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Become a *Paws For Seniors* Foster Parent

The foundation of Paws For Seniors' operation is in our foster homes, where rescued dogs and cats, get love and comfort while waiting for adoption. The more foster homes we have, the more dogs and cats we can save.

How it works

Fostering provides a temporary home for a rescued dog/cat until a permanent “forever” home can be found. It also provides time for a pet to adjust or re-adjust to living in a home, and to learn socialization and good manners. For some pets, the foster home also provides time to recover from an illness or medical procedure before he or she can be made available for adoption.

What foster parents do

Dog/Cat Fostering

As a foster parent, you'll be responsible for the basic daily care for your friend in your home. In other words, your job is to shower them with the love and attention they need to prepare them for adoption into a permanent home. We will pick up the cost of any medical expenses and, in some cases, the cost of food and supplies. You'll be asked to bring your foster dog/cat to adoption outreach events and medical appointments, and to introduce him/her to people who are interested in adoption.

Before taking your first foster dog/cat home, you'll be assigned to a Paws For Seniors mentor, who will guide you through the program and help with any problems you may encounter.

For more information, see our list of foster responsibilities.

How long will a foster dog/cat stay in my care?

Time in a foster home can range from several days to several months. We'll be able to give you a better estimate for your dog/cat before you take him/her home.

Interested?

If you're in the Bealeton, VA area and would like to join the Paws For Seniors family of foster parents, please fill out a foster application. Thank you!

PAWS FOR SENIORS / FOSTER RESPONSIBILITIES

Paws For Seniors Responsibilities

- **Paying for medical care.** All medical care will be covered by Paws For Seniors if provided by an approved Paws For Seniors hospital or clinic.
- **Basic necessities, if needed.** Paws For Seniors can provide food, bed, collars, leashes, belly bands, diapers. *(Prior approval of any purchases made for your Paws For Seniors foster will be needed in order for reimbursement. Please contact a Paws For Seniors mentor.)*

Foster Responsibilities

- **Providing daily mental and physical exercise** suitable to the needs of your foster dog/cat.
- **Providing a safe, quiet environment** free of stress.
- **Administering any medications** prescribed by a veterinarian.
- **Transporting your dog/cat to veterinarian appointments** if necessary. Assistance will be provided for those that do not have transportation.
- **Transporting your dog/cat to at least one monthly Paws For Seniors Adoption event.** Assistance will be provided for those who do not have transportation.
- **Weekly check-in with Paws For Seniors** regarding the status of your current foster dog/cat.
- **Promoting your Paws For Seniors dog/cat in a positive manner to the public and providing honest information** to those who inquire about your Paws For Seniors dog/cat.
- **If medical treatment is needed, going to one of Paws For Seniors's approved veterinarian clinics and hospitals.** Other arrangements can be made if approved by Paws For Seniors prior to treatment.
- **Communicating any behavior or medical problems to a Paws For Seniors mentor immediately and providing weekly status updates.**
- **If, at any time, you feel that you cannot properly care for your Paws For Seniors dog/cat, you must give Paws For Seniors at least 5 days' notice before returning the dog/cat.**
- **The foster agrees that the dog/cat remains under the jurisdiction of Paws For Seniors and cannot be abandoned, sold or given to a shelter, retail establishment or research institution.**
- **The foster understands that Paws For Seniors has the right to remove the foster dog/cat from the foster home at any time.**

