## **The Truth About Fostering**





Coppell Humane Society is a foster home organization which means we can only save the lives of deserving pets awaiting rescue when we have foster homes available. Foster homes free up space at crowded shelters so they have more space available for other animals - by fostering even one animal, you can save multiple lives!

Foster homes make our pets better socialized, happier, and more desirable.



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- Tostering gives a pet a second chance at life.
- <sup>™</sup> Fostering a pet is a wonderful, life-affirming project for the entire family.
- Fostering a pet costs nothing but a little time.
- <sup>™</sup> Fostering a pet is fun, rewarding, and can take place whenever you are ready.
- ☑ Fostering can be done anywhere in a city/suburb, house/apartment.
- Fostering offers pet companionship to those unable to make a long-term commitment.

So many people think they can't foster for one reason or another, but in most cases, it just isn't true! Some of the common concerns we hear are:

"I MIGHT GET ATTACHED" – It can be emotionally difficult to say goodbye on adoption day, but it is such an incredibly rewarding feeling to see that happy new family take their new pet home! By letting your foster go to a loving family it then frees up your space so you can save another animal.

"I DON'T HAVE THE SPACE OR TIME" – Whatever space you have at home - whether a spare room or playpen/crate - is probably more than the animal has at the shelter. The time required depends on the specific animal - an adult does not require nearly as much as a newborn puppy/kitten, but generally you only need the time required to feed, clean, and play with your foster pet. You can work full time and still foster!

"MY OWN ANIMALS WON'T TOLERATE A FOSTER, ESPECIALLY AN ADULT" – Our foster coordinator and network of experienced fosters will give you recommendations on how to introduce your foster(s) to your resident pets. Having a foster interact with other cats and dogs can make them more attractive to potential adopters and you never know how your pet will react until you try in the recommended way!

"SOMEONE ELSE WILL SAY YES, THERE ARE PLENTY OF OTHER FOSTERS" – There is always a need for more foster homes! As we said, there are so many wonderful animals in the shelters and we can only save them if we have a foster home available. If you are still weighing the decision, there is also the option to babysit for other foster homes - it is as needed and may only require a week or weekend commitment.

"A SHELTER ANIMAL MIGHT GET MY OWN ANIMALS SICK" – We have a very strong medical protocol and we will assist you in each step of the process to be certain all the animals are protected.

"I CAN'T AFFORD TO TAKE AN ANIMAL" – This one is easy! We pay for all medical expenses and provide food, litter, and other necessary supplies. If you want to buy your own supplies for fosters it is considered a donation-so save the receipts so you can take a tax deduction!

Without a dedicated facility, we completely rely on foster homes to care for and save animals.

## Fosters save lives. We need fosters!

Email moreinfo@coppellhumanesociety.org or leave a message at (972) 462-1121 to get started saving lives!

www.coppellhumanesociety.org

moreinfo@coppellhumanesociety.org *Voicemail:* (972) 462-1121

Information provided by CHS and Maggie's Fund

Photos courtesy of Penny Whistle