



## **Fostering Saves Lives**

Foster parents and families form the backbone of the work Potter's Angels Rescue does. In order to exist as a rescue, we rely on wonderful people willing to bring needy animals into their homes, and care for them, while the animals await permanent homes. Foster families have our undying gratitude, deepest respect and admiration. There are never enough foster homes to go around, so each is precious to PAR and the animals we are trying to save.

Sadly, we always have more cats and dogs than foster homes forcing us to board at kennels at our significant expense and often to their detriment. These animals are already stressed from the circumstances that brought them into rescue in the first place. Although better than the alternative, it is hard for them to languish in kennels until homes can be found. Some of our rescued animals are older and/or have special needs, making kenneling even more traumatic for them.

### **What Does it Take to be a Foster Parent?**

Mostly it takes a lot of TLC. Some rescued animals have experienced little kindness from people and even suffered unspeakable cruelty at the hands of those they should have been able to trust. Others are great family pets that were surrendered due to a number of circumstances (moving, can't afford, etc.) Whatever their history, coming into an unfamiliar environment can be very stressful. Some have never even seen the inside of a house! Foster parents provide safe havens for these weary souls, showing them that humans can be kind, offering them support and guidance as they learn to be part of a family. Fosters also get to know their dog or cat's personalities, providing invaluable insight into the appropriate type of home for their foster pet. This helps ensure that the pet's adoptive home will be forever.

### **Benefits of Being a Foster Parent**

I won't sugarcoat the truth: fostering can be hard work. Some rescue animals are easier than others—some may lack socialization and training or they could be the perfect pet that just needs a place to stay until we find the appropriate home. Sometimes they lack basic manners as no one ever took the time to teach them any. Some dogs have never worn a collar or a leash. And accidents often happen during the first few days, sometimes longer, in a new home. Worse yet, some animals don't seem to understand that they are safe; some are distant and detached and require more confidence building than others.

Fortunately, with a lot of love, guidance, and nurturing, they always come around. And when they do, you realize your profound impact on this animal's life. This precious soul that came to you afraid, malnourished, depressed, or worse, blossoms in your care. Because of you, he finds a forever home where he will be part of a family that loves him; his own happily ever after. It's a feeling that cannot be described, a miracle, in fact, that you created from your acts of kindness.

**You, one person, can make a difference. Your help can mean the difference between life and death for an animal. Will you help us save lives?**

**If you would like to foster a furry friend please visit our website at [www.pottersangelsrescue.org](http://www.pottersangelsrescue.org) and submit an application to foster.**

