



50 Bridge St. E
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Foster Home Application and Contract

Thank you for considering fostering! Fostering is one of the most important aspects of rescue as it allows us to take in homeless animals and give them a second chance at a forever home. During fostering the animal is brought back to health, fully vet checked, brought up to date on vaccinations, treated for fleas and worms, and spayed or neutered as required. The foster family will help in the process of making the animal more adoptable by socializing it with the family and family pets. The foster family is also a key link in getting to know the animal better and letting us know what the most suitable placement might be for the animal.

Cat Care Initiative (CCI) - Foster Care Program Overview

Importance: The foster care program is vital to saving lives. Taking cats or kittens into foster care gives them an opportunity to be socialized. Without foster homes we cannot rescue as many pets.

Time involved: This will depend on the needs of each animal. Some foster pets are young or have health issues so it is important to understand the needs of each foster pet and how much time you have available. We can match you up with the appropriate foster pets depending on your time. Time required also depends on the number of animals fostered.

Qualifications: Most important is love and concern for pets. Time and desire to socialize pets. Willingness to provide food, water and medication, if necessary. Provide a clean living environment and daily care.

Expense: CCI will provide medical care and medications. Foster parents provide food, litter, toys and other items, unless otherwise previously arranged.

If you are interested in being a foster volunteer after reading this information, please fill out the attached foster care contract.

Things to Consider About Foster Care for Cats and Kittens

Thank you for your interest in joining our team of Foster Parents! If you have never had the opportunity to foster before, you are now being given the chance to experience all the joys of parenting without the lifetime of responsibility. We want this experience to be a positive and

rewarding one for you. You will be giving your foster cats a chance to adapt to a normal, warm, and loving foster home environment while it waits for a permanent one.

Please know that if not for caring people like you, hundreds of beautiful cats and kittens will be euthanized or die living as strays where they are susceptible to many unhealthy and unsafe conditions. While there are many positive reasons to open your home to a homeless animal there are numerous practical factors to be considered as well. Prior to making this commitment, please consider the following questions.

Will you be able to spend quality time with the foster animal(s)? Socialization can be as important as feeding them and keeping them clean.

Are you willing to work with our vet care system? Please understand that only CCI veterinarians can treat our foster cats/kittens at selected facilities. Some procedures are done for a substantial savings to our organization. Additionally, all medications must come from our sources only. If you choose to go to a vet outside our system without our prior consent (other than life-threatening emergencies) or get medications from outside our system, then any cost incurred will be the foster's responsibility.

Do you feel comfortable explaining to friends that these animals are not yours to adopt out and that they must go through the regular adoption process at CCI.

Can you commit to spend the entire foster period with the animal? If something unexpected happens and you need to have someone else care for your fosters, please return them to CCI.

As with anything else that involves change, there may be an adjustment period for you and your foster cat/kitten. Please be patient—many of our animals have come from rough situations and are frightened. Many times, their only way to communicate their fears is what we humans refer to as abnormal or deviant behaviour. Some will hide, while others may exhibit any number of signals: inappropriate urination/defecation, growling, hissing, snapping (also called fear biting), cowering in corners, etc.

Foster Program Explanation

Our goal at Cat Care Initiative is to reduce the number of feral/stray/unwanted cats in our area while attempting to give a second chance to adoptable cats/kittens. And to educate regarding the importance of responsible cat ownership (including spay/neuter).

We need foster homes for socialized and unsocialized cats/kittens. Some may need to be socialized, recuperate from illness, others may just be too young to adopt. Often it takes just a little longer to adopt the adults/teen cats, and we ask for patience from our fosters while we do everything in our power to find good homes.

How We Adopt

- Through the Cat's Cradle Store.
- Donated newspaper "Pet of the Week" ads in Community Newspaper.
- We put out fliers in stores, restaurants, etc.
- We depend on word of mouth from our volunteers and supporters.
- We post our adoptables on our website and Facebook page.
- We run mobile adoptions at pet food stores and other available sites.

Foster Home Information for Cats/Kittens

If fosters have any medical problems or need assistance with food/litter/meds, it is necessary to contact CCI as soon as possible. Please try to contact us before the situation becomes an emergency/after hours event. If the situation is an emergency and it is after hours please take cat to a veterinarian.

When you bring your foster cat or kitten home for the first time, try to confine him/her in a small room (bathrooms are ideal) that can be shut off from the rest of your family and pets. Put out water, food and a litterbox for your foster. In addition, consider leaving the carrier out, with the carrier door open for the cat or kitten to crawl into until he/she feels secure enough to explore the room on his/her own. Be sure to remove toilet paper and clear things off of the bathroom counters, and any other surfaces the cat or kitten could jump onto and accidentally knock over. Talk very softly to him/her anytime you are in the same room. Try to avoid sudden loud noises. Depending on his/her previous circumstances, he/she may be ready to explore and let you gently pet him/her shortly after his/her arrival, or it may take several hours, days or weeks before he/she trusts you. This is okay. When the cat or kitten decides to go to the next level of friendship, he/she will let you know. Many times, this occurs as soon as he/she realizes you are the food giver!

CCI will tell you everything we know about your foster pet with regard to his/her behaviour, general health, eating preferences, etc. Please keep in mind that although he/she may appear healthy, we often do not know if he/she has been exposed to any diseases, infections or parasites, other than what we have already treated him/her for. This is why, at least initially, it is a good idea to isolate him/her from your other pets for about two weeks.

We also strongly recommend that you wash your hands before and after handling him/her. A few things, like ringworm (a fungal infection, similar to athlete's foot) are contagious to humans. It often appears as a circular rash on you, and is easily treated if you are sensitive to the infection.

We will work with you! We want to do a great job helping cats without overextending our resources or overusing/stressing our fosters.

Thanks for all you do!



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Foster Home Contract

- I agree to foster the animal(s) until he/she is adopted or returned to CCI. I take full responsibility to provide adequate food, shelter and a loving environment. Cats must be kept indoors at all times.
- I understand that CCI does not knowingly misrepresent any animals age, condition of health, or temperament.
- I understand that CCI cannot be held responsible if the pet(s) is unsuitable for my home environment or if the animal(s) becomes ill or acts in an erratic manner. If I cannot keep the foster animal, I agree that I will return it to CCI immediately.
- I agree to administer any medication(s) provided to me for the animal(s). I agree to contact CCI at the first signs of a problem or illness and will take the animal to the veterinarian for any treatment required if I am unable to contact CCI within a reasonable time. I understand that all medication and medical treatment will be paid for by CCI, provided that it is authorized by CCI.
- I understand that CCI reserves the right to inspect the foster home at any time to ensure suitability for these purposes.
- I understand that the foster animal is the sole property of CCI and cannot be given to anyone or adopted by anyone without completion of a CCI Application for Adoption, Adoption Contract, and collection of the required adoption fee. If the animal is given away, the foster parent will be responsible for the adoption fee and any expenses. Should I choose to adopt a foster pet I agree to complete the appropriate adoption records and pay the full adoption fee.
- I agree to give an update on the foster animal's condition at least once per week either via phone or email.
- I agree to return the foster animal(s) to CCI upon request by CCI if all of the above conditions are not met.
- I agree to defend, indemnify, and hold CCI, its Board of Directors, officers, and volunteers harmless from direct or indirect and consequential damages arising out of this foster care arrangement.

I have read, understand, and agree to the above conditions

Foster Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Additional Information

Please List Two (2) Character Witnesses

Name	Phone Number/Email	Relationship

Your Veterinarian: Name _____ Phone _____

The following information will assist us in matching kittens with special considerations into the right foster homes.

In my home currently, on either a full-time or part-time basis, I have the following:

Cat(s) How many? _____ Dog(s) How many? _____ Child(ren) How many? _____

I'm home and available to foster young kittens who need to be bottle-fed: Yes No

I will have a room dedicated or space made available for kittens who need extra time to feel safe and gain social skills where they will be away from other pets and/or children: Yes No

Office Use

Approval: Yes No

Signature of Board Member _____

Notes: