



HUMANE SOCIETY
CENTRAL TEXAS

FOSTER CARE CONTRACT and DISCLAIMER

Thank you for agreeing to be a Foster Family for HSCTX! The purpose of our foster program is to help animals become more adoptable by living in a home where they can get the attention they need, and we can learn more about them. Fostering is a **temporary** measure for shelter animals. Therefore, their stay in a foster home may last from 1 week to 3 months.

YOUR FOSTER ANIMAL'S INFORMATION

Name		Age	Sex	ID Number (A#)
Species	Breed		Color and markings	
Special needs			Medications	

As a Foster Family, you play a huge role in the life of your foster animal! To ensure that s/he finds a wonderful Forever Home, we expect the following from you:

1. Weekly updates – Pics, video, behavior and medical issues, adoption efforts
2. Monthly Zoom meetings
3. Assistance with Forever Home placement
4. Attendance at adoption events at least monthly

As a Foster Family, you agree to the following:

- You will provide adequate food, water, shelter, and humane treatment, obeying all state and local animal protection laws.
- You will respond by phone, text or email to communication from HSCTX staff within one business day.
- You will not harm, hurt, abuse, neglect, kill, euthanize, sell, trade, give away, or dispose of the animal.
- You will slowly introduce your foster animal to your pets, being especially careful with introductions between dogs and cat.
- You will continue medication and treatment as directed by the City of Waco Veterinarian, and you will call the Foster Family Liaison to obtain refills at least 7 days before you run out.
- If the animal needs veterinary care, you will contact the Foster Family Liaison for direction about where to take the animal. HSCTX will cover the cost of veterinary services, medicine, and prescription food.
- If your foster animal is missing or becomes injured or dies in an accident, you will notify the Foster Family Liaison immediately.
- If HSCTX suspects that the health or well being of your foster animal is in question, we will conduct a home visit within 48 hours of notification to you, and the animal may be removed from your care.
- You are not a staff member or employee of HSCTX. Therefore, you may not act on behalf of, speak for, or make any decisions regarding your foster animal.
- You will ensure that your current and future pets are spayed/neutered and up-to-date on vaccinations.
- If someone is interested in adopting your foster animal, we will provide you with their contact information. You have 48 hours to contact them for a meet and greet, but you have first dibs to adopt!
- You must make an appointment with the Foster Family Liaison to return the animal if you can no longer care for the animal properly, or if you choose not to care for the animal.
- The animal remains the legal property of the City of Waco while in foster care. The City or HSCTX may take back physical custody of the animal at their discretion.

Dog Fosters:

- We strongly recommend crating your foster dog when you are not home. This is a humane technique, and it is preferred over leaving the animal outside. We can provide you with a crate to borrow!
- You will not allow the animal off leash in an unfenced area.
- You will not allow the animal to ride in the bed of a pickup truck or to be tethered on a chain.
- The shelter environment is stressful for animals so your foster animal will need time to decompress, **which may take several weeks**. During that time, walk your foster dog with a tight collar or harness in the immediate area surrounding your home, and hold the leash tightly to prevent escape. For very shy or scared dogs, do not take them on walks **at all** until they are feeling settled.
- Heartworm prevention for dogs is **mandatory** in the State of Texas. The Foster Family Liaison will contact you every month when heartworm prevention is due for your foster dog, and you will need to come pick it up at the shelter. If you do not reply to her call, text, or email within one business day, or if you do not pick up the medication, you may be required to return your foster dog to the shelter.
- Your foster dog may not be cat friendly, either now or in the future. Keep your foster dog separated from your cats for at least 2 weeks and then do slow introductions over time. Your foster dog may never be best friends with your cats, so keep them safely separated as needed, but without locking one or the other out of your home. For suggestions on how to do this, call the Foster Family Liaison!

Cat Fosters:

- Your foster cat is **indoor only**. Never let him/her outside.
- You are not authorized to declaw your foster cat. Declawing is an antiquated, painful, and inhumane technique. The Foster family Liaison can teach you how to trim your cat's nails, and give you suggestions on how to prevent cats from scratching household items.
- Your foster cat may not be dog friendly, either now or in the future. Keep your foster cat separated from your dogs for at least 2 weeks and then do slow introductions over time. Your foster cat may never be best friends with your dogs, so keep them safely separated as needed, but without locking one or the other out of your home. For suggestions on how to do this, call the Foster Family Liaison!

Waiver: I understand that although HSCTX takes reasonable care to screen animals for placement in foster homes, it makes no guarantee relating to the animal's health, behavior, or actions now or in the future. HSCTX does not always know what vaccinations the animal has received, and I understand that an animal can still get sick or carry contagious diseases even after being vaccinated. HSCTX makes no claims as to the animal being dog-, cat-, or kid-friendly. I understand that I receive this animal "as is" and at my own risk. I indemnify and hold HSCTX free and harmless from all liability arising from any and all claims, demands, losses, damages, actions, judgments of every kind and description which may occur to or be suffered by me, members of my household, my own animals or any third parties by reason of activities arising out of this agreement. I also release HSCTX from responsibility for any diseases that may be contracted by my resident animal(s) from my foster animal.

By signing below, I am indicating that I have read and understand the Foster Care Contract and Disclaimer.

FOSTER FAMILY INFORMATION

Print first and last name or pet's primary caretaker	Date
Address	
Cell phone # <input type="checkbox"/> Texting allowed	Email
Signature of pet's primary caretaker	

