



Foster Program

Foster

Foster to Adopt

HC 2, Box 7622,
Loiza, Puerto Rico 00772-9653

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Thank you for your interest in fostering one of our dogs!

As a foster, you will be a vital part of our organization; and allow our rescue dogs a life in homes until they get adopted. Additionally, by fostering a dog, you are providing space in our Shelter for other rescues; or more space and attention for the rescues we already have.

ADLA has two basic foster programs: Basic Fostering and Fostering to Adopt. We are going to tell you exactly what you need to know about being a foster for ADLA, and you can choose the program that fits your needs!



Basic Fostering

When you foster one of our dogs, we cover all approved vet costs. We supply food (if needed), your dog's crate (if needed), a collar, tag, and leash. Before you pick up your dog, please let us know if you will be needing food and/or a crate. If you are able to incur the cost of providing food for your foster, we thank you!

Most foster dogs will already have a name. We ask that you do not change your dog's name during the foster care. Changing a dog's name might confuse the dog; and the change will definitely confuse us! Each dog's records are organized by name, and keeping the name as is helps keep us organized.

To participate in the Program, please fill out the Foster Pre-qualification Form and return it to us in person or by email. After we have approved you for the Program, we will ask you fill out the Foster Agreement.



The Vet and Medical-related Issues:

In your foster care package, you will receive flea/tick shampoo and/or repellent; and any medications your foster may have been taking while at the Shelter.

We recommend giving your dog a bath and treatment with the flea/tick shampoo and repellent when you arrive home. You can also take your dog to a groomer, but we will not reimburse for this.

It is important that you give your dog all medications as directed. If you cannot or do not want to give any of these medications, you must let us know immediately. Not giving the dog the medication it should be receiving might be life-threatening for the dog. You can contact us with any questions relating to the medications.

Also, keep in mind that some medications have side-effects. For example, dewormer can cause soft or loose stool. This is common. If you have questions or are concerned about a foster's reaction to a medication, contact us.

We cover all pre-approved medical expenses including veterinarian expenses at a vet approved by us. Pre-approved means you will let us know if you believe your foster needs to go to the vet or needs additional medication; and wait for our approval before taking the dog to the vet or purchasing additional medication.

However, in the case of an emergency, get the dog to the vet, and contact us as soon as possible with the details of the medical emergency.

We do our best to treat for contagious disease upon a dog's arrival at the Shelter, but sometimes a dog may be carrying an illness that slipped past us. Please contact us if your foster showing unexpected signs of illness.

Additionally, if a disease slipped past us, it could be spread from your foster dog to you or to a resident pet(s). Your pet(s) should be current on vaccinations, as your veterinarian recommends, and treated with Flea and Tick prevention regularly. If your pet(s) should show signs of disease, please contact your regular veterinarian as soon as possible.

The number one health concern we have with puppies is the virus Parvo. This is not a risk to fully vaccinated dogs and does not pose a risk to people, but it is a serious concern if a puppy gets sick. It can be fatal and catching/treating it right away is extremely important. Signs of Parvo are lethargy, not wanting to eat, diarrhea and/or vomiting. Although fairly rare, even adult dogs can develop Parvo. We need to be notified immediately if your foster displays any of these symptoms.



Spay/Neuter:

Most of the time, we require our dogs be spayed or neutered prior to being placed in a foster home. However, if because of a special circumstance, you have a foster that is not yet spayed or neutered, all your pet residents during the time you have your foster must be spayed or neutered.

If we schedule spaying/neutering of your foster, we ask for your assistance in getting the dog to and from the vet for spaying and neutering. If you are not able to do this, we will work to find another volunteer who can take them, but ask for your cooperation in meeting the volunteer and keeping in touch during the process.



Training:

We do not require fosters in the Basic Fostering Program to train their dogs. However, if you choose to do so, we thank you!

We endorse positive reinforcement training and do not permit the use of shock collars, prong collars, physical punishment, etc. If a foster is using any of these, the dog will have to be removed. However, if you need help with problem behaviors please consult contact us for guidance on how to work with the dog or pup. Making sure the dog is as well-trained as possible, and can live happily in a house or apartment, will help both the animal and its forever family adjust quickly to each other!



Your Foster Dog needs a Forever Home:

We review every potential adopter's answers to the Adoption Pre-Qualification Form. In the Form, ADLA asks for information related to the adopter's living situation; attitude towards keeping and caring for a pet; and more. These questions in part serve the purpose of matching the forever family to the dog, and increase the chances that each adoption will be a success.

Afterwards, we visit the potential adopter's home. If we feel they might be a good match for a dog you are fostering, we will set up a meeting for the adopter and the dog. We ask that you accommodate visits with potential adopters.

Specifically, we will contact you and require that you make the time to visit with the potential adopter; have the dog available for a volunteer to pick up and take to meet the potential adopter; or bring the dog to the Shelter or another location where the adopter can get to know the dog. If you are present during the potential adopter's visit, we would appreciate any feedback you may have on the chances of the adoption being a success.

If the potential adopter is interested in adopting the dog; and we have approved the adoption and received a completed Pet Adoption Agreement, we will get in

touch with you. Please do not make any promises to any potential adopter. This protects you in the instance we do not approve of the adoption.

Adoption fees range from \$100 for “sato dogs” and \$150 for puppies between 3 and one-year; or pre-breeds. This helps cover our costs of bringing the dog to safety, its vet exams, vaccinations, deworming, flea and tick treatment, heartworm preventative and/or test if over 6 months old, spay or neuter, and any other necessary medications for the pet and things like collar, leash, toys and food while in foster care. Collecting these fees is what allows us to continue to save more animals!

Your own friends or family members may want to adopt your foster. Please have the family or friend contact us, or direct them to submit an adoption application. Please advise them that we will review their application, visit their home, and must approve their application.

Please do not ever place your foster pet in a new home without ADLA’s approval.



Keeping in touch during your Foster Period

We are going to ask you to send us pictures of your foster that we can put on our website; Pet-finder site; and our social media. Additionally, we will ask for a description of your foster, information about their personality traits and what type of home you believe would be best for the pet. We need this information within 7 days of receipt of your foster.

We might also ask for an update every now and then. And if you would like to send us updates at any time, please do. We appreciate any information that would help us find the best forever home for your foster. You know your foster pet best and we value your input!

We do need to know that if we try and contact you that we will hear back from you within 24 hours. We may need to check up periodically on the foster’s health, ensure they get vaccine boosters when due and be able to schedule meetings with prospective adopters.



Last few last words:

We also realize that situations may require you to stop fostering before your foster dog is adopted. We ask for a notice so we can try to find alternate care for the dog. If you need to go out of town, we ask for as much notice as you can give us and a minimum of one week to arrange a foster pet sitter; or for the dog to be returned to the Shelter!

Remember, to participate in the Program, please fill out the Foster Pre-qualification Form and return it to us in person or by email. After we have approved you for the Program, we will ask you fill out the Foster Agreement.

When you pick up your foster, we will be more than happy to answer any questions you have. You can also contact us by email at any time.

Thank You for Fostering!

Fostering-To-Adopt

The Foster-to-Adopt Program gives you the opportunity to find out if YOU are the forever family for one of our dogs!

The dogs currently at our Shelter, that have been temperate-tested, are available for the Foster-to-Adopt Program. This way we are sure we have done our best to match the dog's personality to your needs or those of your family. We cannot give you puppies that are under 3 months of age; or dogs that are currently with another foster family.



To qualify, please fill out the Adoption Pre-qualification Form. We will ask information related your home and household. All questions are directed at ensuring as much as a match as possible between you and your dog. We also want both you and the dog to be safe and happy.

If approved, your foster period will begin and continue for two weeks. That means you have two weeks to decide whether you want to adopt the dog you are foster. If you decide to adopt, we will ask you complete the Pet Adoption Agreement.

All that applies to the Basic Foster Program applies to the Foster-to-Adopt Program, as well as the information we are giving you below.



After reviewing your Pre-qualification Form, if we approve you as a potential Foster-to-Adopt, we will visit your home. Visiting your home and the dog's new family helps us in the process of matching you with a foster dog; and we will know the dog is in a safe environment.

Within the dogs available for the Foster-To-Adopt Program, you can select the dog you would like to adopt. After your home visit and after we evaluate your needs and wants, and those of the dog, and if we feel the dog you selected would not be a good match, we will work with you to find a similar dog that would be more compatible with your lifestyle. Even better, you can recommend a few dogs you'd like, we will evaluate those dogs you have chosen to find the one best for you and your family.



After your home visit, and after you have been matched to your dog, you will pick him up from the Shelter. You will receive your dog fully vetted, neutered and spayed, up-to-date on vaccines, dewormed, and treated with heartworm and flea-tick preventative. At this time, we will ask your complete the Pet Foster Agreement.

When you pick up the dog, we will require payment of the adoption donation of \$100 for satos; and \$150 for puppies between 3 and 6 months; and pure breeds. This amount should be given in the form of a check, which we will hold until the end of your foster period. .

At the end of your two-week period, if you choose to foster, we will ask you fill out the Pet Adoption Agreement. We thank you very much for adopting a “sato!”

If you have a problem with the dog during fostering, or even after you have adopted, we are committed to working with you to resolve any issue through expert advice, training and/or behavior modification. If the dog shows aggression, it will be removed from the home immediately.



If you decide not to adopt, we will return your adoption fee. We will continue searching for this dog’s forever home, and go through the same process we went through with you, but with another foster family. Therefore, you shall keep the dog as a foster until other arrangements can be made for its care, hopefully with another foster. Since the dog has been in a home for at least two weeks, we want to move this dog from one foster to another without it having to be returned to its kennel, as this can be a traumatizing experience for the dog.

During this time after your foster-to-adopt period has ended, you will be responsible for providing exercise, attention and most of all—love for your foster dog. We will provide you with food (if needed) and a crate (if needed). We will appreciate any information you can give us about the dog to get a better match next time.

If a situation arises that does not permit you to keep the dog, please let us know and we will make other arrangements.



This is your chance to take advantage of a Program that will allow you the opportunity to find out if a particular dog is right for you. Maybe you are saving a pup's life even if, at the end of your two-week foster-to-adopt period, you find the dog is not the right match for you. When you foster, you give the dog a chance to live outside of the shelter environment, and give the Shelter the opportunity to give more attention to other dogs that may require it. If you have questions concerning the Program, please contact us, and we will be happy to help. To be considered for this program, fill out an Adoption Pre-Qualification Form [on the form and let us know you are interested in our Foster-to-Adopt Program!](#)