

**HOMELESS PET
PLACEMENT LEAGUE
FOSTER CARE PACKET**

June 2008



HOW TO BECOME A FOSTER PARENT

(713) 862-PETS

There are two ways to become a foster parent with the Homeless Pet Placement League (HPPL). One way involves you keeping a stray animal that you have already rescued; the second involves HPPL giving you a stray already in the program.

Both methods are explained below...

METHOD "A" – YOU FOUND A STRAY ANIMAL

If you have found a stray or abandoned animal and you are looking for an adoption agency to help you with medical expenses and eventual adoption, you have come to the right place! HPPL agrees to pay for all medical expenses needed by the stray animal provided that you agree to keep or "foster" the animal in your own home. HPPL does not own, run, or otherwise manage a shelter facility.

What to Do:

The animal you have found must be enrolled in the HPPL program via telephone. Call HPPL at (713) 862-7387 to register the animal with the adoption program and to receive further information and instructions.

When you call, you will reach the answering service. Please press option #1 to leave a message about a new animal. Our Program Services Manager will call you back with information about our veterinary requirements.

METHOD "B" – YOU WANT HPPL TO ALLOW YOU TO FOSTER A STRAY ANIMAL

If you have room in your home to foster a stray or abandoned animal, HPPL would love to talk to you! We have an increasing need for foster parents for both dogs and cats of all ages and stages. If you desire for HPPL to place an animal in your home, please complete the questionnaire attached to this page and (1) leave it at the adoption site with an HPPL volunteer or (2) mail it back to the HPPL office for processing.

Foster Care and Mobile Adoption Policies and Procedures

In order for the HPPL foster care and mobile adoption programs to operate in a professional and organized fashion; and to ensure that all foster parents and volunteers are operating under the same policies and procedures, the HPPL Board of Directors has instituted the following guidelines:

- 1.) No animal will be considered an HPPL foster animal until a signed surrender form is on file with HPPL.
- 2.) If a foster parent decides to take an HPPL animal to a veterinarian other than HPPL's veterinarian on for routine care (shots, spay/neuter, heartworm testing, feline leukemia testing, skin scraping, etc.) HPPL will not reimburse the foster parent. HPPL can, however, provide the foster parent with a receipt for income tax deductions if the foster parent provides us with a detailed veterinary receipt. In addition, when the animal first comes to the adoption site, the foster parent must bring copies (or invoices) of any medical tests performed so that we can place those records in the animal's medical file.
- 3.) HPPL **will** reimburse foster parents for any life threatening **emergency** care given to HPPL foster animals. Any conditions of lesser urgency will be handled by the HPPL clinic the next working day.
- 4.) HPPL has the right to limit the number of animals accepted from any one foster home.
- 5.) Foster animals must begin to attend mobile adoptions within two weeks of acceptance into the program, provided their medical care has been completed.
- 6.) Foster animals **may not** be transferred from one foster home to another without permission from the HPPL Program Services Manager.
- 7.) **NO HPPL ANIMALS MAY BE GIVEN AWAY!!!** All animals must be adopted by following established adoption procedures. Adoption forms must be filled out completely and a **\$100.00** fee must be collected for each animal. Please contact the office if you are a foster parent who wishes to adopt your own foster animal or if you are a foster parent who has found a prospective adoptive family.
- 8.) The final decision for all adoptions lies in the hands of HPPL. Foster parents may have input into the adoption process, but the final decision ultimately comes from the HPPL Counselor on-site who signs the forms and takes full responsibility for the adoption as it occurs.
- 9.) HPPL is opposed to the declawing of cats. Counselors at the site will educate the potential adopter about other options and methods to discourage scratching in inappropriate places
- 10.) HPPL is dependent on its foster parents to provide accurate information regarding the personality and preferences of their foster animals. Foster parents are allowed to remain at the adoption site to speak with potential adopters about the animals. In addition, foster parents are encouraged to update their animal's personality profile as changes occur. HPPL will work closely with all foster parents who remain on site to ensure that the best possible home is found for every animal. However, it still remains the responsibility of the HPPL adoption counselor to make the final determination on any adoptive home. If any foster parent or volunteer feels that an HPPL representative has used or is using poor judgment in adopting any animal, the HPPL Board of Directors wants to know and requests that you submit written documentation of the incident to:

Homeless Pet Placement League
Attn: Board of Directors
PO Box 273027
Houston, TX 77277

(713) 862-PETS

FOSTER HOME QUESTIONNAIRE

Print, fill out, and mail to: Homeless Pet Placement League PO Box 273027 Houston, TX 77277 (713) 862-PETS

- 1.) What kind of animal would you like to foster? (adult, young, nursing, wounded, litters, those needing rehabilitation, special care, etc.) Do you prefer dogs or cats?
- 2.) Is there a size or weight limit? Do you prefer male or female?
- 3.) Do you have pets now? If so, what? Be specific.
- 4.) Are your current pets spayed/neutered and current on their vaccinations?
- 5.) What are the ages of your other animals?
- 6.) Do you own or rent? If renting, would your landlord allow you to have additional animals on a temporary basis?
- 7.) Do you have a fenced backyard? What kind of fence?
- 8.) Do you have children? What are their ages?
- 9.) Are you willing to drive to our clinic located on N. Shepherd Dr. near I-10 to obtain the necessary medical care for your foster animal?
- 10.) Which members of your family would be caring for the foster animal?
- 11.) Where would it be kept during the day? At night? **(CATS ALWAYS INDOORS !!!)**
- 12.) Have you used a crate before? Could you crate train an animal if necessary?
- 13.) If you have experience in animal training/obedience, would you be willing to work with HPPL animals?
- 14.) Do you have space to isolate the animal if necessary due to illness or other conditions?
- 15.) Are you able to bring the animal to mobile adoptions on Saturdays?
- 16.) Are you prepared to bathe and/or dip the animal regularly to keep fleas under control?
- 17.) Are you willing to clean the animal (wash and brush) before coming the adoption site each week?

Name: _____
(please print)

Address: _____
City **State** **Zip**

Phone: _____
Home **Work**