

## Are you thinking...

"I could NEVER do that! I could NEVER give up a dog?"

We know how you feel, because we've all felt the same. Admittedly, it is not painless—you cry and you will miss them. Yet, we promise, the pain will disappear when your NEW dog or puppy arrives from the shelter NEEDING you. The pain is fleeting compared to the wonderful feeling of knowing that YOU truly saved a dog or puppy's life by allowing us to have enough foster homes to get them out of the shelters.

If you would like to try fostering, please fill out our foster application. You can help us save more "shelter kids".

If you have any questions or want to learn more about how you can make a difference, please contact us!



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DO YOU LOVE LITTLE  
DOGS?

WOULD YOU LIKE  
TO HELP RESCUE  
THEM?

LEARN MORE  
ABOUT BEING A  
**FOSTER PARENT!**

## Who We Are

PUP is a 501(c) (3) non-profit, small and toy breed dog rescue organization located in Western Washington State. Our mission is to make a positive difference in the lives of dogs and their owners. Our passion is

**...bringing people and pets together!**

People United for Pets (PUP) was established in May, 2006 as a small and toy breed rescue organization. With that said, you will no doubt find a bigger dog in our pack. Our mission is to take in homeless, unwanted, and/or abandoned dogs, provide them with medical care, when and if necessary, and work to find each of them homes. To do this, PUP relies on a foster family's assistance. If you decide to help, it will be a commitment that provides many rewards. We work with professionals in the field, such as veterinarians and Certified Professional Dog Trainers and behaviorists, to learn what we can about the dogs in our care. There's a lot to know and we learn more with each dog we rescue. When fostering a PUP dog, we encourage you to share your experiences and insights with us so we can pass them along to future volunteers. The following information will provide you with an idea of what is involved in fostering for PUP.

### **FOSTERING...THE BASICS:**

As a foster family, you will take a rescued dog into your home, based on the information you provide to PUP, your needs as a family, and the needs of the dog. You will care for him or her as you would your own pet -- providing food, shelter, companionship, and exercise, arranging for pre-approved veterinary

care, and supplying patience and love. There may be times you will be asked to house train or work with a dog using simple training techniques.

Some dogs may not get along well with other dogs, cats, and/or children. We will work to identify this prior to placement in your home. At the same time, dogs will sometimes behave differently in one environment than they do in another. Your observation of the dog's character and temperament are invaluable. The more we know about a dog's habits and behavior (positive and negative), the easier it is to match him or her to a potential adopter or in some cases identify a foster home that may be more conducive to his or her needs.

PUP's Foster Care Providers are required to sign a contract outlining guidelines for dogs in their care. The fostering period can last anywhere from a few days to a month or more.

## **FOSTER Q & A**

### **What is a Foster Care Provider?**

A Foster Care Provider or "Foster" provides temporary, in-home care for puppies or dogs until they can be adopted. Sometimes the foster home is the first stable and loving environment the dog has ever experienced. PUP does not take in dogs identified as dangerous.

Fostering requires someone who can provide a nurturing home for a dog/pup, bond with, and help socialize it until a permanent and loving home can be found. At People United for Pets, we encourage the foster family to help us "choose" the home for their foster dog/pup.

Like finding good and loving homes for our dogs, we do our best to match dogs to available fosters in our network. Fosters have input on the individual dog that is to be placed in their home. There is nothing more important to a rescue group than how many qualified foster homes it has. That is what truly saves lives.

### **Why are foster parents needed?**

Animal shelters are forced to euthanize healthy and friendly animals each day to make space for the new ones coming into the shelter daily. People United for Pets has to leave behind wonderful, highly adoptable dogs because we lack a sufficient network of reliable foster parents. Simply put, foster parents maximize the number of dogs/puppies we can save.

### **Are there any costs involved with fostering?**

**Nothing!** PUP provides the dog or puppy's medical care and food, toys, crates and other necessities.

### **I already own a dog and a cat. Can I still foster?**

Actually, it is helpful if you have other pets since we can evaluate the dog/puppy with other animals. Before you bring a foster dog home, consult with your veterinarian to make sure your own pets are up-to-date on their vaccinations such as Rabies, DHLPP, and Bordetella. You may wish to ask your veterinarian if your pets need any additional vaccinations when fostering a rescue dog.