



Rescue to Foster – How It Works / What to Expect

Rescue

- Lucky Chance Rescue is advised of a dog that needs a new home.
- Lucky Chance Rescue staff will decide what dogs can be rescued based on funds for medical needs, current capacity and foster availability. Our goal is to minimize the need for boarding.
- Decision is made to bring into rescue and secure fostering.
- ID numbers and names are given to the dogs and an Intake Form is completed by Lucky Chance Rescue Foster Coordinator.
- If a foster has a specific dog that they would like to foster that needs rescue backing, pulling the dog must be approved by the Lucky Chance Rescue board and you must be committed to fostering that dog.

Foster

- You are assigned a Foster Coordinator, who is your go-to person.
- Foster Coordinator will bring all supplies you need (crate, dog food, leash, collar) either at the time the dog is placed or prior to placement. If at any time you need more supplies, contact foster coordinator and arrangement can be made to drop off or have you pick up.
- Dog is placed in foster home; it may be before or after first vet appointment based on scenario.
- If you are fostering puppies please make sure you read the "Fostering Puppies" Document.
- Keep collar and/or harness and Lucky Chance Rescue ID tag on foster pet(s) at all times.
- If necessary, Lucky Chance Rescue Staff will work with you on integrating your foster dog with your family, home and other pets.
- Foster will accept facebook friend request from Lucky Chance Rescue Board member(s) to keep lines of communication open
- Foster will be added to the Lucky Chance Foster Community Facebook Group.

Week 1 for Foster:

- Learning dog's crating, potty habits, personality and quirks for their social media bio. Don't worry you don't have to be a writer, just some things you have learned after the first week of fostering your dog. Good with dogs? Kids? Cats? House trained? Crate trained? Is the dog active or couch potato? Friendly or Shy? Anything special that would attract an adopter?
- Foster takes pictures and video (optional) to reflect the dog's unique and cute personality for bio on the website and on social media (at least 4 pictures are needed, more are welcomed). Pictures-should just be of the foster dog, do not include other dogs or people/kids in the picture. If you need assistance with pictures contact your foster coordinator.
- All pictures must be emailed in original size to luckychancerescue@gmail.com, text to 636-544-3746 or 636-515-3515 with the foster dog's name. Please include written bio along with your pictures. Please do not send screenshots of pictures. We will use these photos and bio's on our website, petfinder, adopt a pet and social media to network your foster dog(s). We encourage you to share via facebook, twitter, instagram, etc. to assist in networking to help find a forever family for your foster dog.
- If foster has an android phone; please install the RescueGroups.org App. From the app you can add your foster dog bio, all pertinent information, and pictures. Once your foster is added, it will be automatically added to Petfinder, Adopt A Pet and many other pet adoption websites. At this time the RescueGroups.org app does not work on IOS devices. Please contact your foster coordinator with RescueGroups .org login information.
- Each foster will receive an email from Lucky Chance Rescue with a username and password giving you access to the "foster only" section of the website. If you did not receive this email please contact your foster coordinator.
- Schedule vet appointment (get with your foster coordinator on how to do this). Make sure to check with your FC that the dog(s) has had all vetting before adoption.
- Provide transportation to / from the vet. All vetting is paid for by Lucky Chance Rescue and handled by your foster coordinator prior to the appointment, so please be sure to receive approval from her prior to scheduling the appointment.
- Foster homes will provide shelter, exercise and training to make sure their foster dogs are socialized, happy and have started basic training skills



Week 2 and Beyond:

- ADOPTION EVENTS: Foster attends at least one (1) adoption event a month – (bring a chair)
 - **CHECK WITH YOUR FOSTER COORDINATOR FOR APPROVAL TO BRING YOUR FOSTER TO EVENT**
 - Please arrive 30 minutes prior to starting time of event so that you can set up a crate for your foster dog and get them settled before people start arriving. At the end of the event, you will need to wipe down your crate, break it down, and return it to the designated storage area.
 - Close supervision is required-sit by your foster dog, give potty breaks
 - Attendance is required, after all you are their best advocate
 - Toys, a blanket, and other items of comfort should be brought along
 - Children are not allowed at adoption events due to insurance requirements
- Applications are received from Lucky Chance Rescue email coordinator from website/social media
 - Application – Formal request to adopt the foster dog
 - Foster or Foster Coordinator will review and check references as part of pre-screening process
 - Does not commit the applicant to adopting the dog, but allows Lucky Chance Rescue to check their references, etc. and decide if this is the best home for the dog.
 - Meet & Greet can be performed at your home or a location agreed upon by foster and adopter before or after references are checked
 - CONTACT with application should be within 2 days, can be via email or phone call, if no response from email foster should follow up within next 2 days with a call and if no answer please leave voicemail. You MUST call all Applications.

Adoption Process:

- Their current dog is: Up-to-date on vaccinations, spayed/neutered and micro-chipped
- Vet References are Checked – See How to in this packet.
- Personal References are Checked-See How to in this packet.
- Verify adopter is not on “Do Not Adopt” list or in Breed Ban Area in addition to any other red flags or concerns. Ok to check Case Net.
- Meet & Greet Scheduled, if not already done OR if Adopter wants dog, home visit can be done at initial meet
- Home Visit Performed-See How to in this packet.
- Foster is placed in Adopter home for Trial Adoption Period (TAP)
 - Adoption Folder given to New Adopters
 - Foster to fill out sheet labeled “Adopter Need to Know”
 - Adoption Contract Completed at this time (2-Copies. 1-Adopter, 1-Rescue)
 - Adoption Fee is collected, cash, check or adopter may go to our website and pay via the donation button (let Foster Coordinator know about incoming paypal payment).
 - Login to the website and click on Foster Area to fill out the Adoption Completed form. This will automatically send an email to let the Stray Paws staff know your dog has been adopted and you have received payment.
 - Send signed contract and fee to Lucky Chance Rescue or give to staff member

Please mail checks to:
Lucky Chance Rescue
PO Box 593
Wentzville, MO 63385

Please mail or drop off ASAP, otherwise this will hold up vet records to adopter. DO NOT MAIL CASH. DO NOT WAIT Until Trial Adoption Period (TAP) is over to send.

Foster to update FC and notify any potential other applications of the current status. *Recommend another Lucky Chance Rescue dog for them

- Foster to follow up while dog is on TAP with family to answer any questions or provide reassurance
- After (14) days dog is no longer on TAP and considered placed with their new family
- Adopting Your Foster. If you decide you want to adopt your foster dog, you MUST decide before an application has been received



Common Foster Questions:

What happens if I have an upcoming vacation or work travel while fostering?

- Lucky Chance Rescue has temporary fosters to help, when you travel. We ask that you notify us as soon as possible so we can begin making arrangements for temporary assistance.

How do I know the adoption fee on my foster dog?

- Adoption fee for all dogs is \$300 except for seniors, the adoption fee is \$250

Can I bring my kids to adoption events?

- Due to insurance regulations, we are sorry but your children can not participate in the adoption events. It is also difficult for some fosters who have dogs that are not as good with children, which in turn increases anxiety for dogs. No kids 16 and under.

Who pays for monthly preventative, such as heartworm and flea/tick treatment?

- Lucky Chance Rescue will provide monthly preventatives, but we ask that the fosters maintain the timing on the vetting schedule sheet in your packet.

Who should I contact if I have questions?

- Please contact your foster coordinator for guidance on any issues or questions concerning your foster dog or our process. We have a page set up on Facebook, (Lucky Chance Rescue Foster/Volunteer); which is an open forum where you can post general questions and the other fosters/volunteers can comment.

Things to note:

- Return all items borrowed from Lucky Chance Rescue upon adoption (crates, collars, leashes, harnesses, ID tags, "Adopt Me" vests/bandanas, leftover food, beds, litter, litter boxes, etc.)
- Lucky Chance Rescue is not responsible for any damages that the pet(s) may do to any person, animal or property while in foster care.
- If Lucky Chance Rescue believes that the foster parent has violated any conditions of the foster agreement, the foster parent shall, upon request of Lucky Chance Rescue, immediately return the pet to Lucky Chance Rescue. The foster parent will reimburse Lucky Chance Rescue for all costs and attorney fees incurred to enforce its rights under the foster agreement.
- Each foster pet should also have an ID tag. This tag has Lucky Chance Rescue contact number in case the pet becomes lost. This will be returned to Lucky Chance Rescue upon adoption.



Reference Checks

Give yourself 30-45 minutes to make those phone calls. We're most often pleasantly surprised how comfortable and insightful the conversations can be. Our experience is that folks don't usually lie and will volunteer a lot of information that you hadn't anticipated, but that will provide good insight whether the home is a good fit for your Foster.

Phone Calls to Veterinarians

Questions you might pose include:

- How long has "the Smith Family" been a client?
- Have you ever known them to delay reasonable care or treatment for any reason?
- Are their current pets fixed or microchipped (no judgments here, but generally shows good care and concern for their pets)?
- Ask if they would consider their client's home a successful environment for such a dog

Phone Calls to Friends and Family

Ask for a few minutes of their time. We have always had positive, good reception on the other end around these phone calls and expect that you will too.

Questions that you might ask:

- Do you know where their current pets sleep at night (indoors/outdoors)?
- Do you know if the Smith Family has ever surrendered a pet to a shelter, and if so do you know the circumstances why?
- Do you know if they travel a lot? When they do travel do they take their pets with them – or leave at a kennel?
- Do they have other pets now, or have had them in the past, and what can you share with me about this?
- Do they own their own home? If not, we strongly encourage you to phone to their landlord to confirm that a new dog is allowed.

These questions should help you to form an impression about the home that your Foster might go into. In general, are their pets an integral part of their family? Will they have time and energy for a dog? What's their dedication level to working through hiccups or potential challenges with their pets?

Finally – Trust Your Instincts!!

At the conclusion of these important conversations you should feel encouraged and optimistic about the planned Meet and Greet and possible Adoption -meeting the new family in person -that this is a family who will be interested and able to meet your friend's need for a good long time.

If you have doubts or uncertainties after these conversations, you should consider ending the inquiry. Thank the family for their interest, and let them know nicely that knowing your dog's needs as you do, that "Fido" just might not be a good fit for their particular home. – "Fido Love"



How to do Home Visits

The Home Visit Purpose – The purpose of the home visit is to meet the prospective adopters, and to see the environment that they will provide for their dog. LUCKY CHANCE RESCUE essentially wants to know: Would you be comfortable leaving your dog with this applicant? Do you think that the applicant will provide a good and loving home, will keep the dog's needs in mind, and will provide for the dog's safety at all times?

When you arrive at the home, introduce yourself and briefly explain the function of the home visit. Tell them that you are visiting to meet them and to evaluate the suitability and safety of their home for a dog. It is usually easy to start a conversation after that by saying, "So, you're thinking about adopting a Boxer," and then pause for a reaction. Let them talk and volunteer information. NOTE: If you are not comfortable with the applicant as a dog owner or are in any other way uncomfortable, simply end the interview on a nice note and leave.

Tour the house, including the yard, basement, garage and living area.

- ❖ In the house: Depending on the dog. Check to see whether the living quarters are dog friendly. Are there lots of small objects, exposed cords, houseplants etc. that the dog may chew? Are the cleaning materials secured in the cabinets? Is the house reasonably neat and clean?
- ❖ In the yard: Check the condition of the fence. Is it in good repair? Is the yard totally enclosed? Can the dog get out of it? Are there areas where the dog could injure him/herself? Is the house situated on a busy road?
- ❖ In the basement and garage: Will the dog have access to these areas? Are there hazards present?
- ❖ Talk to the applicants: Do not make this a formal interview! Engage the applicants in conversation about the dog they want to adopt.
- ❖ Observe their behavior: Get a sense of how they would be as dog owners. How do they interact with each other? Do they express basic considerations and caring to spouses, children and other pets? Do the children seem like they would be respectful to pets? Will the adults monitor the children's behavior with the dog? Do the applicants have a basic understanding of the dog's needs and behaviors? Are there other pets in the house? How will they introduce the new dog to the other pets? Do they understand that sometimes rescues go through a period of adjustment? How will they handle this?

Although we are considering their application for a specific dog, you might find that they would be better suited for another dog. Please let us know if you think this. Perhaps they have applied for a young dog but might not be able to handle the exercise requirements so should consider an older dog.

When the meeting is over don't tell the person whether or not they are approved. Should they ask, tell them that the information is relayed to a committee of people who make final decisions on all adoptions. Not every home is right for every dog so even great people can be wrong for a specific dog.

In conclusion – Thank them for their time.