**FOSTER CARE PROGRAM**

Our Foster Care Program is one of our key projects - providing people with the opportunity to enjoy having a pet in their home without the long term responsibility or financial commitment.

While they are in your care, you will get to experience the wonderful aspects of having a pet AND help provide a second chance to animals in need.

**Who can foster?**

We welcome families, couples, share houses, full time workers and international students. You can also have existing pets in the household.

**How long would you need to foster for?**

Time frames vary from 2 weeks to 6 weeks, depending on what is needed for the individual pet.

Kittens/mums and bubs generally stay with carers until kittens reach 1kg. Then they return to us to be de-sexed and made available for adoption.

**Who needs fostering?**

Kittens that are underweight or too young to be desexed. Kittens or cats that need socialisation. Mums and babies, where the mum is still feeding. Cats that need medication. You can specify who you feel comfortable looking after- whether it be kittens or mums and bubs, and what ages would suit your lifestyle

**What do you need as a foster carer?**

A safe and secure, indoor home environment that can provide love, attention and regular handling. A willingness to learn new things and be hands- on. Own transport is necessary or the ability to bring in the pets for fortnightly check- ups or if medical attention is needed.

**What do we provide?**

Bowls, bedding, litter tray, litter (when available), food, play pen or crate (when available)

telephone and email access to our vet, free vet care, ongoing support and advice from our trained staff.

**Is adopting your fosters an option?**

Yes! When they are living with you, they became part of your family and you will get to know your foster pets in a way that that no else will. We take this into consideration when they go up for adoption.

**Interested?**

Email our Foster Care Coordinator for more information or call, 9587 9611. If you are keen to put an expression of interest forward, please complete the application form below and email to

**CAT/KITTEN FOSTER APPLICATION FORM**

Thank you for your interest in providing foster care for an animal in need! Whilst foster care is temporary, it is vitally important that the animal and carer are well suited. These questions will help us to match you with a suitable foster animal.

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| **Applicant Name** | |  | | | |  | | | | |
| **Address: Street** | |  | | | |
| **Address: Suburb** | |  | | | | **Postcode** | | |  | |
| **Home Phone** | |  | | | | **Mobile** | | |  | |
| **Email** | |  | | | | | | | | |
| **Who else lives in your household? If children, how old are they?** | | | | |  | | | | | |
| **Do you have other pets?** | | | | **Type/ Breed** | **Age** | | **Sex** | **Desexed?** | | **Vaccinated?** |
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| **Are you a….?** | **What type of home do you live in?** | | | | **Do you have a secure room or area for cats/kittens?** | | **How often will the cats/kittens be left alone without people?** | | | **How would you describe your household?** |
| Home-owner  Renter  ***If renting or strata, do you have permission for a pet?*** | Apartment (with Balcony)  Apartment (no Balcony) Townhouse / Villa House | | | | ***Spare room******Laundry Bathroom***  ***Playpen/enclosure*** | | Rarely  2-4 Hours  8-9 Hours  More than 9 Hours | | | Calm / Quiet  Average  Busy / loud |
| **What grooming effort do you prefer?** | | | | | | | **Do you own kitchen scales?**  (weekly weighing is required) | | | |
| Short Haired (weekly) | | | Medium (Bi-Weekly Brush) | | Long (Daily Brush and Groom) | | Yes No | | | |

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| **Do you drive or have access to a car to bring the animal in for vet appointments?** | ***Our vet schedules appointments between 10am-12pm Mon, Tues, Thurs, Friday.***  ***If you are not able to make it back to the shelter during these time periods please discuss with staff prior to applying to foster care.*** |
| **Would you prefer to foster...?** | \*Cats \*Kittens \*Animal recuperating from illness/injury \*Kittens requiring socialisation \*Senior |
| **Do you have experience with...? (circle)** | \*Mums and Babies \*Raising kittens \*Seniors/Palliative care  \*Isolating sick animals \*Socialising fearful/timid animals |
| **Have you / Do you Foster for any other organisation?** | Yes No |
| **How did you hear about fostering?** | \*SDCH website \*Volunteering at SDCH  \*SDCH Newsletter \*Word of mouth  \*Other |
| **Why are you interested in becoming a foster carer?** |  |
| **Would you allow us to tell your story to help promote our Foster Care Program?** |  |

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| **ADMIN / OFFICE USE ONLY – Date Received** | |
| Spoken to Vet or Foster Care Co-Ordinator (as req.) |  |
| Notes |  |