



## What to expect when you're fostering!

### FOSTERING OPPORTUNITIES:

- Medical case
- Transport
- Socialization

WHETHER YOU'RE FOSTERING FOR A MEDICAL CASE, TRANSPORT, OR JUST HELPING A DOG BECOME MORE SOCIAL AND LEARN TO TRUST, HERE ARE SOME THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW:

### 1. We can provide everything:

Food, bedding, a kennel, piddle pads, towels, blankets, and anything else you might need. We will load you up with all the necessities when you pick up your foster! Along the journey which is fostering you may discover you need something additional, just ask!

### 2. If you are fostering an animal for socializing:

You might start to see improvement within a few hours of the animal leaving the stress of the shelter environment. Often it is better for the animal to remain in your home when meeting potential adopters. When someone calls interested in the animal we will take their information and ask you to contact, discuss what you know about the animal and their behavior in a home environment. You can also schedule a meet and greet. If you're not comfortable having a stranger come to your home you can meet at the shelter or another place where you can handle your foster safely.

### 3. If you think the animal needs to see a vet:

- Call the shelter to discuss. We are familiar with many ailments you might notice, and inventory most of the basic medications you might need.
- We will either make the appointment for you or ask you to make it convenient to your schedule. We work with all the vets in Fayette County, and they are all familiar with our foster program. GJAS will cover the cost involved.
- If you choose to take your foster to the vet without approval, unless it's truly an emergency, GJAS will not cover the cost.

### 4. Fostering for a rescue transport:

**Fostering for a rescue transport is a special kind of foster.** Often when an animal is scheduled for transport, they will be adopted and have a new forever home before he/she ever leaves Texas! You will know the rescue organization name and you can follow on social media. More times than not you will see your foster pup's happy ending story and follow along as they grow! Sometimes, like GJAS, in the chaos of a busy day the rescue might miss the photo opportunity for any number of reasons. **We have vetted our rescue partners as well as the animal laws in those states.** We know and trust these partners to help save lives so while we know you're desperate to see that little face, please do not contact the rescue. We will share any and all info we get, but we don't always get info.

### 5. If you are fostering an animal that is being transporting out on a certain date:

You will have a couple of vet visits along the way. We will schedule those appointments at your convenience. It is especially important to meet any scheduled vet visit specific to transport, there is a timeline we have to follow for the rescue requirements.

***Fostering saves lives, and we are grateful to you for choosing to foster for GJAS!***



## **Looking for a short term commitment? We need FOSTER homes!**

FOSTER PARENTS ARE VOLUNTEERS WHO TAKE DOGS OR CATS INTO THEIR HOMES AND CARE FOR THEM UNTIL THEY ARE READY FOR ADOPTION. WITHOUT FOSTER HOMES, WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE A SAFE HAVEN TO THESE WONDERFUL ANIMALS IN NEED. SPACE IS AN ISSUE FOR GJAS AND OFTEN TIMES WE'RE FULL!

### **Animals that enter the GJAS foster program include:**

- Animals with no apparent issues at all - *they only need a temporary home until they are adopted.*
- Animals entering a Rescue Program - *most rescues require an animal be out of the shelter environment for 2 weeks.*
- Animals that need socialization - *because they are shy, have not been properly trained, or have been abused/neglected.*
- Animals with special needs.
- Animals with minor behavioral problems.
- Puppies that need care - *they have little to no immune system and need a safer environment until their adoption.*
- Cats that need socialization - *because they haven't had contact with people.*
- Kittens that need bottle feeding - *and a safe place to become used to people.*

### **What would I be expected to do as a foster parent?**

- Provide a clean, nurturing, indoor home for the dog, puppy, cat or kittens.
- Take the animal to scheduled vet visits as needed.
- Give medications as needed.
- Send updates and pictures for our social media.
- Communicate with GJAS and/or approved adopters and accommodate meet and greets of your foster dog/cat.

### **What if I need to go out of town?**

With enough notice, we can find another foster to take the dog/cat or get him/her into boarding.

**Important note:** While some volunteers do end up adopting a foster dog or cat, the foster program is not for people who want to "try out" an animal prior to adoption. It is intended to provide one-on-one attention in a home environment for these animals. This is a vital part in preparing them for adoption. (Although we do offer "trial" adoptions.)

### **What if I already have pets of my own?**

Don't expect the animals to be best friends overnight.

We are experienced with proper dog and cat introductions and can provide assistance and guidance.

### **How long would I keep the animal?**

Our goal is a short term foster, around 2 weeks. There are many variables when fostering a dog/cat. GJAS will work with you and make sure the commitment works for you and your family. Please carefully consider this commitment and be sure all family members understand what this program entails. If there are medical issues or the dog/cat has stricter limitations on the type of home that would be best (*i.e. dog needs home with no cats, no children, etc*) an adoption may take longer.

### **Would I be responsible for my foster animal's expenses?**

GJAS will provide and/or pay food, litter, vet care, and any medications. We also loan food bowls, beds, crates, collars and leashes as needed.

### **What's in it for me?**

You get the extreme satisfaction of saving a dog/cat and providing the vital care necessary to ease their transition to a FURever home.