

## **INTRODUCTION**

Thank you for helping a homeless dog by becoming a foster parent! Barks of Love Animal Rescue is a 501 (C)3 dog rescue located in Orange County, CA. Our mission is to work with overpopulated animal shelters in Southern California, lessening the amount of dogs being euthanized. We rescue dogs in need, get them medically well, socially adjusted, and adopted into forever homes. We are NOT a shelter; we rescue dogs and puppies FROM shelters and place our dogs in PRIVATE FOSTER HOMES. As such, we have NO FACILITY for you to drop your dogs off. Additionally, we are STRICTLY foster home based so we are not able to take in your dog, however we can ALWAYS HELP NETWORK and provide assistance.

ONLY DIRECTORS OF BARKS OF LOVE RESCUE CAN DETERMINE WHICH DOGS OUR ORGANIZATION WILL TAKE.

## **FOSTER PROGRAM**

### Description

The foster program gives a second chance for abused, neglected, injured or unwanted puppies and dogs. These animals need special attention and love. Foster families provide a safe and loving home and provide socialization as well as some basic training that will make our dogs more appealing for adoption.

### Program Requirements

- Must be 18 years or older
- Must submit completed:
  - Foster Application
  - Foster Contract Agreement
  - Foster Manual Agreement
- Must be able to provide a safe, stable and loving environment
- Must be able to transport foster animal to and from events

### Time Commitment

- Foster dogs will stay in a foster home for a minimum of two weeks.
- Puppies will stay in foster care till they are at least 8 weeks old.
- Special needs dogs will stay with the foster family until all needs have been taken care of.
- There is no guarantee or timeframe for how quickly dogs will be adopted.

## **FOSTER ANIMAL PROVISIONS**

### What Barks of Love Provides

- Food & water bowls
- Dog crate
- Food
- Bed
- Collar and leash
- Flea treatment

All items should be at the foster home before the dog arrives. Please make sure to let the foster coordinator know if you already have your own supplies on hand in which you wish to use for your foster dog.

## **SOCIAL NETWORKING**

[www.BarksofLove.org](http://www.BarksofLove.org)

Barks of Love's website, [www.barksoflove.org](http://www.barksoflove.org), is your best resource for staying up-to-date on adoption and fundraising events, adoptable dogs and general information regarding the rescue.

### Facebook and Instagram

Barks of Love actively participates in social networking sites including (but not limited to) Facebook and Instagram. Social networking plays an enormous roll in importance of brining awareness, advertising our adoptable dogs and staying in connection with the community.

Check us out and see what great stuff we've been up to!

## **GENERAL GUIDELINES**

Please read and review the following important guidelines:

- Prior to fostering, all foster homes **MUST** complete a **FOSTER HOME APPLICATION, FOSTER CONTRACT, MANUAL AGREEMENT** and **HOME INSPECTION**.
- All foster homes agree to accept primary responsibility for providing lodging and care of their foster dogs until a permanent adopting family is found.
- Medical care will be provided only via a BOL representative. If you think

your foster dog needs any medical care, including vet visits or over the counter medications, please contact the medical coordinator before acting.

- Foster parents agree to transport their foster dogs to adoption events regularly. These events are the primary method of matching up potential adopters with our dogs. If you will not be at our adoption event, please leave basic information to one of BOL staff such as; potty training, behavior towards other dogs, children, and people.
- Foster parents agree to transport dog to vet appointments if needed. If foster parent cannot transport dog to vet appointment, one week notice will be given to BOL staff in order to coordinate transportation.
- Foster parent agrees to not take BOL dog to any dog park or dog beach. Dogs may be socialized with the foster family's dogs and/or the pets close family and friends.
- Potential adopters go through a rigorous adoption process where we check for personal references, vet reference and home inspection. If a friend or family member of the foster parent wishes to adopt your foster dog, the adopter must still go through the same process as other applicants. FOSTER PARENTS AGREES TO NOTIFY BOL FIRST IF SOMEONE SHOWS INTEREST IN ADOPTING YOUR FOSTER DOG.
- Your own dogs should be current with their vaccinations. We also recommend that you vaccinate your dogs with Bordatella vaccines to prevent kennel cough, a common illness with shelter dogs. Barks of Love Rescue is not responsible for any veterinary bills for resident dogs. The foster parents assumes responsibility for any veterinary bills that result from resident dogs becoming ill due to exposure with a foster dog. ‘
- If you are planning a vacation, please notify your foster coordinator as far in advance as you can. We will need at least 2 weeks to arrange for alternative placement for your foster dog. If you want to take your foster dog with you, even just for the weekend, you MUST notify BOL beforehand. Do not leave your dog with anyone else without prior approval from BOL.

### Medical Emergencies and Treatment

Prior to any medical procedure being done, you must contact a BOL staff, preferably the foster coordinator to get an approval. Failure to get prior approval will mean that you forego reimbursement for treatment. In addition, even if you are willing to cover vet expenses, we prefer to have the dogs seen by our approved veterinarians. If the dog is sick, injured, needs to be spayed/neutered, or needs a doctor's visit for vaccines, contact the foster coordinator to make an

appointment for you at a convenient time.

For medical emergencies, please call immediately: Phil Baily – Medical  
Coordinator