

Foster Welcome Letter

Welcome to the All Aboard Animal Rescue family! We are so excited that you are interested in fostering! The more fosters we have, the more lives we can save! Please, if you have any questions don't hesitate to ask at any time. :)

Primary Contacts

Cassie Millar- Foster Coordinator:

(970)-817-7916

Emma K.- Home Checker: (720)708-8112

Mesia E.- Adoption Coordinator: (970)

286-9902

Secondary Contacts:

Madison Gartside: (970) 691-8782

Animal Hospital of Colorado: (970) 267-9333

Rescue office: 1721 W Harmony Rd, Unit 102, Fort Collins, CO 80526 (To the right of Arc and before the liquor store).

Hours: Monday- Friday from 10am to 3:00pm (Please notify Cassie if you plan to stop by. We get very busy, so prefer to have any supplies or advice that you need ready to go.)

If you have just signed up, please text Cassie to let her know your availability & inquire about who is in need. (970)817-7916

Time Frame Options:

- Wednesday-Saturday fosters pick up at the rescue 3-4:45 pm on Wed. and bring them for our Saturday morning adoption event 10-1 pm. Location may vary, Cassie will keep you in the know.
- Saturday-Saturday fosters pick up a dog after the adoption event on Saturday and keep them all week until you drop the dog off the following Saturday. This can continue as long as you'd like until the dog is adopted. **You cannot bring your dog back mid-week. Troubleshooting is required of our fosters.** Please plan accordingly.

Additional information:

- **Please feed your foster dog in a separate area than other dogs/animals. Some of our rescues have had to fight for food to survive, so we want to make sure everyone is safe during meal time. Please use this same caution with treats, bones and toys as well.**
- **Once you commit to fostering a dog, you must hold on to that dog until the adoption event the next Saturday. If you are unable to keep the dog for an emergency related reason, please contact us immediately and we will attempt to find a new foster home for that dog. Being foster-based, we require AMPLE notice to move dogs. Please plan accordingly.**
- **Use GREAT care and precaution when introducing your foster dog to other animals. Keep all animals leashed during an introduction (and/or have a barrier in between ie: Xpen, gate). Please keep in mind that having dogs meet head-on**

can bring out reactive and sometimes aggressive behavior. To avoid this, try taking the dogs for a side by side walk to greet each other in a more comfortable setting (one human per dog).

- **Always have your foster dog on a leash. Always! If your foster happens to get loose, don't panic. Please call us immediately and we will devise a plan for how to find the pup! Additionally, please post on the Facebook Fort Collins lost dog groups, Pawboost, and Neighborhood sites. Social media sites will help get the word and people can keep their eyes peeled for the pup. You can also drive around the area and call for the foster dog as well - even get friends/family to help.**
- **Never get in a dog's face. Ever. Always let a dog approach you, not vice versa. Avoid reaching your hand out to meet your new foster dog or any new dog. Allow them to come to you.**
- **Watch closely for any signs of irritation, aggression, and fear:**
 - 1.hackles up (hair standing on back of neck)**
 - 2.Ears directly back or standing straight up**
 - 3. Tail stiff or up like a flag (wagging while in the air indicates high tensions)**
 - 4.Low growl/barking**
 - 5 Freeze stance, whale eye (looking elsewhere frantically, seemingly nonstop)**
 - 6.Cowering, tail between legs**
- When fostering an older dog, we ask that you foster until adoption. Moving from place to place can be do-able & even fun for puppies & younger dogs. However, this can be very jarring & sometimes traumatizing for older dogs who have already been through a lot. The older dogs we take in need a stable, consistent environment to settle into to retain the positive traits they possess upon entering the rescue, as well as build new confidence to help them find their forever homes.
- Please use a harness when walking your dog, out in public, or on adventures. We want to avoid the dog slipping out of the collar, and protect the dog's neck.
- Active fosters will be sent event info each Thursday, no need to inquire. You will be required to drop your foster dog off at the adoption event on Saturday.. The event lasts from 10am to 1 pm (unless it is off site, then time is TBD). Please bring your pup in their fitted harness, collar and leash. We also need any medications handed directly to Cassie or the leading AAAR staff member on-site. Your entire foster setup (crate, food, toys, bedding, meds) will come with you to events as we are in high hopes of adoption! In which case we will re-assign these supplies to future rescue pups. Please find the foster check in area before you leave.
- If you fall in love with your foster and want to adopt him/her, please let us know ASAP, otherwise we cannot guarantee that another person hasn't already placed a hold on the dog.
- While fostering, we'd love any pictures, and a foster report card (details about how the dog is doing (ie: gets along well with kids and other dogs) to help us find the perfect home for that dog. You can now enter these notes directly into ShelterLuv through the Foster Portal. From your email, search "ShelterLuv" (all one word). You may have received multiple emails from SL

depending on your involvement in the rescue, but find one that includes a hyperlinked “click here”. This will take you to your page listing which dogs are in your care. If this is incorrect, please text Cassie and she can add the dog to your profile for notes submission. The more recent, relevant information that potential adopters know about the dog, the more educated of a decision they can make in choosing the perfect fit for their home.

- Always keep your windows rolled up (or down just a crack) when taking your foster dog on car rides. We want to prevent a dog from attempting to jump out of the car (it's happened - please be careful!)
- Do not let your foster dog eat a toy or bed or anything other than food (rope, stuffed animal, plastic toy, etc). Chewing is okay, but please be sure the dog is not eating another other than its food or treats.
- Never leave your dog in extreme temperatures (ie: hot car, outside in freezing weather).
- We advise that you always kennel your foster dog while you are gone. This can help the dog feel more secure, and will prevent any potential damage to your home and valuables.
- If you have ANY questions or concerns about the health of your foster, please call!
- If you are fostering a puppy that has not been fully immunized, please keep the puppy away from any
- other unimmunized animals (except sibling pups)
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Feeding Your Foster Dog:

All of our dogs eat Hills Science Diet. There are no exceptions unless our partner vet makes this decision. If your foster dog is not eating the Hill's Science Diet, feel free to add eggs or wet food to their kibble to make it more appetizing. If this doesn't work, please let us know.

ADULT MAINTENANCE

Weight of Dog - lbs (kgs)	Amount per Day - cups (grams)
5 (2,3)	5/8 (60)
10 (4,5)	1 (100)
20 (9,1)	1 2/3 (165)
30 (14)	2 1/4 (225)

40 (18)	2 2/3 (265)
50 (23)	3 1/4 (320)
60 (27)	3 2/3 (365)
80 (36)	4 1/2 (445)
100 (45)	5 1/3 (530)
120 (54)	6 1/4 (620)

Puppy Maintenance

Weig ht of Dog	Less Than 4 Months & Pregnant Dogs (weeks 7 - 9) (cups)	4 to 9 Months & Pregnant Dogs (weeks 5 - 6) (cups)	10 to 12 Months & Pregnant Dogs (weeks 1 - 4) (cups)
2 lb	1/2	3/8	1/3
5 lb	1	7/8	2/3
8 lb	1 1/2	1 1/4	1
10 lb	1 3/4	1 1/2	1 1/8
20 lb	3	2 1/2	2
40 lb	5	4	3 1/4
60 lb	6 2/3	5 1/2	4 1/2
80 lb	8 1/4	7	5 1/2
100 lb	9 3/4	8 1/4	6 1/2
120 lb	11 1/4	9 1/3	7 1/2

Background about the dogs:

Our dogs come from high-kill shelters in Texas, New Mexico, and remote areas of Colorado. Unfortunately, these areas have a large number of abandoned dogs and they are unable to find homes for them, which is why they end up here. Most of the dogs were moments before being euthanized and are coming to Colorado as a last resort.

Almost every dog we rescue is from a bad situation. Many of the dogs didn't have a home and were roaming the streets with no food, water, medical care or love. Almost all of the dogs were neglected either by humans or circumstance, and many abused. Many abandoned. They come to us malnourished, unhealthy, and sad. Your foster will need time to adjust to his/her new environment to feel safe. Even for a dog that is potty trained, it may take the dog a few days to realize where you want him/her to go to the bathroom. Your foster might act out by chewing on things, or trying to escape. Your foster dog might get anxious and cry when you leave. **Please, please be patient with your foster.**

Since we don't always know what trauma the dog faced before arriving at the shelter, we cannot predict how each dog will react to different situations. Most of the dogs have been in foster care for at least a week before arriving in Colorado, which helps the dog get used to living in a home. We always assume that the dog may be unpredictable and react differently than we might anticipate. We suggest always kennel your foster when you are away from home, to keep the dog and your personal belongings safe. We can help with training tips if need be.

Please be cautious when introducing your foster to new animals, people and situations. We advise you to keep your foster harnessed and on a leash when introducing the dog to something/someone new. Don't be afraid to alert people who want to greet the dog that he/she is a rescue and may be unpredictable.

!! Please avoid having animals meet head on !!

Introducing new dogs to one another can most simply be done side by side, leashed on a walk with one handler for each dog involved. Never take your foster directly into your personal dog's space(your home) for the first meet. Find a neutral area to set your pups up for success.

Medical Care:

Since we are a non-profit organization, we have limited funds to care for these precious pups. Our partner vet clinic, Animal Hospital of Colorado, works tirelessly to heal and keep our dogs healthy. The cost for medical care is covered by the rescue. **If you choose to take the dog to an outside vet, then you will be responsible for the cost. If you aren't sure if the dog needs to be seen, please text to ask.**

Signs to look out for:

- Vomiting or diarrhea
- Excessive scratching
- Patches of fur missing and/or open wound
- Not eating/drinking
- Lethargic
- Appears to be in pain

Steps to take if you have any questions, or medical concerns, about the health of your foster:

1. Call/text **Cassie (970-817-7916)**, or **Mesia (970) 286-9902**) **THIS IS FOR HEALTH CONCERNS ONLY. Otherwise text, please.**
2. If you don't get a response, call **Animal Hospital of Colorado (970-267-9333)** or **Madison (970) 691-8782**)
3. Emergency after hours, call **4 Seasons Veterinary Specialists (970-800-1106)**