

# BE A FOSTER SAVE A LIFE



Sacramento County Animal Care is always in need of dedicated foster care providers to help animals with various special needs become ready for adoption.

## WHAT TYPE OF ANIMALS NEED FOSTER CARE?

- 🐾 Kittens and puppies under 2 months old
- 🐾 Mothers with nursing litters
- 🐾 Animals recovering from surgery, illness or injury
- 🐾 Animals needing behavior modification in a home environment
- 🐾 Animals too shy or fearful to be adopted from within the shelter
- 🐾 Stressed animals needing time in foster to mentally decompress

## WHAT IS INVOLVED IN FOSTERING?

Usually just some space, time, socialization and love in your home are required to allow the animal to grow or recover. In certain situations, fostering may include administering medications or other basic medical care. To help ensure a successful fostering experience for you, we try to match each animal's needs with your particular home environment, animal experience and skills.

## DOES THE SHELTER PROVIDE ALL NEEDED SUPPLIES?

YES! The shelter will provide basic items such as food, bedding, cat litter, toys, medications, veterinary care, etc.

## WHAT IS THE TIME COMMITMENT?

Time commitment depends on each animal's situation or condition. For underage kittens/puppies this could be 1-6 weeks depending on their size at time of needing foster. Nursing litters may need 2-10 weeks. Animals recovering from illness usually require 2-4 weeks, and those recovering from various surgeries/injuries can require 2-16 weeks.

## CAN I FOSTER EVEN IF I WORK FULL-TIME?

YES! Most animals going into foster care do not require constant monitoring; they just need a safe and loving temporary place to live and thrive.

## WHAT TYPE OF SPACE DO I NEED AT HOME?

Generally, a spare bedroom, bathroom, laundry room, or even space in a temperature-appropriate garage (secure from toxins and safety hazards) will do. You should have the ability to keep fosters separated from your own pets when necessary. Your pets must also be vaccinated and spayed/neutered prior to taking in a foster animal.

## HOW DO I GET STARTED?

There are two steps to becoming a foster care provider. 1) Attend a New Volunteer Orientation, and 2) Attend a Foster Care Provider Workshop. Upcoming New Volunteer Orientation dates are available on our web site, and Foster Workshops dates are announced at each Orientation.

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