

Are You Ready to Foster?

Fostering is a rewarding experience that Saves Lives. Each foster will touch your heart in his/her unique way.

• Are you able to separate fosters from your own animals?

We recommend that fosters be kept in their own room for their safety and health as well as that of your own animals.

• Are you be able to spend quality time with your fosters?

Depending on their age and social development, fosters may need to be fed every few hours. Some need to learn to trust humans. All will need your time, love and attention.

• Do you like to clean?

Well, maybe you don't like to clean, but are you willing to clean? Kittens and puppies can be messy so the animals themselves and their living space will need to be cleaned often.

• Are you able to bring your fosters to AACC for periodic check-ups?

Your fosters may need to visit us from time to time during business hours for de-worming, weigh-ins and vaccinations.

• Are you a good observer?

Part of your job will be noticing any changes in your fosters: Is one less playful than she was the other day? Is one eating less than the others? We'll be here to help when you let us know you are worried about a foster.

• Be prepared for a little sadness when you bring your fosters back for adoption.

Any foster parent will tell you this can be tough. You've cared for these little ones and now it's time to say good-bye. It's OK. Some foster parents cry in the lobby. Others wait until they get back in their car. Either way – go ahead and cry a bit, you've earned it. Also, sometimes foster parents have that one special kitten or puppy who they can't let go. That's OK- it's not a "foster failure." it's a win-win for you and your new adopted animal companion!

• Be prepared for the sad reality that not all fosters survive.

Some little ones are simply too delicate to survive, despite everyone's best efforts. You won't be alone in your grief. We grieve too whenever we have to make the decision to let a little one go. You won't ever have to hide your feelings from us.



Anchorage Animal Care and Control 4711 Elmore Road, Anchorage, AK 99507 907-343-8122 / www.muni.org/animal