Foster Care Volunteer

Major Objective: Provide a nurturing and safe environment in your home for animals to mature, heal, socialize and become or remain adoptable.

Duties:
- Provide all elements of care for foster animals, including feeding, grooming, medicating and socializing
- Ensure safety of foster animal and respond to each animal’s needs
- Maintain excellent communication with Foster & Transfer Coordinator regarding the animals’ behavioral/medical progress.
- Attend animal health and behavior appointments as scheduled

Limitations: At least 1 primary caregiver must be 18 years old or older (an adult). All paperwork in the foster care program requires the signature of an adult. This adult must attend animal health and behavior appointments as scheduled. We recommend that any child who attends the appointments be at least 10 yrs old.

Training:
- Attend a Volunteer Orientation
- Interview with Foster & Transfer Coordinator
- Review proper Shelter Animal Handling Techniques
- Attend a Foster Orientation
- Annual in-home inspection
- Attend continuing education sessions

Commitment: Must commit to taking a minimum of two foster cases per year. Most foster experiences are at least 2 weeks long, some can be upwards of 3-4 months. Time commitments depend mostly on the animals and their needs. Please be sure your schedule will fit the animal’s needs, which will be relayed to you at the beginning of each foster situation.

Volunteer Profile: Dedicated individuals and families with a satisfactory living arrangement must be willing to care for animals that require extra time or attention to help them thrive and become adoptable in their own homes. Volunteers must be accepting of emotional challenges when faced with adoption, illness, death or euthanasia of a foster animal. Volunteers must be able to follow instructions given by the Foster & Transfer Coordinator and/or Veterinary staff. Volunteers must maintain regular contact with the Foster & Transfer Coordinator. Volunteers must be able to interact with the public in a way that reflects Larimer Humane Society’s mission and values.

Volunteer Benefits:
- Great way to get animal care experience
- Allows for flexibility in scheduling
- Rewarding experience of offering an animal a second chance

Supervision: Direct supervision by Foster & Transfer Coordinator; indirect supervision by Veterinary staff or Shelter Manager.