



## FOSTER CARE PROVIDER

### Volunteer Role Description

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Our goal is to place the many animals that need the extra TLC while waiting to be adopted. There are many reasons that an animal may need to be placed into the Foster Care Program. They may need nurturing because they are too young to go onto the adoption floor, be injured or sick and need a home for rehabilitation, or have social issues that need a loving hand and a little time.

The Red Deer & District SPCA also provides foster care for animals placed in our emergency boarding program. These animals belong to forever homes and will return to their families once things have settled. In the mean time foster parents will love and care for the animals until they are able to return home.

Last year, approximately ## animals were fostered. Many of these animals would have never had the chance to find a home if they were not allowed the extra time and individual attention to overcome their immediate need for help.

### **Prerequisites/Necessary Skills:**

- Complete the volunteer orientation.
- Complete the Foster Care Program training.
- Provide a dedicated indoor space that is easy to disinfect to keep foster animal(s) isolated from your own companion animals, if necessary.
- Pass a security check and home inspection.
- If you own animals, they must be up to date on vaccines.
- Be willing and able to administer medication to, and provide exercise, training and socialization for all animals in your care.
- Be willing and able to transport the animals to and from the RDSPCA and area veterinary clinics for scheduled appointments.

### **Time commitment:**

Your foster animal will be in your care until he/she is ready to be placed for adoption. The Red Deer & District SPCA will provide food and cover veterinary expenses for your foster animal while you will provide care, love and socialization opportunities for your foster animal. You will need to transport your foster animal to and from the adoption center and to the vet for medical appointments as well as any emergencies that might occur.

### **Things to think about before applying to become a foster parent:**

- You must have an indoor area to keep your foster animal(s) isolated from your own companion animals when necessary.
- Many of these animals cannot be left alone for more than 2-3 hours at a time.
- There may be the need for a home visit prior to placement.