

# Foster Care Guidelines

- ✿ Any and all animals placed into foster care must be approved either by the Executive Director or Shelter Manager prior to being removed from the animal shelter.
- ✿ All animals leaving the shelter must be signed out and the foster parent must retain copies of the animal's I.D. number. Foster parents are also asked to keep a record of all shots, flea prevention treatments and worming that is done while in the foster's care. This information will be placed on the adoption form for the new family's record.
- ✿ If a foster animal becomes sick or injured while in foster care, the foster parent is responsible for all costs incurred. If the foster parent is unable or unwilling to be responsible for the vet care, the animal must be brought back to the shelter. The foster will be responsible for paying any and all medical expenses for that animal should they elect to get treatment from a vet prior to HSDC approval. Continued care will be at the discretion of the Shelter Manager or Executive Director.
- ✿ Once the animal is in foster care, any veterinary treatment is the responsibility of the foster. The shelter will provide the first Parvo/Distemper vaccine, wormer and basic antibiotics. Any additional vet care will be paid for by the foster. This includes all abuse cases as well as those taken from the shelter. No reimbursement for care will be given to the foster.
- ✿ The Humane Society is released from any and all claims, demands, damages, actions, causes, costs, losses and expenses arising from, related to, or connected with the foster care animal, including, without limitation, any act of such animal while in the foster family's possession. The foster family will indemnify and hold the Humane Society harmless from and against all such claims, demands, damages, actions, costs, losses, and expenses.
- ✿ Foster parents are responsible for getting their animals to as many adopt-a-thons as possible. Volunteers are also needed to help at these events. Please plan to remain with your animal at adoption events if at all possible. You are the best person to represent him/her to prospective adopters.
- ✿ Also if at all possible, HSDC needs a picture of your pet for the web site. Please include a description of the animal. Give as many details as possible. The more information we have, the easier it is to get them adopted!



Help the  
Humane Society  
Save Lives



Foster a Pet



To learn more about fostering a pet, please contact:

**Humane Society of Dickson County**  
410 Eno Road, Dickson, TN 37055  
615-446-PETS (7387)

[www.DicksonHumane.org](http://www.DicksonHumane.org)

## A Word from our Foster Parents . . .

"If you are interested in saving a cat's or dog's life, then fostering may be for you. That is what has motivated me for the last year and half. I have fostered 85 animals that would have otherwise been euthanized. It is also a plus when I run into an adoptive owner of one of my fosters and they tell me how much that the pet has added to their life. It is a rewarding service you do that benefits both people and our companion animals. - Shawn



"What I have seen in fostering is that when you take in a dog or cat from the shelter, they know that you cared enough about them to pick them. They somehow know their fate and when you give them a chance, they know this. Many people just like myself have said that shelter animals are the best animals. They truly are.



Knowing that you can foster and turn that dog or cat into a companion and that you can broaden the possibilities of this pet finding a home is so

precious. The animals return your devotion ten fold, remembering that dogs provide unconditional love. To know I can provide love to a dog or cat and transform it from scared or unfriendly to an animal that won't leave my side really feels good."

- Yvonne



## Opportunities to Foster

The Humane Society needs loving foster homes for the following types of pets:

- 🐾 Pregnant cats and dogs – need foster homes from pregnancy until their offspring are 6 weeks old
- 🐾 Mom pets with nursing babies
- 🐾 Kittens
- 🐾 Cats of all ages
- 🐾 Puppies
- 🐾 Dogs of all ages
- 🐾 Injured or special-needs pets
- 🐾 Pets waiting to be transported out of state

## How does fostering work?

Fostering a pet is quite simple – it begins when you volunteer to care for a homeless pet in your home. You take the pet home from the shelter and provide love, nourishment and proper veterinary care until it finds a forever home, either through shelter contacts, personal visits or adopt-a-thons.

## How long will I foster?

Foster times vary from a few days to a few months – it depends on the type of pet.

## How am I saving lives?

By fostering you are not only saving the life of your foster pet (by ensuring he or she goes to a good home), but you also make room for another animal at the shelter.

Fostering helped the Humane Society of Dickson County improve our adoption rate by 32% in 2004 – an increase of more than 200 lives saved!

