Practices and Examples

1. **Foster program and processes/policies are equitable and inclusive of the entire community**
   - Application process for foster volunteers is simple and free from barriers.
   - Materials (applications, handbooks, training materials) are available in multiple languages as needed for all community members.
   - Finder-to-foster programs are available for found pets and underage puppies and kittens.
   - Transportation of animals, people, and supplies is provided for foster volunteers and clients needing fostering.
   - Foster mentor programs are used to support staff and foster volunteers and are inclusive of all community members.
   - Training is accessible in person and/or online in different languages, (to include people with diverse physical abilities, those who are neurodiverse, those who prefer to train from home).
   - Foster volunteers are empowered to serve as Adoption Ambassadors.

2. **Marketing of foster program is equitable and inclusive of the entire community**
   - Program is advertised and marketed in multiple languages as needed for all community members (for both foster volunteers and clients needing fostering).
   - Marketing reaches new communities and neighborhoods.
   - Program marketing features pets and people that reflect the makeup of the community.
   - Traditional and non-traditional marketing approaches are used to reach entire community.

3. **Foster program strives to keep pets and people together**
   - Temporary fostering is offered as needed for those who are hospitalized, lacking secure housing, serving in the military, escaping domestic violence, entering rehab, etc.
   - Finder-to-foster programs are available for underage puppies and kittens and found pets.
   - Community neighborhood networks of Return to Home fosters designate fosters for found pets.
4. Foster program supports the community by being inclusive of all dogs and cats in the organizations care
   • Program supports people and pets through behavior foster, medical foster, fospice and underage puppy and kitten foster
   • Organization offers a variety of foster programs (i.e. - long term, overnights, weekend, field trips) so all community members can help
   • Adoptable animals are included in program and foster volunteers are empowered to serve as Adoption Ambassadors

5. Organization creates partnerships with other community groups.
   • Local social services organizations help promote fostering services to prevent surrender
   • Program is promoted and fosters are recruited through local businesses/organizations (i.e. - senior care facilities, universities, small businesses, corporate partnerships)
   • Local ordinances encourage program accessibility (i.e. - eliminating home visits, ownership laws, mandatory classes)

6. Other
   • Something not on this list that the participating organization is doing or plans to do