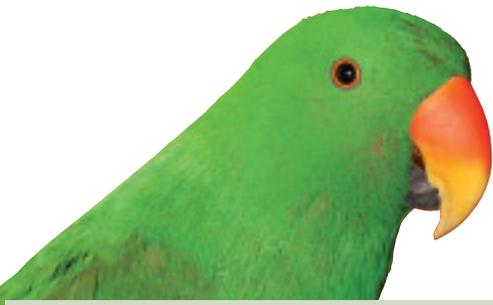
Purpose and Mission



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*Many have forgotten this truth,
but you must not forget it.
You remain responsible, forever,
for what you have tamed.*

— Antoine de Saint-Exupery



the Gabriel foundation®

The Gabriel Foundation® is a 501(c)(3) avicultural and veterinary affiliated parrot welfare organization licensed by the state of Colorado, promoting educational outreach, conservation, rescue, rehabilitation, adoption, and sanctuary pertaining to the needs of parrots everywhere.

THE GABRIEL FOUNDATION'S PURPOSE AND MISSION

The Foundation's purpose is to serve as a research and educational model to the public-at-large, the veterinary medical community, the pet industry, humane animal welfare organizations and the avicultural community. The Foundation educates the public about the importance of providing appropriately for the welfare of parrots in captivity and the need to preserve the world's parrots in their wild habitats.

THE GABRIEL FOUNDATION: AN INTERNATIONAL FORCE

The Foundation is a *nationally* recognized parrot welfare organization that provides for the complete physical, psychological and environmental well being of the parrots in its care via an integrated holistic approach, insuring through education, follow-up, legal documentation and support services the continued well being of those parrots whether they remain in sanctuary, or transition to adoptive or foster homes. Every decision to either accept a parrot into the organization or to place a parrot into another situation is based on the individual bird's best interest and the well being of the present flock. The organization also provides for the general welfare of parrots in the public domain by providing accurate, comprehensive and reliable educational and resource materials to the interested public at large through a variety of media approaches.

The Foundation's founder and President, Julie Weiss Murad, is a part of the aviculture committee of the Association of Avian Veterinarians whose task is to develop standards of care for avian rescue and sanctuary groups. The Foundation's developing Avian Welfare Council is an international committee whose goal is to develop and promote greater awareness of the needs of parrots in captivity, whether in homes, rescue, sanctuary, or breeding facilities and in the retail pet trade through a set of endorsed and supported guidelines and standards.

The Gabriel Foundation is pleased to support responsible and ethical breeders who implement the very best standards of care for the needs of the psittacine and parrot-like birds raised and housed in their aviaries. These persons are dedicated to the environmental and psychological nurturance and enrichment of their birds' lives, pursuing continuing education in the fields of aviculture, husbandry, behavior and veterinary care. These persons take into consideration the need to make a difference in the welfare of each and every bird that they place. They provide wide-ranging educational and supportive care with the bird's lifetime welfare as its goal. They remain a continued resource for the birds and to their human caretakers that facilitates the success of the human/parrot bond.

The Gabriel Foundation believes that it is critical to the welfare of future generations of parrots to liaison with quality individual breeders, veterinarians and retailers who embrace the need to provide the public with comprehensive and accurate educational materials and information regarding the specialized needs of parrots in captivity, those kept as companion pets and for those needing our help to survive in the wild.



The Gabriel Foundation actively supports and endorses networking and liaison relationships with other parrot welfare organizations, mainstream animal welfare organizations, the veterinary community, the avicultural community, conservation organizations and the public at large. The Foundation's interaction and involvement with other organizations endeavors to work cohesively to promote educational outreach and to establish a prevailing responsible and quality "Standards of Care" for the cycle of the bird's life. The future of the psittacine bird is completely dependent upon each and every one of us for its short- and long- term well-being. We must all work together on a universal level toward that shared goal.

THE GABRIEL FOUNDATION'S AVIARY

The Foundation's medical director evaluates the acute, chronic and long-term medical needs of all the Foundation incoming and outgoing birds. The Foundation's team of attending and affiliated veterinarians, certified veterinary technicians, staff members and volunteers provides for the total health care, as well as for the psychological and environmental needs of all birds. The data collected by the Foundation concerning the birds entering and leaving the aviary, supported by continued follow up communication, is invaluable to the creation of an accurate database. This critical data is needed to support the efforts with facts to better the lives of parrots via human education about the specialized needs of these birds.

Birds enter the Foundation's aviary for a variety of reasons: lack of human interest and/or time, conflict with spouse or children, a bird's incompatibility with the human's expectations of it, a bird's "unacceptable" behavior, a bird's physical handicap, a bird's chronic illness, a lost bird, rescue from animal cruelty or abandonment, family or financial hardship, human guardian's illness or death, or requests from a pet store, animal welfare organization, veterinarian or breeder to provide on-going care, and individual request for sanctuary.

The aviary features a separate quarantine room and area, and has 5 different rooms to house the birds depending upon their size, species or health. The aviary also includes a separate kitchen, showering area, small laboratory, office and greeting area. The aviary has many outdoor flights of different sizes, group flocking areas and outdoor caging to provide for every birds' daily physical and psychological enrichment and benefit in addition to their nutritional and social needs. *[For detailed information, please refer to our Standard of Care and Protocols of Practice brochures.]* The aviary is able to provide consistent, high quality care for up to 250 psittacine birds on premises at one time.

The Foundation's aviary is certified by the Model Aviculture Program (MAP). Though the Foundation is NOT a parrot breeding facility, the data, record keeping protocol and biosecurity standards promoted by MAP are applicable to any aviary. At present, MAP protocol is the only suggested, *not mandated*, standard of care supported and followed within the avicultural community by some of its members and is endorsed by the Association of Avian Veterinarians. Currently **no** federal laws exist that provide regulated care for birds in pet stores, shelters or rescue and sanctuary facilities. Some states have animal welfare and protection laws, but most state statutes are extremely limited or vague when it comes to appropriate and necessary care for psittacine and parrot-like birds, and they are subject to differing interpretations, most often to the detriment of the birds' well-being. With the recent passage of the federal Farm Animal Bill and the related Animal Welfare Act, humane standards of care for pet birds and the poultry industry have been once again excluded on a federal level. Any future standards regarding the improved care and well being of these avian species will need to take place on the individual state level. At present, The Gabriel Foundation's Standard of Care far exceeds any published standards, and is in accordance with the standards of care developed by the Standards Committee of the World Parrot Welfare Alliance.

The Gabriel Foundation's Programs

In addition to operating a one-of-a-kind aviary, the Foundation currently maintains seven separate programs: education outreach, rescue, rehabilitation, foster care, adoption, sanctuary and conservation for the needs of parrots around the world.

Education Outreach

Education is the Foundation's primary focus. The Foundation improves awareness about the needs of parrots around the world including those in captivity, in retail situations, in the wholesale and retail pet trades, in breeding situations, in rescue, sanctuary and welfare organizations, and awareness of and about the birds in their indigenous locations. The Foundation has developed a series of educational classes, materials and lectures covering varied topics of bird care for the interested parrot enthusiast and potential adopter. With its national volunteer liaisons, a broader audience can be reached with this important educational network. The Foundation educates through a variety of mediums:

- **Informational Programs and the Disbursement of Educational Materials** — The Foundation conducts informational programs and provides educational materials to the public — including many retail stores and bird clubs, veterinary practices, bird marts, shows and conferences — through aviary tours, original and reproduced printed educational packets, data compilations, newsletters, website information, written and e-mail correspondence, publications and journals, and telephone support and counseling. Staff and birds often appear at related animal awareness events, make public appearances at venues such as Rotary Club meetings, senior care facilities, or upon request to appear from other organizations. The Foundation's off-site volunteer liaisons assist nationally with similar types of appearances providing educational literature, informational support, and hands-on interaction with birds.
- **Authorship of Articles and Booklets** — The Foundation's staff writes articles and booklets concerning bird welfare. Many original informative articles appear in our newsletter, "The Front Perch™" and throughout our website pages. The Foundation's Education Packet includes the booklet, "How to Care for your Companion Bird", and sells to breeders, hobbyists and other interested persons, such as veterinary practitioners, to help educate the public about total bird welfare. The Foundation's brochure, "Establishing a Parrot Welfare Organization", provides substantial examination of this topic with information on establishing an operating parrot welfare program/facility and includes basic, non-legal information about becoming a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. The Foundation also provides information to interested individuals about how to provide for their parrot's future when they can no longer physically provide for them in its two brochures, "A Lasting Tribute to a Lifetime of Love", and "Providing for your Companion Parrot".
- **Lectures** — The Foundation staff or volunteer liaisons generally lecture on bird care and related issues at least twice a month off premises. Foundation staff or liaisons lecture several times weekly to numerous school visitors on site and at the educational facility, providing tremendous resource information to children of all ages, veterinary technicians and interns, pre-veterinary and veterinary students, as well as to other animal welfare organizations, hobbyists, breeders and newly interested persons, potential adopters and the simply curious.
- **Symposiums and Conferences** — The Foundation hosts its "Parrots in the New Millennium" symposium which is attended by people worldwide who are interested in learning about parrot conservation, welfare, avicultural, veterinary, legal, estate planning and ethical issues. In addition to the Foundation's symposium, some Foundation staff participates in and attends national and international conferences and maintains affiliations with organizations which focus on parrots and related animal welfare, husbandry, education or veterinary topics. National Continuing Education credits are offered at most of the Foundation's symposium and conference events. The Foundation holds other educational programs, fundraisers and benefits such as the Psummer Psittacine Pscelibration, Art Affair Extraordinaire, Kids 'n Kritters, and Parrots in Paradise that underscore the parrot welfare cause. Volunteer liaisons hold local Foundation promotional and educational events to provide this information on a national level. Many national bird clubs



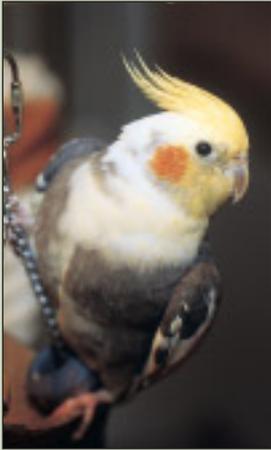
After visiting over 30 international conferences dealing with avian medicine, conservation and aviculture, the symposiums organized by The Gabriel Foundation in Las Vegas (2000), Tampa (2001) and San Diego (2002) have been very special to me.

TGF accomplished to have representatives from all different organizations and backgrounds, dealing with parrot welfare and wellbeing. A major focus has been the issue of "unwanted parrots" donated to parrot rescue facilities. Dealing with unwanted parrots is dealing with the different aspects of avian medicine, behavior, irresponsible trade and (ir)responsible aviculture.

To meet so many different people, from all over the world, caring for parrots and active in different disciplines has been a great learning and inspiring experience.

Jan Hooimeijer, DVM

Kliniek voor Vogels
Meppel
The Netherlands



Since the first day I had the enjoyable experience of meeting Julie Murad, founder of The Gabriel Foundation, she has steadfastly guided this group towards the highest possible standards of care and stewardship for the birds whose lives this group touches.

The Gabriel Foundation, in my mind, functions in an active role to guide psittacine rescue and sanctuary work in the United States and abroad to a professional level, and educate the public in the most optimal manner to allow these birds in our culture the greatest possible probability of quality lives.

Brian Speer, DVM, DIPL ABVP
Certified in Avian Practice
Diplomate, ECAMS,
The Medical Center for Birds
Oakley, California
Certified specialist in avian medicine
and surgery (Europe)

request permission to use our original material in their newsletters and provide copies of our educational material to their members at large. Foundation founder, Julie Murad, and/or other Foundation staff are frequently requested to present at avicultural venues, pet store and bird club events.

- **Coordination with Educational Facilities** — The Foundation works with local, regional and national school districts, community colleges, veterinary technician programs and university veterinary programs. For example, Foundation staff has participated in the avian care segment of the exotics program to the highly regarded certified veterinary technician programs at Colorado Mountain College, and the Bel-Ray Technical Institute, as well as to other national accredited animal technician programs. Foundation staff have presented bi-annually to the Colorado Association of Animal Control Officers and to other interested humane organizations. Julie Murad has presented at the annual conferences of the Association of Avian Veterinarians, and to many veterinary school programs nationwide with an avian and exotics program on non-medical issues often overlooked in medical practices.
- **Internship Programs** — The Foundation hosts on-site extended internship programs for college students, veterinary technicians, and pre-veterinary and veterinary students. Many persons interested in starting their own parrot care organization, parrot pet-sitting business or adoption/rehabilitation program are frequent visitors and interns to the Foundation aviary and office.
- **Volunteer Activities** — The Foundation welcomes interested public, rescue, sanctuary, welfare organizations, veterinarians and members to participate in hands-on care of the aviary and the birds. The Foundation willingly provides its materials to interested volunteers to distribute appropriately in their local area. The Foundation developed a volunteer training manual for training, teaching, educational and safety purposes. The Foundation aviary hosts family fun, on-site volunteer work weekends and picnic lunches at the aviary quarterly throughout the year.
- **Networking** — The Foundation developed the Veterinary Support Network that continues to increase its membership. The Foundation continued to develop and expand the Pfoster Home Network with local and national individuals and bird clubs to assist with many of the Foundation's programs. The Foundation is working with other state animal control departments/agencies to provide a basic understanding of the specialized needs and care of parrots entering their facilities in greater numbers than ever before with educational material, resource support and transfer of birds. The Foundation has achieved strong international awareness through its website, and continues to work internationally with other organizations sharing similar goals, providing requested information and educational support.

Rescue

At the Foundation, “to rescue” is to bring a bird that is in an acute, life threatening situation or is in immediate need of assistance into a safe environment to be cared for by a knowledgeable and dedicated staff committed to improving the bird’s quality of life. If present quarantine is filled and an emergent situation requiring immediate intervention occurs, we have a **small nationwide network of veterinarians and volunteers** willing to assist. The Foundation rescues:

- Birds found in deplorable conditions or in danger either by the general public, the Foundation itself, or by animal control officers.
- Birds owned by owners who, because they were unable to provide a safe environment for the birds, turned the birds over to the Foundation.
- Lost birds in need of capture and possible veterinary care, with efforts made to locate “owner” whenever possible.

Rehabilitation

The Foundation rehabilitates birds that are in need of special health care or other forms of rehabilitation. The Foundation's rehabilitation:

- Diminishes the destructive behaviors of the birds
- Promotes trust, confidence and relationships between the birds and humans
- Boosts the immune systems of the birds
- Promotes well-adjusted and content, active, interactive and happy birds
- Treats the birds in a manner conducive to the bird's *individualized* needs
- Teaches and encourages interaction between birds and individuals

The Foundation has a highly trained staff that proceeds through multiple processes to rehabilitate a bird. The Foundation provides each placement inquiry with an informational brochure, "Placing a Bird with The Gabriel Foundation". Questionnaires are provided to the relinquishing individual, and a member of the Foundation's staff reviews this social and medical history for each potential entrant for completeness. If a bird arrives at the Foundation without this information, every effort is made to trace previous ownership. The request then goes to the Foundation's adoption and sanctuary committee for approval. Once accepted, the bird enters the next scheduled quarantine and The Foundation's medical director or an attending or affiliated veterinarian then performs a complete physical work up that may include substantial laboratory medical tests with appropriate supportive care if not recently performed. Due to the amount of neglect and abuse often incurred by these animals, the Foundation consults with avian specialists in the fields of holistic medicine, radiology, orthopedics, ophthalmology, etc. to evaluate the acute and chronic needs of each individual bird. With this information, the staff has a good assessment of the individual bird's condition, and the Foundation can provide specialized nutritional support as needed, in addition to bathing, full spectrum lighting, physical and psychological enrichment items, with both human and avian socialization for the birds.

Foster Care

The Foundation has established two different programs to provide for parrots in need. For its Foster Parrot-care program, the Foundation has established a nationwide network of qualified, dedicated and continuously monitored temporary and permanent care homes with specific standards of care and reporting requirements. This program builds an increasing long-term and experienced community of dedicated individuals whose goal is solely to improve the quality of life of the birds in their care.

With its Foster Care program, the Foundation offers on-site foster care for up to two years for birds in need of placement by individuals unable to currently care for their birds. Minimal financial support is requested for this program but may be waived due to hardship. With this program, birds in need who have committed and caring owners are able to be returned to their families when the situation permits.

Adoption

The Foundation's Adoption Committee members work intensively with individuals interested in adopting a Foundation bird and supporting the Foundation's purpose and mission. The Foundation does charge a Placement Fee for all birds adopted. The Foundation has established a structured application, screening and adoption process outlined in the Parrot Adoption Protocol available on our website, by email, telephone or written request. The Foundation encourages a site visit to the aviary in Colorado for all prospective adopters. To be considered an adoption candidate, The Foundation initially requires applicants to complete an adoption application, submit an application fee and then proceed through a series of telephone and/or e-mail interviews and reference verification. Once approved, multiple site visits, parrot-care classes, current veterinary records and



I wanted to let you know what a great experience we had with The Gabriel Foundation. I was very impressed when I visited there and brought my two birds, Frankie and Molly. The staff and volunteers are so dedicated and their attitude is very respectful and loving. We keep in contact and I love getting updates about what's happening there.

I was surprised and pleased that both of my birds were adopted very quickly. The two new owners are friends of the Foundation and had personal recommendations by the staff. What a relief it was to me that they are in such good hands at the Foundation and will have wonderful homes with their new adopted families!

The Gabriel Foundation is a very special place and you have my heartfelt support. Please continue this great work!

Best regards,

Gerry Williams

Escondido, California



My 21 years as an animal control officer, several years as a veterinary technician and many experiences working with and training a variety of animals did not teach me how to properly care for parrots. These highly empathic, intelligent creatures are genetically still wild animals. The Gabriel Foundation has been an excellent resource for information, support and education.

As Vice President of Colorado Avian Resource, Inc., I applaud the Gabriel Foundation for its ongoing efforts to:

- Provide rescue and placement or sanctuary to abused and neglected birds.
- Provide the highest standard of care to the birds housed at its facility.
- Provide education to the public about these wild creatures we have taken into our homes.
- Provide means by which these long-lived companion birds can be placed in appropriate homes should the bird outlive its caretaker.
- Serve as an ambassador to parrots in the wild through education.
- Work to encourage those countries that still allow importation of wild caught birds to cease that practice.

It is an honor and pleasure to be called on by TGF to assist in any capacity. My experience with TGF has proven to be an opportunity to help promote the welfare of companion birds and continue my education.

Marjie Payne

Vice President of Colorado Avian Resource, Inc.

Englewood, Colorado

home visits may be required. So often, people “look” for a bird of a particular species, when in the Foundation’s experience, most birds will “choose” the person they prefer, which along with staff observation and guidance, contributes to the success of the match. For persons visiting from out of town, a multi-day stay is encouraged and recommended so that the Foundation and potential adopter can mutually assess human/bird interaction and a strong adopter/Foundation relationship is begun. The Foundation and the potential adopter share a long term commitment to the birds and to each other about the care of each bird. It is considered important for the Foundation or a member of its network to become familiar with each potential adopter. The bird’s housing, routine and care, personality, history and inclusion into the adopter’s home are discussed at great length. Depending upon the geographical location of the potential adopter, the Foundation or its representative may conduct home inspections prior to and/or post-adoption. The Foundation invests a tremendous amount of time and resources, pre- and post-adoption, to ensure to the best of its ability, the best fit between the adopter and adoptive bird, and most importantly, for the bird’s long-term welfare by:

- Requiring the adopter to complete a Probationary Adoption Agreement and enforcing such agreement
- Conducting scheduled phone and e-mail interviews, and even site visits, if deemed necessary
- Enforcing the Permanent Adoption Agreement (including designation of beneficiary)
- Conducting follow-up questionnaires annually (at minimum)
- Entering all post adoption communication into the Foundation’s database
- Summarizing and analyzing all post adoption communication

Sanctuary

The Foundation provides sanctuary and permanently cares for birds that as feathered ambassadors of their indigenous habits serve to heighten awareness of the need for conservation program support. Refuge is provided for birds that are not available for placement in P-foster Parrot-care, or for birds whose best interest is served by remaining in the Foundation’s care, or by a person’s established request for sanctuary for their bird(s). All sanctuary birds receive the same high level of care as the birds available for adoption and in foster care. Sanctuary birds are housed in species-specific rooms at the Foundation, and have access to outdoor flights, abundant enrichment, psychological and environmental support on a daily basis. The Foundation’s sanctuary provides:

- A safe haven for birds that prefer not to interact with humans in a companion animal situation
- A home with supportive care and nurturance for birds with chronic disease
- Staff dedicated to meet the needs of the individual bird
- Educational programs that focus on some of the sanctuary birds’ specific needs or problems, indigenous habitats, conservation status, or social interaction to promote the parrot welfare cause.

(For further information about providing for your parrot in the event of your disability or death, please request our “A Lasting Tribute To A Lifetime Of Love” brochure and other important materials.)

Conservation for the Needs of Parrots Everywhere

The Foundation generates continuing awareness of the needs of parrots throughout the world by supporting international conservation efforts that help maintain and preserve the birds in their natural habitats. The Foundation actively supports conservation, both nationally and internationally, through its annual symposium, educational outreach, website links, and with financial support. We believe that it is critical to the long term well being of parrots in captivity to learn as much as possible about the lives and habitats of their wild cousins. Conservationists, field and wildlife biologists, and some eco-tourism campaigns have made both positive and negative impacts on birds in the wild. But, many companion and captive parrots have benefited from species’ knowledge gained via observation and documentation, increasing our understanding of the birds’ inherent needs. The profound impact of seeing parrots in the wild can have an awesome impact on efforts to improve the



lives of companion and captive parrots under human guardianship. Biodiversity continues to be supported when the wild birds are provided for in their indigenous habitats. Please visit our website for additional information on conservation programs and important links and how your support will make a difference.

YOU NOW KNOW FACTS ABOUT WHAT THE GABRIEL FOUNDATION® DOES...

Here's what you can do!

The present and future are uncertain for individuals needing to place their birds for adoption, rehabilitation, refuge or sanctuary with appropriate enduring and qualified facilities that provide the very best care possible. To date, without widely accepted, well-publicized or legally enforceable standards of care for birds on a city, county, or national state level, the quality of husbandry, enrichment, avicultural and veterinary care may vary greatly and may not always be in the bird's best interest. Additionally, the availability of space, resources, and knowledgeable caretakers for long term or pre-adoptive care is limited as demand for established facilities far exceeds supply. Unlike situations with most dispossessed cats and dogs, mainstream humane animal welfare organizations are not always willing, prepared or equipped to provide for the unique needs of most parrot species. These organizations may lack physical and human resources to provide long term supportive care, appropriate educational information, or to make pro-parrot, long-term successful adoptions and maintain continued communication.

The need to provide accurate information to current and future caretakers of companion parrots concerning the level of commitment and care necessary to properly care for these long-lived, highly intelligent creatures is overwhelming and critically needed. Many parrot breeders and most pet stores with a retail trade in companion parrots simply do not have the staff, the time or willingness to adequately prepare prospective purchasers about the realities of living with an essentially wild animal. Many do not provide this information because the reality of the parrot as a pet and full disclosure of its habits, needs and specialized care might deter animal sales and/or related products.

The Gabriel Foundation is an upstanding organization whose sole concern is parrot welfare for the short-term, as well as the long-term issues from captivity to conservation. The Gabriel Foundation needs your help today – while you are living and able to care and provide for your bird's needs. With your support, The Gabriel Foundation can continue to provide educational outreach and critical hands-on care for present and future generations of birds in need.

Help The Gabriel Foundation promote the parrot welfare cause to provide for your parrot when you are unable to do so.
You can extend your legacy of compassion for parrots into the future...by both making a gift to The Gabriel Foundation® today and remembering companion parrots and/or to provide for your parrot when you are unable to do so, when you make or revise your estate plans.

Support The Gabriel Foundation's efforts.

Your support and contributions do indeed make a difference. Become a member today or purchase a gift membership for a friend.

Contribute to The Gabriel Foundation today for the well being of parrots everywhere tomorrow.

The future of our parrots' lives requires joint effort and support.

Together, we can make a difference!



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