You Can Be a Hero

HSNT Foster Program

The Foster Program for the Humane Society of North Texas (HSNT) is a vital element in our effort to save more lives. By taking an animal into your home, you are helping to give that animal what it needs most – TIME to grow or get healthy. Whether you foster an infant that needs to be bottle fed, a puppy or kitten too young for adoption, or even an animal with a minor illness that just needs time to heal, you are saving a life!

If you are interested in fostering, please contact HSNT today – animals need you now!

Getting started as an HSNT “Be a Hero” foster volunteer is easy. Simply visit hsnt.org and complete the Foster Application located under the Volunteer tab. Once we receive your application, our Foster Coordinator will be in touch!
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT FOSTERING

What is fostering? Fostering is providing temporary care and housing for an animal (or animals) that need a little extra time or TLC to prepare for HSNT’s adoption program.

Why should I foster? Aside from adoption, fostering is the single biggest impact you can have on an animal’s life. You will give your foster animal the gift of time to grow and get healthy. You will also give HSNT valuable information to help tell your foster animal’s story so it will get adopted – what it likes or dislikes, favorite toys or activities, etc. Plus, you get to soak up the laughter, snuggles and kisses of a new pet without making a permanent commitment.

What type of animals need foster homes and how long will I need to foster? HSNT typically needs foster homes for orphaned puppies or kittens, moms with litters of babies, and animals that are injured, sick, or scared. The length of time required for each foster varies; it could be a few days or as much as a few months, but the average foster lasts 2 to 6 weeks.

What will HSNT provide to me if I become a foster volunteer? HSNT supplies all of our foster homes with food, a crate or kennel if needed, and veterinary treatment. We’ll also provide you with all the training you need to be successful!

What do I need to provide for my foster animal? We ask that our foster volunteers provide their foster animals with a safe and quiet space (separated from personal pets for at least 7 days), lots of love, appropriate exercise and socialization. Any supplies you purchase for fostering may be tax deductible so check with your tax advisor first.

How often can I foster? There is no requirement for how often you can foster. Simply take on the foster animals that work with your lifestyle and schedule. Even if you foster one animal, once a year, you’ll be making a lifesaving impact!

Can I choose what animals I foster? Absolutely! We know you have a busy life and that your home may have limitations. That is why we let you choose which foster animals you take on.

What if I have children or other pets, can I still foster? Yes, you can. We are careful in selecting pets that will be safe around children and we look at each animal’s temperament and history in order to match it with your family. We’ll arrange for you and your family’s dog(s) to ‘meet and greet’ your potential foster animal at a neutral site to see if the animals will get along. Your cats can comfortably meet your potential foster in a quiet room in your home.

What if my foster animal gets sick or we have a medical emergency? HSNT provides all foster volunteers with an emergency number to reach our Foster Coordinator or our Director of Intake who will provide instructions in case of an emergency. You will be asked to either bring the animal to our shelter veterinarian or we’ll give you the contact information for an emergency clinic in a life-threatening situation. HSNT will cover all medical costs.

What if the animal I am fostering doesn’t work out for me? We try hard to match each pet with your lifestyle and household situation before beginning a foster engagement. We will always be happy to take back any animal in foster care if it’s not working for you.

What if I get attached to my foster pet? It’s hard not to get attached to an animal that you’ve taken into your home, especially any animal that you’ve spent a great deal of time with providing loving care. You are always welcome to adopt any animal that you have fostered.