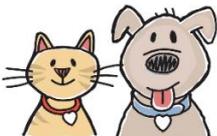


# *Foster To Adopt Manual*

*On the road to a FurEverHome!*



pima animal care center





## Introduction to Foster To Adopt

**Welcome!** Thank you so much for bringing love, comfort and safety to your new “**foster to adopt**” pet! Finding their loving home is a special time for pets, but it can also be a little confusing as they understand what the expectations are and how they best fit into their new household and family. And don’t forget they’ve been in a pretty stimulating and overwhelming environment in the shelter, so they will probably need a little time to fully acclimate to their new home.

The **foster to adopt** period is typically **2 weeks**, during these two weeks it is important that you visit <https://goo.gl/4gNCZu> (Scannable QR Code Below) to have your foster scheduled for alter.

**\*PACC will send you an email or call you when you have reached the 2 week **Foster to Adopt** period\***

## Taking Home a Foster to Adopt Pet

**Housing:** We recommend keeping **foster to adopt** pets in an area that is isolated from your other pets, at least until the incubation period (7-14 DAYS) for diseases such as kennel cough, ringworm, etc. has passed; we want to minimize the risk to your personal pets. Areas such as bathrooms, laundry rooms, or fenced in kitchens with tile flooring work well for housing **foster to adopt** pets. Try to use a space that is easy to sanitize (tile flooring – no carpet; no couches, beds, etc.) in case of infectious diseases.

**Protecting your resident pets:** All resident pets should be fully vaccinated before a **foster to adopt** animal enters the home. You should **never** leave your resident pets and **foster to adopt** pets alone together for any amount of time.

## Preparing for Adoption

Spay/neuter surgery must be scheduled in advance. To schedule a surgery, please visit <https://goo.gl/4gNCZu> (or scan the QR code on the right with your phone). Drop off for spay/neuter surgeries is between 7:00 – 8 AM; pets should not be fed after 8 PM the night before surgery, but water is okay until you bring them in. Pick up is between 3-4 PM and you will be instructed to finalize the adoption during pick up.



## Returning your Foster to Adopt Pet

Returning your **Foster To Adopt** Pet must be by appointment only. If you find yourself needing to return your pet, please call our Pet Support Center at 520- 724-7222. A small Bio on the animal would be greatly appreciated so the shelter and future adopters can have a little more information on the animal.

*If you cannot get through, please, leave a message here and somebody will call you back as soon as possible.*



Foster Dog Luna – Foster Parent Bobbe Gripenrotg

## Recommended Supply Checklist

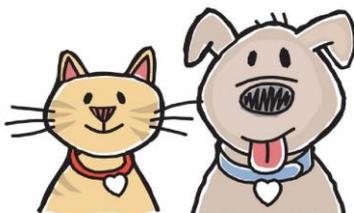
### Strongly Recommended

- |                          |                      |   |   |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Food                 |    |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Food Bowl            |    |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Water Bowl           |    |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Food Storage Bin     |    |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Food Scoop           |    |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Collar               |    |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Leash                |    |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | ID Tag w/Phone #     |    |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Crate                |    |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Bed                  |    |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Toys (Hard & Soft)   |   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Poop Baggies         |  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Chews                |  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Treats               |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Kong                 |  |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Animal First Aid Kit |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Litter Box           |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Litter               |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Cat Nip              |   |  |

### Not Needed –

*But may make your life easier!*

- |                          |                     |   |   |
|--------------------------|---------------------|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Baby Gate           |    |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Exercise Pen (Xpen) |    |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Brush               |    |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Comb                |    |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Nail Trimmers       |    |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Quick Stop          |    |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Ear Cleaner         |    |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Shampoo             |    |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tooth Brush         |    |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Tooth Paste         |    |    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Enzymatic Cleaner   |   |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Black Light         |  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Potty Pads          |  |   |



pima animal care center

This article has been reproduced with authorization from Roanoke Adoptable Pound Dogs  
All Images Belong to Pima Animal Care Center.



*Short Term Foster Dog Reno – Foster Parent Patricia O'Grady*

## **Decompressing A Rescue Dog**

April 6, 2014 Source:

[roanokeadoptablepounddogs.wordpress.com](http://roanokeadoptablepounddogs.wordpress.com)

### **Decompression Phase**

When adopting or fostering a rescued dog from the shelter, it's a happy time for you and a relief to the dog. For one, you've taken them away from that loud, scary place. As the new owners or foster of the dog, you're also excited because you're bringing in a new member of the family into your home. This new situation is exciting for everyone with new interactions and adventures to come.

**BUT WAIT!** Before you go showing off your new pet to your family, friends, and resident pets, please give the new dog time to relax for a while. The last thing you should do at this point is rush them into a whole new dramatic situation and making them interact that could get them into trouble if they're not ready for it.

Think of it like this way as humans; you've been looking desperately for a job to support your family; you've been looking for over three months, your savings is dwindling fast, and you're worried; VERY worried. You're getting up every day looking at the paper/internet, going to interviews, and finally you get a job.

First day on the job, you're excited but nervous, and just want to feel your way around. Then, some co-worker's trying to make you look bad; trying to push your buttons.

You want to do the right thing but if no one gives you time to know your job and no one's controlling the guy harassing you, things could happen and (you're back at the shelter) you're fired; or, worse, in jail, depending on the reaction.

This is just my interpretation as we don't know the feeling of being in doggie jail just because we're a dog, but I bet I'm close. When volunteering at a shelter you see this stress all the time.

## **Decompress for at least 3-5 days.**

Dogs that have been at the shelter for an especially long period of time need to decompress and get themselves back into a calm state of mind; unlike the worrying and stressing when they were at the shelter.

I had a foster dog once that seemed to be normal at the shelter but wouldn't make much eye contact.

When I got her home, her eyes seem to be darting everywhere but at me. It was odd; I thought she was "special", or just weird.

I knew she was still kennel-stressed from being at the shelter. It took a couple weeks for her to get over that and get back to herself and finally making eye contact.

Basically, I created a routine taking her for walks in the morning and playing ball afterwards, then I'd put her in the crate to rest for a couple hours.



*Foster Dog Mamas – Foster Parent Shanna Adams*

I'd give her something to do, such as a filled kong or some type of dog-friendly chew toy to get her mind working.

When she returned to being herself, I introduced basic training such as "Look", "Sit", "Down", and "Come"; all the while I kept her separate from my own dogs.

Whenever I felt ready, I slowly introduced her to my own dogs by taking them out on walks together outside the home.

It's always best to introduce the dogs away from the home (such as on a walk or at a park) to get acquainted.

The next step, after they seem to get along on the walk, is to let them socialize in the backyard. When that's successful, then you can let both the new/foster dog into the home along with the resident dog(s) together....but only if YOU feel comfortable with it. If you're the least bit hesitant about it, DON'T DO IT.

Dogs can sense when you're uncomfortable, and one or the other may feel they have to protect you or other family members. If, at any moment, that something does happen, go back to the previous step until there's no worry or hesitation.

Decompression time varies with each and every dog. Some need more time than others, but it's safe to recommend at least one week is best for the new dog. Always treat the dog with respect and give them guidance, exercise (dogs walks, playing), and bond with them.

If after the decompression phase, the dog starts to show behavioral problems, start to address it with training to get him/her to listen to you and gain that respect. If you need to consult with a dog trainer, that's what you should do; or ask your family/friends if they've had situations like this, and what they did; or look online for articles/video that may have the answers you need. One of the top reasons dogs end up at the shelter are because their owners didn't train them, or rarely interacted with them.

**NUMBER ONE RULE:** keep your new dog/foster in a crate during decompression time, and always when you're not home. After decompression, and everyone's acquainted and comfortable, it's up to you, as the owner, to take responsibility to determine if your pet can stay free in the home, or if they should be crated. Perish the thought you should come home and find a disastrous situation because you left your animals unattended to make their own decisions. Not to say it can't work, but you have to be certain it can; if not, crate them.

# Contact Information



## Pet Support Center

Desk: 520-724-7222

To schedule **foster to adopt** returns or for general **Foster to Adopt** questions.

## The Clinic at PACC

Desk: 520-724-5939

For medical questions regarding your **Foster to Adopt Pet**.

## Foster Coordinators

Email: [pacc.foster@pima.gov](mailto:pacc.foster@pima.gov)

PLEASE make your Subject

Line; FTA: (Animal ID #)

## Medical Emergencies

ONLY for Medical Emergencies outside of normal hours of operation for Pima Animal Care Center.

520-724-5988



## TOP Dogs

520-965-4968

Behavior and

Training

Related

Questions

## Central Pet

Dogs 101: Class for new pet owners (**FREE!**)

520-882-7577

Training and much more!

**Ready to finalize your adoption? Call Pima Animal Care Center at  
(520) 724-5900**

**Or come into the shelter and ask to speak to an adoptions counselor.**

# Body Language of Canine Anxiety



slight cowering



major cowering



hyper vigilant, looking in many directions



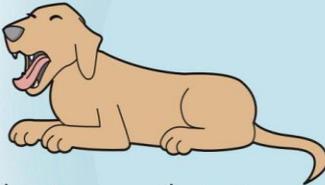
panting when not hot or thirsty



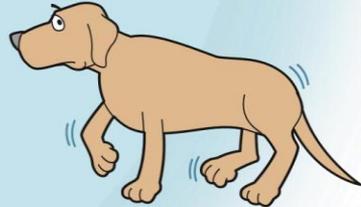
brows furrowed, ears to side



licking lips when no food nearby



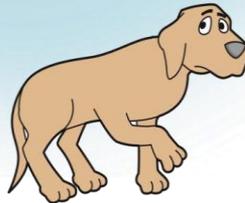
acting sleepy or tired when they shouldn't be tired



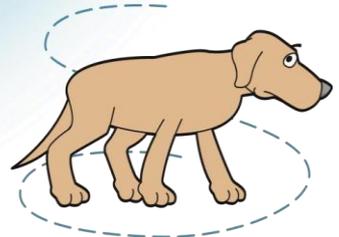
moving in slow motion, walking slowly on floor



suddenly won't eat, but was hungry earlier



moving away



pacing back and forth

# Body Language of Feline Anxiety



staring, focused on object



furrowed brow, ears rotated backwards



dilated eyes



hiding, looks half-asleep



laying on side, flicking tail



hair raised, staring, eyes turned back



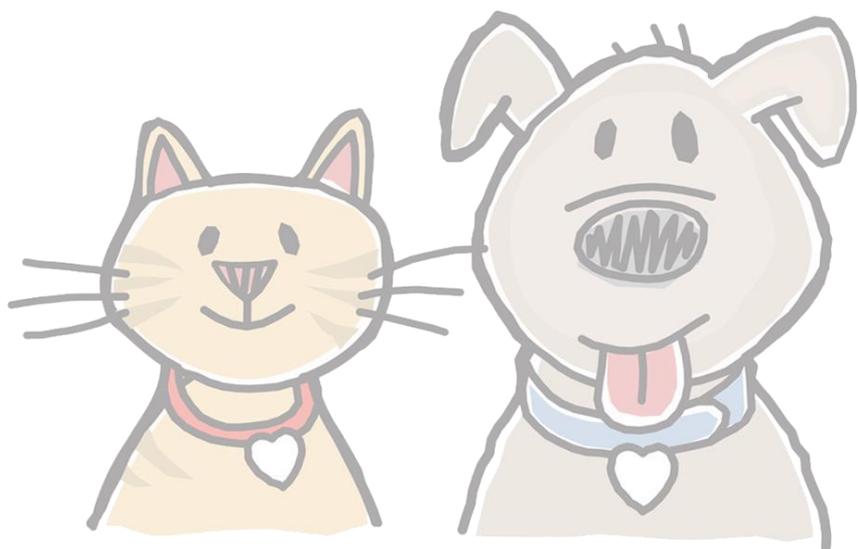
walking with flat back, tail down, head down



ready to jump off of perch



sudden grooming, excessive grooming





# Foster To Adopt Contract

Pima Animal Care Center 4000 N  
Silverbell RD. Tucson, AZ 85745



Name/ID of Animal(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Species: \_\_\_\_\_ Breed/Description: \_\_\_\_\_

DOB/Est. Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Foster Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

This contract is between Pima Animal Care Center, known herein as “shelter”, and the guardian(s) of the animal as named above, known herein as “foster”, “foster home” or “foster family.”

The foster family fully understands that they are to act as a foster home for one or more of the shelter’s animals, referred herein as “the animal” or “the animals.” The following conditions apply to the fostering of the shelter’s animals while in the foster’s care and in their home.

1. My intention is to adopt this animal once it is spayed/neutered. I understand and acknowledge that I do not have any right or authority to adopt out, transfer, or place foster animals in other homes or with other individuals. If I should find that I am no longer able to keep the pet I will return it to the shelter. My adoption fee will not be refunded.
2. I understand that the animal(s) will at all times remain the sole property of the shelter until the animal is sterilized and the adoption is finalized.
3. I agree the animal will be housed, fed, watered, exercised, and receive medical care appropriately as determined by the shelter.

4. I understand that all veterinary care must be authorized in advance by the shelter. I agree to personally incur the cost for any treatment that has not been so authorized.
5. I understand that medicines and other supplies provided by the shelter are for use with foster care animals only, and are not to be administered to animals that are not the property of the shelter.
6. I agree that every animal I provide foster care for must be physically returned to the shelter by the date set forth by the shelter for surgery.
7. I agree to bring medical and behavior issues to the attention of the shelter as soon as possible.
8. I accept responsibility for any and all events that occur in connection with the fostering of a shelter animal. I agree to release and indemnify the shelter from any and all claims, known and unknown, now or hereafter, arising in connection with the animal.
9. I understand that if I fail to return the animal(s) for its spay/neuter appointment that Pima Animal Care Center reserves the right to seize the animal(s).
10. I certify that no person residing in the household where the animals will be fostered has ever been charged with or convicted of animal cruelty, neglect or abandonment.

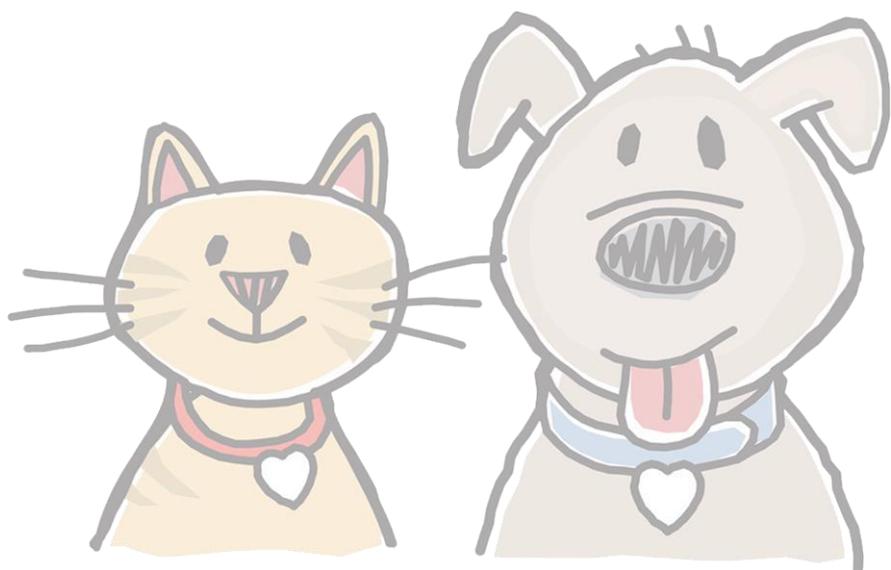
I certify that I have read this contract and that I fully understand the terms and conditions and agree there to.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Shelter Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date





# **FOSTER CARE** **AGREEMENT**

Pima Animal Care Center  
4000 N Silverbell RD. Tucson,  
AZ 85745



I, \_\_\_\_\_ agree to act as temporary Foster Home for Pima Animal Care Center (herein known as PACC.) I agree to abide by the following conditions whenever fostering animals for PACC.

## **All animals entering foster care must have gone through PACC protocols prior to leaving the PACC.**

1. Any animal(s) fostered by me will be kept in a PACC-approved facility. I understand that any animal(s) I foster is/are the property of PACC, and I agree to turn it/them over to PACC immediately upon request. I agree to bring any animal(s) fostered by me to the shelter for exams, vaccinations, weight checks, or other reason deemed necessary by PACC at a mutually agreed upon date and/or time. \_\_\_\_\_
2. I understand that I am responsible for adhering to all PACC standards of care and applicable local and state laws dealing with animal welfare. \_\_\_\_\_
3. I agree to a premises check upon the request of PACC which can include a visual inspection of the living quarters of all PACC foster animals in that environment and testing for transmissible disease. \_\_\_\_\_
4. Any animal(s) fostered by me will be fed, watered and exercised appropriately. I agree to provide an adequate and nutritious diet, including any necessary supplements, as recommended by PACC. I also agree to abide by any instructions given by PACC regarding the feeding of specific brands or types of supplemental food and/or nutritional supplements to my foster animals. Although PACC will make

every attempt to furnish food and/or litter for those foster care volunteers who are unable to afford these supplies on their own, I understand that the availability of these supplies is based on donations from the public and limited to stock on hand. PACC cannot and does not *guarantee* to be able to provide free food, litter or supplies for my foster animals.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. I will not allow any dogs or puppies to have any unsupervised off-leash time. I will provide a kennel, crate and/or securely fenced yard for their safety. I will not allow foster cats or kittens to go outside at anytime except to transport them to and from the shelter or to a veterinarian, if needed. I agree to transport any foster cats, kittens, puppies and small dogs in a sturdy carrier. I agree to transport any foster animal(s) in an enclosed vehicle only, and I will not allow them to ride in the bed of a pickup or a convertible. \_\_\_\_\_
6. I agree that animals will not be kept outside unless otherwise discussed and approved by PACC. \_\_\_\_\_
7. I understand that PACC will take every precaution to ensure that any animal(s) I foster are reasonably healthy and that any known health problems will be disclosed to me prior to my taking the animal into my home, but PACC cannot be held responsible for any unforeseen health problem that may develop after the animal(s) is/are in my care. I agree to inform PACC immediately of any health problems with any foster animal in my care. I understand that PACC may require me to return my foster animal(s) to the shelter to assess or treat any health problem, at its discretion. If I choose to treat the animal(s) at a veterinarian of my choice, I understand that I will assume full responsibility for payment of the vet bill, and that PACC will be unable to reimburse me for any such payment. \_\_\_\_\_
8. I agree to provide adequate, positive socialization for any animal(s) fostered by me to help ensure their temperament will be as sound as possible. I also agree, when requested, to give a progress report to PACC. I agree to bring my foster animal(s) in to the shelter for any required vaccinations, de-

worming, or other medication prescribed and provided by PACC at no cost to me. When the foster period is over, I will call PACC to return the animal(s), and will do so at the agreed upon time. \_\_\_\_\_

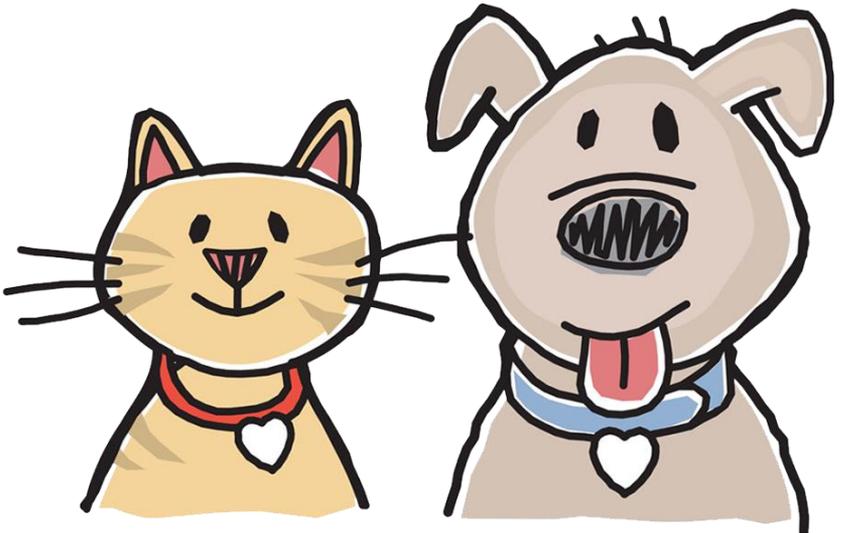
9. I agree to keep my foster animal(s) separate from my own pets, and that the possibility of foster animals fighting, injuring, or spreading illness to my own pets does exist. I agree that I will keep my own pet up to date on vaccines and de-wormers according to my own veterinarian, while I am fostering any animal(s) for PACC. I understand that if I choose to allow my foster animal(s) and my own pet(s) to have access to each other, I do so at my own risk, and will not hold PACC liable for any illness or injury that may occur to my own pet(s). \_\_\_\_\_
10. I agree to keep PACC animals safe from harm/illness as a result of contact with resident pets. \_\_\_\_\_
11. I understand the potential for contagious illness is high in animals. Therefore, I agree I will not foster more than one litter at one time. I agree not to mix animals from more than one litter unless approved by PACC. I also agree not to foster animals from any other organization while I am fostering for PACC, unless granted specific approval by PACC. \_\_\_\_\_
12. I assume responsibility for any events that occur in connection with my fostering of an animal for PACC. I understand the possibility of my children or others being bitten, scratched, or contracting disease does exist. I agree to be responsible for my children and anyone else handling any animal(s) fostered by me in a safe and hygienic manner, and will not hold PACC responsible for any injuries that may result from my failure to do so. **I AGREE TO NOTIFY A PACC REPRESENTATIVE IMMEDIATELY OF ANY BITES THAT BREAK THE SKIN** that occur to any person or animal while any foster animal is in my care. \_\_\_\_\_
13. Any animal fostered by me is to be adopted to a permanent home only under the supervision of PACC, to an adopter approved by PACC. All foster animals **MUST** be returned to

PACC for sterilization and completion of adoption paperwork prior to permanent adoption. I understand that if I find a suitable home for any animal that I am fostering, all of the above conditions must apply, and that the adopter must pay the adoption fee. \_\_\_\_\_

14. If I or any member of my immediate household chooses to adopt an animal(s) fostered by me, I agree to abide by all conditions of adoptions. I also understand that said animal(s) must first be returned to the shelter for sterilization surgery, adoption paperwork must be completed, and any applicable fees paid. \_\_\_\_\_

FOSTER

**THANK YOU**



**FOR ADOPTING!**