

Foster Family Job Description

Thank you for volunteering your home to one of our animals!

Fostering an animal is a rewarding experience that can help animals become more adoptable. By letting CMHS use your home to see what our animals are like in a home setting allows us to give potential adopters a more accurate vision as to what an animal's behavior would be in their home.

Most animals that are sent to foster homes are animals that have come into our shelter with little or no past behavior history. That is where foster homes are SO important! They give the shelter staff the insight into an animal's all around behavior, not just the behavior that an animal exhibits in the shelter.

CMHS foster homes range from college students, to young professionals, to families with and without children, to retirees. The common thread of a CMHS foster home is that they are willing to provide a loving environment for one of our animals while they await adoption.

CMHS foster homes typically foster animals that are shy, sick with minor illnesses, too young for adoption, or animals that need a break from the hectic pace of the shelter.

CMHS will provide the foster home with most materials needed to foster our animals. This includes food, food bowls, kitty litter, litter boxes, blankets, crates, toys, and any medical care needed.

What to expect when fostering an animal:

Our animals are owner relinquished or strays. CMHS is an open door shelter, which means that we take any animal that comes through our doors, regardless if we have available space. We intake animals of all ages, shapes, and sizes. Therefore, when an animal is chosen for foster care, we may or may not have an idea of their home behavior. Foster families do risk fostering a dog without impeccable manners and/or animals with minor illness.

CMHS pledges:

To provide foster home with all pertinent information with regard to an animal's history and behavior. To provide foster homes with the supplies and medication needed to care for the foster animal. To provide assistance to foster homes with any support needed.

Are you ready to become a foster home?

Fill out the attached application and turn it in to the front desk.

The Foster Care and Rescue coordinator will contact you and schedule you for an orientation. (Orientations are typically held on Tuesdays)

After attendance at a foster care orientation, a staff member will set up a home visit with your household. Upon completion of the home visit, you will begin fostering CMHS animals.



Putting Pets with People
www.cmhs pets.org

Foster Home Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

Would you like to be contacted while at work?

Yes No

Email Address: _____

Best Way to Contact you: _____

How did you hear about the Foster Care Program?

Why do you wish to Foster? _____

Would you be interested in helping out with Special Events by taking your Foster dogs and being on hand to talk with the public? _____

Home Info:

Household residents: Name/Age

I currently live in a(n): House
 Apartment Duplex
 Townhome Mobile Home
 Other: _____

Do you: Own Rent

If you rent, Please list your Landlord's name and phone:

Is your lease: Monthly or Yearly

When does your lease expire? _____

Do you live in the city limits? Yes No

Do you have a fenced yard? Yes No

If yes, what type and height? _____

If no, how will you let your foster dog outside?

How/where do you plan on keeping your foster animal in your home? _____

When you are not at home, where do you plan on keeping your foster animal? _____

How many hours per day would you be able to spend with your foster animal? _____

How many hours (at one time) would your foster animal be without human companionship? _____

Pet Information

Do you have pets of your own? Yes No
 Are your pets current on their vaccinations? Y N

Please list your pet's Veterinarian and his/her phone #: _____

If yes, please list your animals below:

Name	Breed	M or F	Spayed/Neutered?	Age

Do you understand that a foster animal may cause your animal to become ill, if your animal is not up to date on their vaccinations? Yes No

Do you understand that your animal may catch a minor illness from a foster animal regardless of vaccination history? Yes No

Do you understand that ALL foster animals are the property of the Central Missouri Humane Society until they are adopted by an approved applicant, and that they are to return to the shelter upon request? Yes No

Do you agree to not release any CMHS animal to ANY person unless expressly approved by the Foster Care Coordinator? Yes No

It is a common practice of the Central Missouri Humane Society to do a home visit before approval of this application. A home visit may also be necessary during the stay of a foster animal. Do you have any concerns/ problems with a CMHS staff member visiting your home? _____

Foster Information

What type of animals would you wish to foster?

Adult dogs Single Puppies Litters of puppies: Max. number: _____ Nursing dog and puppies: Max. number: _____

Do you have any breed or weight preferences? _____

Do you have any Breed or weight restrictions? _____

Adult Cats Kitten Pair Litters of Kittens: Max. number: _____ Nursing cats and kittens: Max. number: _____

Rabbits/small animals Birds: Please list type: _____ Reptiles: Please list type: _____

Are you currently a volunteer with CMHS? Yes No If yes, how long have you been a volunteer? _____

For Staff Use Only:	DHPP	BORD	RABIES	FVRCP	FELV/FIV
Vaccination Check: _____ / ____ / ____					
Home Visit: _____ / ____ / ____					
Orientation attended: ____ / ____ / ____					
DVD Check out: ____ / ____ / ____ Return: ____ / ____ / ____					

Frequently Asked Questions

How long will I have a foster animal(s) in my home?

The average amount of time is 2-4 weeks, and is based upon the animal's need for foster.

What if I already have pets of my own?

Most of our foster parents do already have pets of their own. We will help you evaluate your ability to care for foster animals in conjunction with your own pets.

Do I need to keep my pets separated from my foster animals?

There are pros and cons to this question, so we recommend that you provide an area in your home that can be completely separate, and easily cleaned. Each situation is unique, so we will evaluate this based upon the home structure, and the individual foster animals. Ultimately, it comes down to the best interest of all of the animals involved.

Can I choose what type of animal that I want to foster?

Absolutely! Our goal is to compatibly match you with an animal that you feel comfortable with and enjoy. Ultimately, it does not benefit you or the animal if you feel overwhelmed. We will contact you only when that type of animal is available. You can always let the coordinator know if you want to try something different!

How many animals can I foster at one time?

This is usually determined by the coordinator, based on the animal's best interests, your experience and housing structure, and local Animal Control limitation laws.

What if I need to go out of town, or have an event that interferes with my ability to foster?

Life happens to all of us, just let the coordinator know. We often will transfer animals among different homes to help each other, and the animals!

What if I work?

Many of the animals that need fostering can easily be accommodated on a normal schedule, and is a factor we consider when looking at compatibility. Ultimately, most animals once adopted, will reside with people that have working schedules, and by becoming accustomed to these routines in a foster home, can make that animal much more adoptable.

What kind of costs will I incur?

The financial cost to foster an animal through our program is minimal, usually your own transportation costs. We provide most supplies needed when fostering an animal.

How do my foster animals get adopted?

We recognize and appreciate the attachment that foster families form with their foster animals, and encourage the foster families to participate in the adoption process at their discretion. Most animals get adopted from being in the shelter. In certain circumstances we will have an animal that needs to be adopted from the internet without returning to the shelter, the type of adoption is unique to every animal. We will also report back to you when your animal is adopted!

Foster Home Application

CENTRAL MISSOURI HUMANE SOCIETY



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www.cmhspets.org