

## **Warm, Dark, and Quiet - Emergency Home Care**

Often it becomes necessary to simulate a hospital set-up for pets at home before you can get to the veterinarian or for ongoing home cares. The following enclosure will help to support your pet so that he/she can concentrate on getting better.

- 1. A 10-Gallon aquarium, Rubbermaid container or a small “critter carrier” for small birds lined with newspaper or paper towel is an ideal enclosure for most patients. Bigger birds will need a large dog crate or similar sized container that they will not easily chew.**
- 2. Place a heating pad set on low under half of the enclosure.**
- 3. Cover  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the tank with a towel to darken the area and trap the heat, yet still allowing easy visualization of your pet.**
- 4. Place a bowl of water on the floor and spread the food around to allow for easy access.**
- 5. Only handle your pet to medicate him/her. Too much handling will stress the patient and slow the healing process.**

This will help you stabilize your bird before travel to the veterinary office if he or she is sick but it is not a substitution for prompt veterinary care or hospitalization. If you believe that your bird will benefit from this care, then he or she then it is imperative for your pet to be seen by a veterinarian as soon as possible. If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to schedule an appointment, please contact our office at 240-687-1414.