



 **Welcome Package** 

## WELCOME PACKAGE

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Welcome to Saskatoon Dog Rescue! Thank you for opening your home to a dog in need! Below is the basic information you will need to support you as a foster home. Please read this information and keep a copy available for future reference.

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## SASKATOON DOG RESCUE CONTACT LIST

### Board Members

#### President

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Facebook: Courtney Jean

#### Finance Director

*Carolyn Su*

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Facebook: Carolyn Su

#### Medical Director

*Ally Mierau*

[medical@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:medical@saskatoondogrescue.com)

Facebook: Ally Mierau

#### Intake Director

*Jennifer Johnston*

[intake@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:intake@saskatoondogrescue.com)

Facebook: Jennifer Lindsay

#### Foster Director

*Bobbi Oldridge*

[foster@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:foster@saskatoondogrescue.com)

Facebook: Bobbi Anne

#### Adoption Director

*Jill Robson*

[adopt@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:adopt@saskatoondogrescue.com)

Facebook: Jill Robson

#### Marketing Director

*Josie Fries*

[marketing@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:marketing@saskatoondogrescue.com)

Facebook: Josie Fries

#### Fundraising & Volunteer Director

*Jordana Knoblauch*

[fundraising@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:fundraising@saskatoondogrescue.com)

Facebook: Jordana Knoblauch

## Coordinators & Supports

### Fostering

Foster Support - First time fosters

*Brooke Blanchard*

[brooke@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:brooke@saskatoondogrescue.com)

Facebook: Brooke Blanchard

Foster Support - Pairs and Single pups (< 6 months)

*Carrie Secundiak*

[carrie@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:carrie@saskatoondogrescue.com)

Facebook: Carrie Secundiak

Foster Support - Adults (>6 months)

*Christine McGowan*

[christine@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:christine@saskatoondogrescue.com)

Facebook: Christine McGowan

Foster Support - Litters and Spay & Return

*Danni Janzen*

[danni@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:danni@saskatoondogrescue.com)

Facebook: Danni Janzen

### Medical

Medical Record Keeper

*Katherine Cool*

[katherine@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:katherine@saskatoondogrescue.com)

Facebook: Katherine Cool

Medical Record Keeper

*Lori Pickering Horn*

[lori@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:lori@saskatoondogrescue.com)

Facebook: Lori Pickering Horn

### Supplies **\*\*\*Please reach out for supplies via Facebook Messenger\*\*\***

Head Supply Coordinator (Temporarily no physical location)

*Maria Lemonache*

[maria@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:maria@saskatoondogrescue.com)

Facebook: Maria Lemonache

Supply Coordinator (WEST - Mount Royal)

914 Avenue T North

*Maddy Wright*

Facebook: Maddy Wright

Supply Coordinator (EAST - College Park)  
289 Carleton Dr  
*Sarah Reid*  
Facebook: Reanna Sarah

Supply Coordinator (Warman)  
217 McKay Court  
*Shyla Fawn*  
Facebook: Shyla Fawn

(If you do not have FB Messenger, contact [maria@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:maria@saskatoondogrescue.com) for supplies)

### **Adoptions**

Adoption Assistant  
*Steffany Vukelic*  
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Facebook: Steffany Vukelic

Adoption Event Coordinator  
*Cierra Romanyshen*  
Facebook: Cierra Romanyshen

Adoption Event Coordinator  
*Sydney Cochrane*  
Facebook: Sydney Louise

Microchip Coordinator  
*Dakota Rolfe*  
[dakota@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:dakota@saskatoondogrescue.com)  
Facebook: Dakota Rolfe

### **Volunteering**

Volunteer Coordinator - People Management  
*Jenna Schmid*  
[volunteer@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:volunteer@saskatoondogrescue.com)  
Facebook: Jenna Schmid

Volunteer Coordinator - Foster Dog Management  
*Christine McGowan*  
[christine@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:christine@saskatoondogrescue.com)  
Facebook: Christine McGowan

## **Fundraising**

Fundraising Event Coordinator

*Robyn Kerr*

[robyn@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:robyn@saskatoondogrescue.com)

Facebook: Robyn Kerr

Bartending Event Coordinator

*Jordana Knoblauch*

[Jordana@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:Jordana@saskatoondogrescue.com)

Facebook: *Jordana Knoblauch*

Merchandise Coordinator

*Ireland Jones*

[ireland@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:ireland@saskatoondogrescue.com)

Facebook: Ireland Jones

Community Partnership Coordinator

*Steffany Vukelic*

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Facebook: Steffany Vukelic

## **Marketing**

Website Coordinator

*Samantha Campling*

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Content Creator

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Digital Media Designer

*Ireland Jones*

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Facebook: Ireland Jones

Communications Coordinator

*Maria Lemonache*

[maria@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:maria@saskatoondogrescue.com)

Facebook: Maria Lemonache

Graphic Designer (Prints) and Administrative Coordinator  
*Ashley Graf*  
[ashley@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:ashley@saskatoondogrescue.com)  
Facebook: Ashley Taylor Graf

## DONATING

Saskatoon Dog Rescue is a registered non-profit organization dedicated to the rescue, rehabilitation & rehoming of dogs across our province. We are entirely volunteer-run and rely completely on the support of our community. We can have as many as 30-80 dogs at a time with varying medical and behavioral needs. Please watch for our various fundraising activities and events, every dollar raised is used for the care of our rescue dogs.

If you wish to donate, please send an e-transfer to [donate@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:donate@saskatoondogrescue.com). Please include “DONATION” in the memo of the transfer.

## SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

Website: [www.saskatoondogrescue.com](http://www.saskatoondogrescue.com)  
Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/SaskatoonDogRescue>  
Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/saskatoondogrescue>  
LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/saskatoondogrescue>

## FACEBOOK GROUPS

Foster Homes: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/sdrfosterhomes>  
Volunteers: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/sdrvolunteerteam>

## FORMS (FOSTER HOME ONLY)

Dog Profile Submission: [Fill out form here](#)  
Upcoming Vet Appointment: [Fill out form here](#)

## IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Accidents happen, we understand. Emergencies include incidents such as dogs escaping or unexpected medical issues. Please contact these people in the case of an emergency:

**MEDICAL EMERGENCY** [medical@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:medical@saskatoondogrescue.com)  
**FOSTER DOG ACCIDENT** [foster@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:foster@saskatoondogrescue.com)

## INTAKE INFORMATION

### About Our Dogs

Our dogs come to us from an array of different backgrounds. We often don't know much about their past experiences prior to them entering our care. If any background information is known about your foster pup, we will always share it with you. There are three ways dogs come into our care:

1. Owner surrenders
2. Front line rescuers
3. Community Intakes

### What is a Community Intake?

A Community Intake is when SDR board members visit a northern community that we've partnered with and help control their dog population by taking in strays and surrenders from community members. We typically hold Community Intakes twice a year – in spring and right before winter.

The process of fostering for a Community Intake is a bit different. To prepare for the event, the Intake and Foster Directors will reach out the month prior to ask who would like to open their homes to a foster from the Intake. If you wish to foster, the Directors will take note of the age and size of dog you would prefer to take in. To the best of our ability, we bring in dogs that match your request. We are most grateful for fosters that are willing to take in any age/gender/size of dog as we aren't always able to anticipate the types of dogs we will find or which animals in the community will need help the most.

We always arrive home from a Community Intake on a Sunday evening. All fosters will meet at a designated pickup location to get their foster dog(s) and supplies in one trip.

### Dog Placement

Once you have completed the SDR Foster Contract, our Foster Director will reach out to get some further information for your profile (types of dogs you are open to fostering, other pets you have in the house, yard type, fence type, number of children/household members, and contact information).

When your profile is complete, you will be added to our FOSTER HOME FACEBOOK GROUP and can keep watch for any dogs needing placement. There are always dogs that need rescuing but we cannot accept a dog unless we know we have an open Foster Home for them to stay in. So when you see a dog that you're willing to help, simply comment on the post and the Intake team will be in touch. Once we have confirmation that the dog has transport, a group chat will be set up so you know where to pick up your foster dog.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** If you are currently fostering a dog with another rescue group, we cannot place an SDR Dog with you, regardless of the animal's vaccination status. Please let the Foster Director know if you are currently fostering for another rescue group.

## FOSTERING INFORMATION

### The Fostering Process

1. Keep an eye on the FOSTER HOME FACEBOOK GROUP. Let us know in the comments if you are available to foster a dog that is posted. Please remember this is first come first serve.
2. If you are the first to comment, the Intake Director will message you through Facebook Messenger to arrange pickup or drop off. If you are unavailable to pick up the dog, you may request a dog sitter to care for them until you are available.
3. Pick up supplies from one of our Supply Coordinators/Supports.
4. Pick up your dog, isolate them & allow time for them to settle in. Many of our dogs are strays and may be terrified of people and indoor environments. Patience is key. We recommend keeping your distance and letting them explore initially on their own until they see you are no danger to them.
5. Work with your Foster Support to choose a name for your foster dog and then provide a written bio and picture(s) to your Support. Our foster community also loves when you post an introduction to your new foster dog on the Foster Home Facebook page!
6. Book a vet appointment with one of our partnered vets. Please note that we require you to fill out the 'Upcoming Vet Appointment' form prior to the vet visit.
7. Once your foster dog is settled and comfortable, you can work on basic training (potty, sit, stay, come, leash walking, crate training, etc.)
8. If you find your foster dog is having a very hard time settling in, please reach out to our Foster Director for some tips and tricks.

### Getting Supplies

Saskatoon Dog Rescue provides all necessary supplies for fostering a dog. To get supplies, please contact one of our Supply Coordinators/Supports on Facebook or email [inventory@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:inventory@saskatoondogrescue.com). Please aim to give the Coordinators as much notice as possible. Let them know the approximate size/age of your foster dog to ensure they gather supplies that are appropriate for you. Before your new dog arrives, please make sure you have all needed supplies such as food, crate, leash, collar, identification tag, treats, toys, pee pads, etc.

### Important Items:

**Kennel** - We ask for all dogs to be in a kennel at time of pickup to ensure no escapes happen.

**ID Tag** - ID tags are very important! Your foster **MUST** wear the ID tag at all times. We provide blank tags that you will write your name and phone number on.

**Food** - It is important not to suddenly change your dog's food as this can upset the gut. Most of our dog food is acquired by donation, so there is never a guarantee that we will have the same brand to give you more of. When reaching out for more food, let our Supply Coordinators know what brand or protein you previously had (beef, chicken, fish). With enough notice, if we do NOT have the same food, you'll have enough time to do a proper switch over to new food (mixing it 1/3 new food to 2/3 old food; 1/2 new 1/2 old; 2/3 new 1/3 old; all new)

**Adoption Bag** - You are welcome to use the items in the bag, but the bag must go with the adopter once your foster pup is adopted.

If you need an item that is not available at the supply location, please post in the FOSTER HOME FACEBOOK GROUP to see if anyone has it available. Often our helpful team of fosters have personal supplies they lend out for use.

### **Returning Supplies**

Please note that all supplies are donated and in short supply, so if you are not planning on fostering within the month, please return the items so another foster can use them. Please clean dishes/toys/blankets and disinfect kennels with either water/bleach & soap or a Lysol mix. IF you have already accepted another foster and are waiting for it to come into your care, you do not need to return the current supplies.

Please drop off all unused supplies with the same coordinator you picked them up from. If you must drop off your supplies with a different supply coordinator, you **MUST** let the original supply coordinator know, as they each have an inventory of their supplies and must know where the items are.

### **Settling In**

Your foster **WILL** be nervous upon entering your home. They don't know you, they don't know what has happened or why they are there. Give them the time and space that they ask for. Even if they were said to have been sweet, or able to walk nicely on a leash, or not potty in the house, expect they may regress on these behaviors as **YOU AND YOUR HOME ARE NEW.**

It will take a **MINIMUM** of 24 hours for your foster to know they are safe to eat in their new environment. Expect accidents, and expect them to hide and be unsure of their surroundings. Don't take them for a walk around the neighborhood for at least a day (if they are fully vaxxed) – you never know what could happen or what could spook them. They have no sense of direction yet in their new environment.

### **Rule of Three**

**In the first 3 days** - Your new foster dog will probably be overwhelmed with his/her new surroundings. Don't be alarmed if he doesn't want to eat for the first couple of days, many dogs don't eat when they are stressed. Your pup may shut down, may want to curl up in the crate or hide under the table, he will likely be scared and unsure of what is going on. Or your new foster may be the opposite and test you to see what he can get away with.

**After 3 weeks** - Your dog is starting to settle in and feel slightly more comfortable. By now, your foster has probably figured out his environment and is getting into a routine. You may even see some real personality! Behavior issues may start showing, so teach your puppy what's right and wrong.

**After 3 months** - Your dog is now completely comfortable in your home. You have built trust and a true bond with your dog, which gives him a complete sense of security with you. He is set in his routine and will come to expect his dinner at his usual time.

## **Foster Expectations**

As a foster home, you are responsible for the well-being of your foster dog and getting it as ready as possible for an adoptive family. Basic training (sit, lay down, kennel and house training, no jumping up, etc.) is ESPECIALLY important for potential adopters and decreases the chances of a newly adopted dog being returned to the rescue. If you feel you are having trouble or need tips on training, please contact your Foster Support or the Foster Director and we can help.

If your foster is displaying any of the following issues, please let your Foster Support know as soon as they present: separation anxiety, leash reactivity towards other people or dogs, aggressive behaviors towards people, other dogs or other animals (this includes lunging and barking, mouth/hard nipping, food guarding or aggression, etc.).

You are also responsible for attending events that are organized by the Fundraising or Adoption Event Coordinators. These events are an amazing way for potential adopters to meet their future dog and to see it on its best behavior. If you are unable to attend, volunteers are in place to help get your foster to these events.

## **Fostering Time Frame**

For all new fosters, we do require you to take in a dog within 1 month of being added to the FOSTER HOME FACEBOOK GROUP. This helps our Intake and Foster Directors keep track of committed and open foster homes. If you have holidays or time off planned, please let the Intake or Foster Director know.

For regular fosters, we do encourage you to take a dog in at least every 6 months. This helps our organization to keep our foster home numbers healthy for rescuing and rehoming dogs. If the 6-month time frame has passed, we will suggest you be added in to the VOLUNTEER FACEBOOK GROUP for babysitting opportunities. You will be welcome back to the FOSTER HOME FACEBOOK GROUP when you are again ready to foster full time.

## **Moving a Dog**

In the case of a dog needing to be moved from your home, contact your Foster Support. Please allow adequate time to find a new suitable foster home, if needed.

## **Training**

If you are interested in learning more about how to support your foster dog with training, you can reach out to our Foster Director. Many of our dogs have fear-based struggles or show aggression. We have a volunteer Trainer who is available to work one on one with you and your foster dog. Our Trainer also posts many tips & tricks on our FOSTER HOME FACEBOOK GROUP, so be sure to keep an eye out for these postings.

## **Training Resources**

All Resources: <https://www.ddfl.org/resource-library/>

Basic Training: <https://www.ddfl.org/resources/your-new-dog/>

Crate Training: <https://www.ddfl.org/resources/crate-training-your-dog/>  
Stray & Unsocialized Dog: <https://www.ddfl.org/resources/adopting-an-undersocialized-dog/>  
Destructive Chewing: <https://www.ddfl.org/resources/destructive-chewing/>  
Separation anxiety: <https://www.ddfl.org/resources/separation-anxiety/>  
Stress relief: <https://www.ddfl.org/resources/stress-relief-for-dogs/>  
Aggression: <https://www.ddfl.org/resources/understanding-aggressive-behavior-in-dogs/>  
Canine Rivalry: <https://www.ddfl.org/resources/canine-rivalry/>  
Cold Weather Tips: <https://www.ddfl.org/resources/cold-weather-tips/>  
Puppy Development: <https://www.ddfl.org/resources/developmental-stages-of-puppy-behavior/>  
Introductions to other dogs:  
<https://www.ddfl.org/resources/introducing-your-new-dog-to-your-resident-dog/>

**Remember patience is key! Training doesn't only benefit you, it improves your foster dog's quality of life and helps him/her get adopted faster.**

## MEDICAL INFORMATION

### Isolation Period

We require you to isolate your new foster from other pets for 7 days once arriving in your care, unless it has been done fully or in part by another approved Saskatoon Dog Rescue foster home. Saskatoon Dog Rescue will not be held responsible if resident pets pick up any medical illnesses or issues from fosters.

Isolation simply means to keep the foster dog in a separate space in your house and away from other pets. This separate space could be a room, bathroom, laundry room, or anywhere that they won't be able to touch noses with another animal. Dogs should have a separate area outside for pottyng, as well. Please make sure to clean up their feces as soon as possible to avoid transmission of worms or parasites to other dogs.

The isolation period is to ensure the health and safety of resident pets and to allow the foster dog a chance to adapt to their new surroundings without being overwhelmed. This time also allows you to watch for signs of disease such as parvovirus or distemper. Common signs include:

- Lethargy
- Loss of appetite
- Fever
- Vomiting
- Severe or Bloody Diarrhea
- Weight Loss
- Overall Weakness
- Dehydration

Should any combination of these signs appear, **CONTACT OUR MEDICAL DIRECTOR ASAP at [medical@saskatoondogrescue.com](mailto:medical@saskatoondogrescue.com)** Parvovirus is fast acting and needs immediate attention.

### Vet Appointments

On the third day of having your new foster dog, you will need to book a vet appointment with one of our partnered vet clinics:

- City Park Veterinary Services (1-706 Duchess Street, S7K 0R3) 306-518-4206
- VCA Canada All West Veterinary Clinic (3120 Laurier Drive) 306-978-2100
- Brighton Veterinary Clinic (163 Gibson Bend) 306-382-6909

Please fill out our '[Upcoming Vet Appointment](#)' form after booking a vet appointment. This form ensures our Medical Team & Vets receive proper information to prepare for the appointment. In the form, you will include the following information:

- Foster Dog Information: name, best guess of breed & age
- Vet Information: which partner clinic you booked at and for what day & time.
- Medical Concerns: if you notice any symptoms (excessive itching, cough, eye discharge) that you want the vet to look at.

## **Clearing your Foster Dog for Adoption**

All foster dogs must be in Saskatoon Dog Rescue's care for at least 14 days from their intake date and must be both medically and behaviorally cleared prior to being posted for adoption.

This means that it may take longer than 14 days to clear your dog for adoption, depending on how he/she presents. The Medical Director reviews medical records on Tuesday evenings and cleared dogs are posted to our website on Thursday mornings between 8:00am - 1:00pm.

## **Reminders**

All vet visits need to be pre-approved by the Medical Director and require you to fill out our '[Upcoming Vet Appointment](#)' form. The completed form is needed to ensure our Medical Director can submit the necessary paperwork to the vet clinic indicating what procedures need to be done (spay/neuter, vaccinations, deworm, microchip, etc.). Submission of this paperwork is also required for the vet to bill Saskatoon Dog Rescue directly and avoid the foster home having to pay out of pocket. Unapproved vet visits are subject to refusal of reimbursement.

Additionally, we will be charged \$25.00 for fosters being late to their appointments and \$50.00 for no shows; this includes surgery and spay/neuter appointments. We understand that everyone is busy but we ask that you attend appointments as scheduled. If you are unavailable, we can arrange for a volunteer to take the dog to your place. If you are late or do not show up for your appointment, you may be required to cover the additional charge.

Please try to arrive at your appointments 5-10 minutes early. This extra time is good for the dogs to adjust to the building before being vaccinated, etc. If you are unable to make the appointment, please ensure you call the vet ASAP to let them know.

Vet clinics are also implementing a kennel fee for when a foster dog must stay with them for the day (not including surgery, spay/neuter days). Please consider this when booking appointments to avoid leaving your foster at the clinic for the day. Again, we can arrange transportation by a volunteer, if needed. Simply notify your Foster Support or the Volunteer Coordinator to make this happen.

If a medical emergency happens, you still must be in contact with our Medical Director and/or Foster Director prior to taking your foster dog to the vet.

## **Spay & Neuter Information**

If your foster dog is under 6-months of age or already altered, this section is not applicable. Dogs over 6 months of age need to be spayed or neutered before they can be posted for adoption. At their initial appointment, the vet will let you know if your dog needs to be altered. Please book this appointment, if applicable, and fill out our '[Upcoming Vet Appointment](#)' form.

## **Vaccine Guidelines:**

### **Dog Parks are allowed if:**

- Foster dog is fully vaccinated (7 days have passed since being fully vaccinated; applies to adult dogs and puppies)
- Dog is friendly with other dogs
- Dog has good proven recall

### **Pet-Friendly Facilities (groomers, pet stores, neighbourhood walks) are allowed if:**

- For adult dogs, 7 days have passed since second set of vaccines (two (2) dhpp vaccines, rabies)
- For puppies, 7 days have passed since being fully vaccinated (three (3) dhpp vaccines, rabies)

### **Meetings with Known Fully Vaccinated Adults Dogs (outside of foster home) are allowed if:**

- For adult dogs, 7 days have passed since second set of vaccines (two (2) dhpp vaccines, rabies)
- For puppies, 7 days have passed since being fully vaccinated (three (3) dhpp vaccines, rabies)

### **Babysitting:**

- Adults are babysat in homes with other fully vaccinated dogs **only**, until they are fully vaccinated themselves.
- Puppies are babysat with other fully vaccinated dogs **only** until fully vaccinated themselves.

\* Same litter babysitting: As long as above protocols are followed, puppies from THE SAME LITTER that have been separated into different foster homes can be babysat together.

### **Adoption Events (or other events hosted by SDR):**

- On leash dogs - 7 days have passed since being fully vaccinated
- X-pen dogs - 7 days have passed since at least first set of vaccines \*must stay in x-pen and be carried to and from event if not fully vaccinated

\*Same litter in x-pens: As long as above protocols are followed, puppies from THE SAME LITTER that have been separated into different foster homes can be kept in an x-pen together.

## **USEFUL DEFINITIONS**

- Adult dog = 6 months and up
- FULLY vaccinated adult dog = two dhpp vaccines, rabies
- FULLY vaccinated puppies = three dhpp vaccines, rabies

## **ADVERTISING YOUR FOSTER DOG**

Our Marketing & Public Relations department depends on you to submit photos and videos so they have content to post for the public. You are welcome to share as many photos as you want to the FOSTER HOME FACEBOOK GROUP or send directly to your Foster Support or Marketing Director via email or Facebook.

### **Adoption Picture & Written Biography**

Pictures and written bio should be submitted here: [Dog Profile Submission](#)

It will be your responsibility to submit both a photo and written bio when it is time for your foster dog to be posted for adoption. These posts help increase the chance of your foster getting adopted faster. The written bio should describe the personality of your foster dog, any training she/he may have had or interactions with children/dogs/cats. Please try your best to keep the written bio to 150-200 words.

### **Tips & Tricks for Taking Photos of your Foster Dog**

- Outdoor photos with natural light are best & preferred.
- Avoid having other dogs that are not with SDR in the photo.
- Try to get a variety of different photos (for example, full body and close-up).
- Use treats or toys to have them sit pretty and focus on you.
- You or any family are welcome to be in the photo, but please know any photo posted in the FOSTER HOME FACEBOOK GROUP may be used for the public SDR pages. We will ask for your permission prior to posting publicly.
- If you take a photo of your foster dog and their new adoptive family, ask them if they are agreeable to being posted publicly.

**If you are having trouble getting good photos, please contact the Marketing Director. They will arrange for a photographer to come to your home and take pictures for you.**

## ADOPTION INFORMATION

### The Adoption Process

1. It's time! Your foster dog is ready to be adopted. This means they have been cleared medically & behaviorally (they are age appropriate, up to date on vaccinations, microchipped, dewormed, spay/neutered (if over 6 month), have basic training, are leash trained, etc)

\*\*\* If your foster dog is experiencing behavioral concerns (aggression, anxiety, fear toward humans) then please let our Foster Director know. Behavioral concerns may mean they are not yet ready for adoption. If you are unsure, please ask.

2. You will be notified that your dog will be going up for adoption by either the Adoption Director or your Foster Support.
3. Ensure you have sent in a close-up photo of your dog & a written bio.
4. Once your dog is posted to the website, people can apply to adopt your foster! All applications go to the Adoption Director, who screens the applicants to ensure they can provide a good home for the dog.
5. Once our Adoption Director finds a potential adopter, you will be contacted to set up a meet and greet with the potential adopter.
6. If the meet & greet goes well and both you and the Adoption Director feel the adopter is a good fit, the adoption will be finalized.

### Adoption Events

Adoption events are a great way to get your foster dog noticed. You will be notified by your Foster Support, the Adoption Director or in the FOSTER HOME FACEBOOK GROUP if your foster dog is to attend one of these events.

These events are held so that members of the public get the chance to meet a dog prior to the dog being posted for adoption. Your foster dog will come home with you after the event. We prefer that you attend these events so you can share information with potential adopters and answer questions regarding your foster dog. If you are unable to make the scheduled time, notify your Foster Support and the Volunteer Coordinator and we can find a Volunteer to bring the dog there and back for you!

Please ensure your foster dog has had the appropriate vaccinations to attend the adoption event. These requirements can vary depending on where the event is being hosted. If you are unsure if your foster has had the required vaccines, please contact our Medical Director.

### Foster Failing

In the chance that your foster dog ends up being the right fit for you, we do allow our fosters to adopt (foster fail). **We do require that you let your Foster Support or the Adoptions Director know as soon as possible and BEFORE your foster dog is ready for adoption.** If you are

considering foster failing, you must let us know when (a) you are considering it and (b) you have decided to officially foster fail. At both of these points, you will be given a “heads up” on when to expect your foster dog or puppy to be posted for adoption. Prior to that date, you will need to make a final decision. If we don’t hear from you by the Tuesday before being posted, the dog/puppy will be posted for adoption.

If you decide you want to adopt your foster after the dog has been posted to the public, you will have to apply through our website just like everyone else. Applications are reviewed in the order they are received so there is less chance your application will be selected.

Your adoption contract is due and adoption fee(s) must be paid within three (3) days after the Thursday your foster dog would have been posted. We do not do payment plans. We do not allow late fee payment: if you miss the deadline, your foster dog will be posted for adoption. If this happens, you will have to apply alongside the public for a chance to adopt.

## **Meet & Greet**

A meet and greet is an opportunity for a potential adopter to meet your foster dog & make sure they are a good fit with their family before they finalize the adoption. It will be your responsibility to schedule a meet and greet with the potential adopter the Adoption Director shares with you. You must contact the potential adopter within 48 hours after receiving word from the Adoption Director. If the applicant wants to wait for the weekend to meet, that is acceptable, we simply ask that you update the Adoption Director with this information. We recommend doing the first meet and greet virtually – through Zoom, Microsoft Teams, Facebook, Skype or Facetime. If the adopter would like an in-person meeting, we recommend doing it outdoors in either a backyard or dog park (ONLY if the dog is medically up to date, see questions on page 22 for more details).

\*\* If at any time, during the meet & greet, you feel the potential adopter is NOT the right fit, please let the Adoption Director know. You know your foster best.

## **Adoption Contract & Payment**

If the meet and greet goes well, our Adoption Director will send the adopter an adoption contract to complete and have them send payment. Once we have received both the contract and payment, the Adoption Director will let you know so you can arrange drop off/pick up with your foster dog’s new family.

## **Adoption FAQs**

- We review applications in the order they were received.
- We DO NOT accept early applications for dogs that are not yet posted for adoption.
- If you have friends and family that want to apply, we will do our best to go ahead with their application! However, we aim to keep everything as fair as possible, so we still require them to apply, just like everyone else.
- To ensure an application is front of the line, we tell people to apply AS SOON as a dog’s picture and written bio are posted to the website.
- New adoptable dogs are posted to the website on THURSDAYS between 8am and 1pm. And we only post once that day.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **Daycare**

Doggy daycare can be made available should you require a place for your pup to burn off some energy. Please talk to the Foster Director or your Foster Support if this is something you require.

### **Supervision**

Please do NOT leave foster dogs unsupervised and unattended in your yard, tied up or left in an outdoor kennel.

### **Grooming**

Fosters are required to provide basic grooming care including brushing and bathing. If your foster dog is completely matted and in need of some professional pampering, we can look into getting your dog booked for an appropriate grooming session.

### **Dog Tags**

Dog tags are provided through the Supply Coordinators. Please ensure you open the plastic tag and write your phone number and name on the tag.

### **Reimbursements**

Please ensure you speak to the Main Supply Coordinator before making any purchases of additional supplies for your foster. No purchase will be reimbursed unless previously approved. Should you receive reimbursement, it will be in the form of an e-transfer.

### **Off-Leash Dog Parks & Pet Stores**

Our fosters come from a variety of previous living conditions. Often, we do not know the history of the dogs we bring in or what experiences they have had. Please ensure your foster dog is not fearful of other animals before taking him/her to dog parks or places where he/she will encounter other animals. In addition, your foster must be fully vaccinated before visiting these places: vaccinations are important not only for the health of your foster dog, but also every dog you may come in contact with. See Vaccine Do's and Don'ts on page 17 for more details.

### **Temporary Fosters & Dog Sitters**

Should you require a dog sitter, please let the Foster Support or Volunteer Coordinator know. We can post on the VOLUNTEER FACEBOOK GROUP and arrange temporary care for your foster dog. It is particularly important that you indicate medical status (# of vaccines) and/or ALL medical concerns (even a minor itch) to whoever is assisting you in finding a Temporary Foster. Once you have confirmed a Temporary Foster, let the Foster Director know.

**Please do NOT take your foster dog on trips without informing and getting approval from the Foster Director first.**

## TYPICAL QUESTIONS

### **When is my adult dog considered fully vaccinated and up to date?**

Your adult foster dog is fully vaccinated when they have received 2 DA2PP shots, and their Rabies shot. DA2PP & Rabies are given at the initial vet appointment and the DA2PP booster is given 4 weeks after the initial vaccinations. Additionally, all adult dogs need to be spayed or neutered at 6 months of age.

### **When is my puppy considered fully vaccinated and up to date?**

Your puppy is fully vaccinated after receiving 3 DA2PP shots & their Rabies shot. Shots are given at the following ages: 6-8 weeks, 10-12 weeks and 14-16 weeks.

### **My new foster dog does not have any known previous vaccinations or vet care. When can I introduce them to my own fully vaccinated dogs?**

If a foster dog has no previous vaccinations or vet care, we require that you isolate your foster for 7 days from all other dogs regardless of the other dogs' vaccination status. This isolation period is to ensure your new foster is not displaying signs of illness, diseases, skin infections, respiratory issues, etc. Additionally, it is best to have your foster dog vet checked before introducing them to any other dogs.

### **When can I take my foster dog to an off-leash dog park?**

Adult dogs need to be up to date on routine vaccinations (see above) and either neutered or spayed.

Puppies can go to an off-leash dog park after they receive their 3rd DA2PP shot and Rabies.

### **When can I take my foster dog to adoption events?**

Adult dogs need to be up to date on routine vaccinations (see above) and either neutered or spayed.

Puppies can attend when they have received their 3rd DA2PP shot. If puppies only have their 1<sup>st</sup> DA2PP shot, then an x-pen must be provided and the puppy cannot touch the ground outside of the x-pen.

### **When can I take my foster dog to puppy parties?**

As this is a lower risk environment than adoption events, puppy parties have different rules.

Puppies with their 1<sup>st</sup> DA2PP shot may attend a puppy party if there are no other puppies. If your puppy is a part of a litter, then the entire litter may attend after they receive their 1<sup>st</sup> shot. Adult dogs can attend after they have received their 2<sup>nd</sup> shots.

### **My current foster is a puppy, can I foster another dog at the same time?**

If the new foster dog is fully vaccinated, you may have it in your home along with a current puppy foster. However, if the new foster dog does not have any known vaccinations or only 1 or 2 sets, your puppy will need to be fully vaccinated first (including rabies) if the puppy is over 3 months old.

**My current foster is an adult dog, can I foster another dog at the same time?**

If the new foster dog is fully vaccinated, you may have it in your home along with a current adult foster. However, if the new foster dog does not have any known previous vaccinations, then your adult foster will need to be up to date and spayed/neutered.