



# Parkland Humane SOCIETY INC.

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## FOSTER HOME TERMS OF AGREEMENT

The following document outlines the terms of agreement and processes involved when fostering a dog through the Parkland Humane Society Inc. (PHSI)

### THE FOSTER ENVIRONMENT

The PHSI operates primarily with the assistance of foster homes. While we will occasionally board dogs, foster homes are a preference as they allow the dog available for adoption to adjust to a home environment, allowing the animal to learn, live and play in a family environment. Foster homes also provide a much more accurate means of assessing the rescue animals, and foster families assist in providing information on each dog as an individual. This is done on a volunteer basis, and the PHSI does not expect any home to extend their efforts beyond what they are willing to offer. We are extremely grateful to have kind volunteers willing to open their homes and their hearts to our dogs and cats while they await their forever homes.

### CHOOSING TO FOSTER

The PHSI is grateful to the foster homes which donate their time and efforts to providing a temporary home environment to a dog awaiting his or her forever home. We understand that not all foster homes are able to accommodate every breed, type and personality. We request that families interested in fostering provide us with information, which includes what types of dogs they are willing to foster. Specifications including size, age, and personalities you are willing to work with are carefully considered, and information including the number and ages of children and other animals in your home will assist us in selecting a dog that will work with your family. **Please note, fostering is intended as temporary care for dogs seeking homes and is not a way to take a dog on trial while you consider adoption! We offer a trial period with our adoptions, so if you are wishing to foster a specific dog with the intent to adopt, please apply for the dog.** If there are any changes to the types, ages, sizes or issues you are willing to work with in a foster dog, please notify the PHSI at 638-6966 or email [info@parklandhumanesociety.com](mailto:info@parklandhumanesociety.com)

### ADOPTING A FOSTER DOG

We do realize that foster homes sometimes get attached and want to apply to adopt their foster dogs. ALL dogs in rescue must be put up on the website when they come into rescue, and all dogs are open to applicants. If you are interested in adopting a dog that you are fostering, you must fill out the adoption paperwork and apply for the dog. Preference is always given to our foster homes, but we will not bump an interested applicant if we are notified *after* applicants from another party are received. If you would like to adopt your foster dog, please get applications in to us promptly! *Please note, long term foster homes maybe granted special privileges in this area.*

### RESCUE POLICY

The rescue only adopts to home that have altered and vaccinated animals. This also applies to our foster homes, and we can not use a foster home that does not meet our base adoption requirements. This includes ALL cats and dogs in the care of the foster home. In signing this document, you acknowledge that your pets are spayed or neutered and current with their vaccines - rabies and distemper combo.

### DONATIONS

The PHSI covers the costs associated with our dogs and cats in foster care as outlined below. If a foster homes wishes to purchase food, toys, etc. for an animal remaining in their care, the PHSI would be pleased to provide an income tax receipt for any donated items, so be sure to keep your receipts. If you have any questions about donations please contact our Administrator at 638-6966 or email [info@parklandhumanesociety.com](mailto:info@parklandhumanesociety.com)

### EQUIPMENT

Dogs are always accompanied by a collar and leash, which will remain with them when they are adopted. Additional items such as kennels or crates, food dishes, tie-outs, baby gates, and other such equipment will be lent out to foster homes on an as-

needed basis. If equipment is needed for a dog in your foster care, please contact the PHSI at 638-6966 or send an email to [info@parklandhumanesociety.com](mailto:info@parklandhumanesociety.com) Equipment will remain the responsibility of the foster home while it remains in their possession, and it is expected to be used for the purpose it is intended for. For example, kennels or crates are not playhouses or toy boxes for children, and damages caused by misuse will be requested replaced. No foster home will be held liable for damages caused by proper equipment use, and items such as chewing, scratching, etc. are expected. Kennels or crates, dishes, litter boxes and other such items should be rinsed clean of dog hair, feces, urine and dirt upon return to the rescue. Any equipment returned which has not been rinsed clean will be subject to a \$20 cleaning fee.

#### FOOD

While some of our foster homes provide food for the dogs in their care. The PHSI is happy to supply food for the foster pets on an as needed basis. If the same food is being fed to the animals residing in the foster home, and the foster dog, we are happy to alternate the purchase of pet food (ie. the foster home purchases the first bag, we purchase the second, etc.) The PHSI can also provide treats and chews on an as needed basis. If you require any such items for a dog in your care, please do not hesitate to contact us.

#### VET CARE

The PHSI assumes responsibility for vet care as needed for the dogs in the care of our foster homes. While foster families are often willing to drive their foster dog to and from the vet clinic for an appointment, the PHSI is willing to assist with taking a dog to and from the vet in any event assistance is needed. If vet care is needed for a dog you are fostering, please contact our us immediately. Vet care must be approved by the PHSI, and vet appointments *will be made directly by one of the directors* to ensure all billing is placed on our account and to maintain proper records of any health concerns with any of the dogs in our care. Please report any health concerns to us, regardless of how small. Please remember that animals in your care belong to the PHSI, and absolutely no medications, supplements, treatments or procedures maybe performed or provided to the animal in your care without approval from one of the rescue directors. If you have any concerns about a dog in foster care, and suspect the dog in your care may need to see a veterinarian please don't hesitate to contact any of the PHSI directors. Should you have an emergency, and are unable to reach ANY of the rescue directors, please contact the Dauphin Vet Clinic or the after hours vet on call and follow the direct advice of a licensed *veterinarian*. Foster homes must agree to not seek council regarding our animals from friends (even if they have animal experience, such as a breeder) and understand that advice regarding the PHSI must be obtained from a director or directly from a licensed veterinarian. In the event a dog in your care has been bitten by another animal or has been quilled by a porcupine, please contact one of the directors immediately, and we will arrange veterinarian assistance.

#### SPECIAL NEEDS

*If you have agreed to work with a special needs animal*, additional concerns and risks are assumed by the foster home. Special needs cases can range from fear aggression issues to disabilities. Medication will be supplied at the expense of the PHSI for any animal with an on-going medical condition that requires treatment. Foster homes accepting such a dog will be expected to administer the treatments according to the vet recommendations. The PHSI may also cover the costs of obedience classes or special equipment needed for dogs with special issues. Special needs expenses will be decided by the PHSI on a case-by-case basis. Inquiries regarding expenses for special needs animals can be directed to the Foster Director.

#### THE ADOPTION OF YOUR FOSTER DOG

Applications for adoption must be done through a representative of the PHSI, and foster homes are not authorized to approve adoptions. If there is an inquiry about a dog in your care, a representative of the PHSI will contact you and make arrangements that suit your schedule for the foster family to come and meet the animal in your care. If the family wishes to adopt a dog, they must fill out an adoption form and sign a copy of our terms of agreement prior to taking the animal from your home. The adoption fee is also required prior to adoptions. The PHSI may request a spay or neuter deposit on puppies adopted prior to alteration if they are being adopted to a home out of town. All adult dogs must be spayed or neutered before they leave. Unless otherwise authorized, a representative of the PHSI must be present to obtain the paperwork and payment. If you have a friend, relative or acquaintance interested in adopting a dog, they must follow the proper adoption procedures *prior to the animal leaving your care*. If you are uncertain about any aspect of the adoption process, please contact us. We may provide your phone number to interested adopters to ask you questions about the animal in your care, and to arrange a time to come and meet an animal in your care. **Unless you have been advised that the dog can leave your home with a person coming to visit, do not allow the visitors to remove the animal you are fostering from your home.**

If you are, for any reason, uncomfortable with an adopter after speaking with them on the phone, you are under no obligation to invite them to your home to see the dog. Please contact us with any concerns about a potential adopter or potential home for the dog you are fostering. While the decision ultimately remains the choice of the PHSI directors, we do care about the opinions and will consider any objections brought forth by any of our foster homes.

**FOSTER DOG CARE**

Foster homes are requested to provide as much information as possible regarding the types of issues they are willing to work with. As much information as possible will be provided about the foster dog to the foster family, and any issues we are aware of will be explained. Foster homes are provided on a volunteer basis and *foster homes can refuse to work with any dog for any reason*. The PHSI may not always be aware of issues a dog has when coming into rescue, as cases exist where owner surrendered dogs come with misinformation or no information at all. Any concerns will be clearly explained prior to the animal going into foster care, however the PHSI wishes to make clear that these animals can respond differently to different environments, animals and people and the foster home does assume some risk when agreeing to take a rescued dog into their care. While most of the animals are very sweet natured and very few problems arise with foster homes, we feel it necessary to point out that personality conflicts and reactions to different surroundings are not always predictable with live animals, and fostering is done at the risk of the foster home. The foster home also assumes the risk of accidents occurring within their home, and agrees to provide proper supervision of the foster animal during. If a foster home wishes to discontinue working with any dog for any reason, the PHSI will place the dog in a new foster home with the urgency expressed by the foster family. Fostering is done on a volunteer basis, and we fully understand that some dogs and cats do not work with some families. We will do our best to screen our animals prior to requesting assistance from any foster home, and ask that foster homes please notify us of any issues, sizes, ages, or personalities they are unwilling to work with.

**VACATION**

The PHSI will assume responsibility for any arrangements that need to be made for a foster dog in your care if your family plans to go on vacation. Please notify us as early as possible to best assist us with making alternative arrangements for your foster pet. If a foster family is going away for a weekend and has arranged for a dog sitter for their own pets and the foster, this is completely acceptable and very helpful to us. Please notify us if the dog in your care will be with a pet sitter. However, the PHSI does not expect foster homes to assume this responsibility and we will gladly assist with any arrangements as needed.

**OBLIGATIONS**

All dogs and cats residing in foster care are the legal property of the PHSI. The PHSI both legally and explicitly owns each of the animals placed in foster homes. Dogs and cats may not be surrendered to any other facility or euthanized by any foster home, for any reason. Any problems, problematic behavior or health concerns are to be reported to a representative of the PHSI without hesitation, both to assist in keeping our records on the animals up-to-date, and to avoid any problems for the foster home. In the event a foster home is no longer willing to work with the animal in their care, the foster home must contact the the PHSI immediately.

**EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE**

In the event of any emergency, night or day, please contact: Ernie Rizok 638-4830, Heidi Kulcheski 638-5932 or Denise Penrose 638-6555

**PRIVACY POLICY**

Throughout your dealings with the PHSI, information provided on your foster home application will be kept on record. This information will not be used in any solicitation and will not be provided to any organization exterior to our rescue. If you have any concerns with personal information being kept on file, please contact us.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ understand the terms of agreement outlined in this three page document, and by

providing my signature below I acknowledge that I have read and agree to the terms as outlined by the PHSI. My signature also provides verification that I have received a copy of these terms of agreement for my own records.

Foster Parent's Signature

PHSI Representative

Date

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