

Important Foster Guidelines



Contact Information

- Shelter Direct Line: 713-863-9835
- Angie Topper, Wellness Lead
713-357-5243 (direct), 713-677-4991 (cell)
wellness@friends4life.org
Please Contact First in the event of a Medical Emergency!
- **Dogs** – Canine Lead
713-714-2215 (direct line)
canine@friends4life.org
- **Cats** – Feline Lead
713-357-5241 (direct line)
feline@friends4life.org

The Foster Process

- **Updating your Profile:** Friends For Life uses a software called Shelterluv to track all of our animals. Once we input your information, you will receive an email at the address you have provided asking you to update your profile.
- **Adopting:** If you would like to adopt the foster(s) as your own, you must fill out the adoption application immediately. If there is an application for adoption already submitted for the animal, it is too late! You may fill out the application on our website.
- **Advertising & Transfer:** If someone has expressed an interest in adopting your foster(s), that is great! However, they **MUST**, without exception, go through the standard adoption process at the shelter **BEFORE** taking possession of the animal.
- **Home approval:** We are very focused on finding the best home for your foster animal. Your input is very important to us. While we very much value your input, please understand we will have the final approval on the home that is chosen.

Foster Care Responsibilities

- **Dog Adoption Events:** RSVP to requests for animal showings. Emails are generally sent on Sunday for the following weekend's events.
- **Meet & Greets, Adoptions, and Sleepovers**:** Make every effort to answer phone calls or emails sent by the Adoption staff (Stephanie, Heather, and Liz) **as soon as possible**.

**** Sleepovers are 'trial adoptions' that are typically for one week. If the sleepover works out the animal will stay with the adopter. Therefore if you drop your animal off for a sleepover please pack their bags, bring some of their food and say your goodbyes!**

- **Travel:** If you have travel plans please provide your travel dates to us **as soon as possible** so that we can make arrangements for a temporary foster or for boarding of the cat or dog.
- **Crate/Carrier/Supplies:** We are happy to loan you whatever you need in order to be able to foster. Please make sure you return any items that are no longer in use so they are available for other fosters.
- **Give it Time!** – when taking a dog into your home, if it exhibits unwanted behavior (e.g. barking, soiling) please try and give it 24-48 hours for the dog to settle in. If the behavior continues please reach out to us immediately for assistance. If you end up returning the dog to FFL, don't give up on fostering!