BACKGROUNDER
CARE Veterinary Center

Overview
As the only independently owned, multispecialty and emergency practice in the city and county of Frederick, Maryland, CARE Veterinary Center (CARE) provides big-city medicine in a small-town setting. Our team of board-certified specialists and experienced veterinarians work in collaboration with the region’s primary care veterinarians, delivering advanced care to diagnose and treat complex medical, surgical, or emergency conditions in companion animals.

History
Founders Kelly Gellasch, DVM, DACVS, DAAPM, and Stephanie Phillips, DVM, DACVIM, opened the doors to CARE Veterinary Center on November 1, 2010. They then acquired Frederick Emergency Animal Hospital in April 2013. Four more emergency veterinarians, two internists, and two surgeons also joined the staff that year. The practice has grown from 15 employees to more than 70, a testament to the community’s need for the expert level of veterinary specialty and emergency services that CARE provides.
Specialty Services

CARE currently offers the following veterinary specialty and referral services:

- Cardiology*
- Emergency services (24/7)
- Intensive care
- Internal medicine
- Ophthalmology**
- Pain management
- Radiology***
- Sports medicine and rehabilitation
- Surgery

Fully Equipped With Progressive Technologies

Leading-edge capabilities available at CARE include:

- Advanced diagnostic imaging, including ultrasound, endoscopy (diagnostic and foreign body removal) stent placement, chemotherapy, minimally invasive surgery (arthroscopy and laparoscopy) and digital radiography
- An on-site blood bank for blood and plasma transfusions
- Advanced anesthetic monitoring
- A hyperbaric oxygen therapy chamber (HBOT) (the only one in Maryland)
- A physical therapy and rehabilitation gym
- Two rehabilitation treadmills, one underwater (hydrotherapy) and one land
- Two state-of-the-art surgical suites
- 24-hour veterinary and nursing coverage

*Cardiology services provided by CVCA-Cardiac Care for Pets
**Ophthalmology services provided by Eye Care for Animals
***Radiology services provided by Vet Rad
The Difference Between a Board-Certified Specialist and a Primary Care Veterinarian

**Board-Certified Veterinary Specialist** has completed extensive training after undergraduate school that includes four years of veterinary school, a one-year internship, and a two- to three-year residency in an accredited specialty program. The veterinarian must then publish original research and pass a national certifying exam. After completing these requirements, the veterinarian is granted Diplomate status, signifying his or her expertise and credentials in a chosen specialty.

**Primary Care or Family Veterinarians** have earned a veterinary degree and focus on general preventive care and pet wellness. They refer to and partner with appropriate specialists when their patients have complex illnesses or injuries.
What Sets CARE Veterinary Center Apart

- Collaboration: CARE’s veterinary specialists and emergency veterinarians not only work closely with primary care veterinarians but also with each other, so each patient benefits from the combined expertise of a multidisciplinary team—a tremendous advantage in planning treatment for complex cases.
- Individualized care: As an independently owned practice free from outside corporate mandates, CARE tailors its services to the needs of each patient and pet owner.
- Innovative technology: CARE invests in the most up-to-date diagnostic and treatment technology proven to enhance outcomes, such as hyperbaric oxygen therapy.
- Exceptional service: CARE’s philosophy is to say yes and then make it happen—from efficient patient transfers seven days a week to open communication with referring veterinarians and pet owners to streamlined, easy-to-understand billing.
- Value: With the CARE team’s advanced clinical expertise, pets are accurately diagnosed and appropriately treated as quickly as possible—a level of efficiency that translates into real value for pet owners and great outcomes for the patients.

A Commitment to the Local Community

Locally owned, CARE actively supports the Frederick community through ongoing participation in and sponsorship of numerous pet-related events and programs to raise funds for pet owners who cannot afford medical services for their pets.
FACT SHEET
CARE Veterinary Center

Who: CARE Veterinary Center – Specialty and Emergency Pet Services

What: Located in the heart of Frederick, MD, CARE Veterinary Center is an award-winning specialty and emergency animal hospital. A team of board-certified specialists, experienced veterinarians, and dedicated support personnel provides advanced and emergency services with exceptional, compassionate care for companion animals in the tri-state area, including Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

Specialty and Referral Services:
- Cardiology*
- Emergency services (24/7)
- Intensive care
- Internal medicine
- Ophthalmology**
- Pain management
- Radiology***
- Sports medicine and rehabilitation
- Surgery

Leadership:
- Stephanie Phillips, DVM, Diplomate ACVIM, Founder/Owner
- Kelly Gellasch, DVM, Diplomate ACVS, Diplomate AAPM, Founder/Owner
- Becky Clawson, MS, Practice Manager

*Cardiology services provided by CVCA-Cardiac Care for Pets
**Ophthalmology services provided by Eye Care for Animals
***Radiology services provided by Vet Rad
Year Founded: 2010

Where: Main Hospital: 1080 W. Patrick Street • Frederick, MD 21703
> Emergency/ICU, Surgery, Internal Medicine, Cardiology, Radiology
CARE/Prospect: 434 Prospect Blvd • Frederick, MD 21701
> Sports Medicine, Rehabilitation, Ophthalmology

Size: Two locations – 6,000 square feet each; 11 exam rooms, 9 veterinarians, 42 technicians, 15+ support staff

Website: CareFrederick.com

Hours/Appointments:
• Emergency & Critical Care: 24/7, 365 days • No appointment or referral necessary
• Specialty & Referral Services: M–F, 9am–5pm • By appointment.

Awards:
2012 People to Watch- Dr. Stephanie Phillips, DVM, DACVIM
Frederick County Business Appreciation Award 2013, 2014
2013 Entrepreneur of the Year, Fastest Growth
LEADERSHIP
CARE Veterinary Center

Kelly L. Gellasch, DVM, DACVS, DAAPM
Owner, Board-certified Surgeon, Credentialed in Pain Management

A co-founder of CARE Veterinary Center, Dr. Gellasch is a board-certified veterinary surgeon (DACVS) who is also credentialed in pain management for animals (DAAPM). She received her degree in veterinary medicine (DVM) at Michigan State University in her home state and completed her internship in small animal medicine at Mississippi State University. She did her surgical residency training at the University of Wisconsin and was awarded Diplomate status in 2003.

She is a member of the American Veterinary Medical Association, College of Veterinary Surgeons, American Academy of Pain Management, Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Society, and Maryland Veterinary Medical Association. In her free time, Dr. Gellasch enjoys spending time with her husband, their son, four labradorables, and three cats.
Stephanie L. Phillips, DVM, DACVIM
Owner, Board-certified Internist

CARE Veterinary Center co-founder Dr. Phillips is a Frederick County native who earned her undergraduate degree in animal and dairy science and then her DVM, both from Auburn University in Alabama. She completed her small-animal internship at the University of Minnesota and her residency in small-animal internal medicine at Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. She was awarded Diplomate status by the American College of Veterinary Medicine in 2001.

Dr. Phillips previously was a staff internist at a multispecialty animal hospital in Cleveland; then she returned home to open Frederick Veterinary Internal Medicine, which she operated until 2010, when she co-founded CARE with Dr. Gellasch.

She is a recipient of the Young Achievers Award from Auburn University and a charter member of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine (ACVIM) Foundation. Dr. Phillips lives in Middletown and shares her home with her husband, two children, two dogs, three cats, and two fish.
Becky Clawson, MS
Practice Manager

Becky joined the CARE team in 2013 as marketing director and now holds the position of Practice Manager. In this role, she oversees all business aspects of the practice, including operations, strategic planning, new business development, marketing, and community relations.

She earned her undergraduate degree in advertising and her master’s degree in integrated marketing communications from West Virginia University. A consummate professional, Becky currently is pursuing certification as a veterinary practice manager (CPVM), awarded by the national Veterinary Hospital Managers Association.

Becky and her family – which includes her husband, son, daughter, two cats, and a dog – make their home in downtown Frederick.