



2020 Annual Report & Newsletter



SURVIVING DURING A PANDEMIC

A letter from the President



Dear Friends & Supporters,

To say this past year has been challenging is an understatement. We have had to get creative and figure out ways to continue to help the animal shelters we serve without putting volunteers and adopters at risk. We have gone to virtual meetings and 15-day trial adoptions with great success. We have taken in and adopted out over 600 kittens and 275 puppies. Our total adoptions for 2020 was over 2000. Though this has been an extremely sad year for many people, it has been good for adoptions. Our adoption rate has been up 30% last year over 2019. We are counting on this continuing and hoping with people returning to work we do not see a lot of animals returned. Since our numbers have gone up, we have been able to help many more shelters than in 2019. Our rescue animals continue to come from the south western shelters in Virginia and the southern part of the United States. We do occasionally help other countries with cats as needed. It has been extremely exciting to see so many cats and dogs get homes. I think that is the best thing about animal rescue. It is hard work but at the end of the day you can say you have made a difference in people and animals lives. It helps you get through the bad days. I can remember when I started doing rescue the constant stress of trying to get a cat or occasional dog out of the shelter before it was euthanized. Many times, I was too late, and I still remember the faces today. It is so much better today when there are other rescues and shelters working towards the same goal of not euthanizing a healthy animal. I feel like I can finally take a breath. Our volunteers are very dedicated to the welfare of each animal who comes through our rescue. This is a very hardworking group of people. I am thankful to work with people who will go the extra mile for a cat or a dog. Many of the animals that we take from shelters are on their last hours of life. That makes it extremely important to have a foster home ready. We are in very desperate need of foster homes for dogs and puppies. We always need kitten fosters. The kittens and puppies we take in usually need medical care. We get lot's that are too young for adoption. This makes foster homes and money to pay for medical care our most urgent need. If you can foster or know someone who can please ask them to contact us. As always, we would not be able to save so many cats and dogs without you. Our valued supporters. We are in a better place than ever before but still have a way to go to hit the no kill mark in Virginia. I can say with confidence that we are almost ready to cross the no kill finish line.

Sincerely,

Catherine Awad
Catherine McCullough-Awad
President

Board of Directors 2020

Catherine McCullough–Awad	President
Meghan Gaucher	Vice President
Fleta Hylton– Rickard	Secretary
Shauntae Foggie	Treasurer
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Nicole Purtell	Social Media Director
Stefanie Sacripante	Member At Large
Dave Gaucher	Member At Large
Alvin Chang	Member At Large
Kathy Flannelly	Member At Large

Adoption Fees

Adult Cats & Kittens

Single – \$175

Pair – \$250

Senior Cats (8yrs+)

\$100

Dogs & Puppies

\$400

Changes We Are Going Through

We were up 95% in 2020 thanks to the enormous number of adoptions we had during the pandemic. Our dog program has grown; but we are struggling. We have not had the volunteer response that we were hoping for with the dogs. Most groups have lot's; but we have a few fosters and no help. This is very sad for the big dogs and dogs that have medical issues because we are not able to help. We are looking for a lead for this program by now. Top of our list for this year. We are adding a paid position for the Dog Coordinator this year and are going to advertise this now. Our fundraisers including Paradise Springs and our Spaghetti bingos brought dollars in past years did not happen due to Covid19. We are always challenged with having people to organize and run the fundraisers. Our fundraiser income came from a couple small drives, Giving Tuesday and Do More 24.

Our expenses continue to rise with the increase in vet expense and food and medicines. We work with shelters, so we are always going to see sick animals. Everything has gone way up across the Country. Medicines were 10 % of the vet expenses. Surgeries is where we spend the most with sterilizations topping the list. Last year 1369 sterilizations and 142 other surgeries. Surgeries, lab tests and diagnostics account for about 90 percent of our vet expenses. We do any necessary medical ourselves as well as sick animal care in our trained foster homes. Our quarantine area houses over half the cats coming into our system yearly. Our operational expenses were up 39% over 2019.

Overall, we did come out ahead with a big increase and even though everyone was cutting back our loyal supporters did not abandon us. We were able to help so many animals. We are deeply appreciative of this.

Animal Numbers

Cats 2020

intake

Rec'd Va shelter	686
Rec'd Out Of State shelter	635
Stray	177
Born in Care	41
Owner Surrender	162
on hand 1/1/20	125
Total	1826

outcome

Adopted	1690
Transferred to Va rescue	15
Died	32
Euthanized	20
on hand 12/31/20	98
Total	1855

Dogs 2020

intake

Rec'd Va shelter	31
Rec'd Out Of State shelter	243
Stray	1
Born in Care	17
Owner Surrender	18
on hand 1/1/20	9
Total	319

outcome

Adopted	313
Transferred to Va rescue	2
Died	4
Euthanized	1
on hand 12/31/20	0
Total	320

Explanation of Intake and Outcome Numbers

Explanation of intake numbers

Stray cats come from inquiries and requests for help from area residents.

Shelters call or email FCDRT when they have cats they need to get out of the shelter.

Owner surrenders are pleas for help from owners or in the case of an owner who is deceased the custodian of animal.

Born in foster are cats/dogs that we have taken in that are pregnant.

Explanation of outcome numbers

Adopted are cats/dogs adopted from FCDRT

Return to owner are cats/dogs that go back to an owner by their request or a stray where the owner has been located.

Transferred out are cats/dogs that are either going to a sanctuary or where FCDRT has helped another shelter take a specific animal from a shelter.

Died are the cats/dogs that have died in our care. This number is primarily kittens.

Euthanized are the number that we have actually had to let go of. They were at the end of their life or were suffering.

Fancy Cats Rescue Team, Inc.
Profit & Loss Prev Year Comparison
 January through December 2020

	Jan - Dec 19	Jan - Dec 20	% Change
Expenses			
Veterinarian Expense	170,867	328,828	92%
Cat food, Litter, supplies	58,930	60,793	3%
Store / Quarantine supplies	20,916	14,625	-30%
Medicine, Medical supplies	32,424	38,425	19%
Utilities, Trash, Telephone	9,847	9,125	-7%
Microchips & Registration	9,175	10,525	15%
Printing, Postage & Mailing	8,785	7,435	-15%
Other Operations	15,761	16,446	4%
Advertising	1,802	2,129	18%
Payroll	96,443	105,876	10%
Travel, Transport, Van repairs, Van loan	8,545	12,493	46%
Insurance	14,805	17,042	15%
Professional Fees	3,850	4,349	13%
Maintenance	3,484	3,841	10%
Banking	3,409	5,013	47%
Total Expense	459,043	636,945	39%
Income			
Adoption Dog	62,845	123,400	96%
Adoption Cat	108,570	161,354	49%
Corporate Contributions	17,213	32,694	90%
Direct Public Support	179,532	301,000	68%
Indirect Support	8,544	31,799	272%
Bequests	0	96,000	N/A
Fundraisers	6,244	29,188	367%
Campaigns	29,962	31,799	6%
Total Income	412,910	807,234	95%

Dog Program Coordinator:

Duties include:

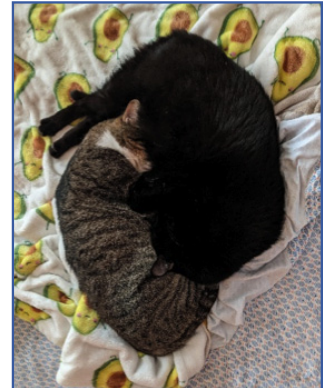
- Making bi-weekly contact with shelters & finding available dogs in need of rescue.
- Requesting dog/dog & dog/cat (if available) tests from shelter before committing to pulling. Discuss any known behavioral issues with the shelter We are unable to pull aggressive dogs at this point.
- Coordinating transport from the different shelters to Fancy Cats.
- Finding and securing foster homes prior to transport.
- Coordinating spay/neuter appointments.
- Keeping up with vaccination & deworming schedules for puppies & adult dogs. Being able to microchip and vaccinate is a must.
- Posting photos and bios on the Fancy Cats & Dogs Website for available dogs
- Troubleshoot problems (medical & behavioral) within the foster homes & work with a trainer, if necessary.
- Screening (approving & denying) applications for dogs.
- Scheduling virtual home visits for approved adopters. Each home visit includes a discussion of the dogs medical work.
- Overseeing adoption events at the Fair Lakes Petsmart on Sundays when they resume.

MOUNT PURRNON

CAT CAFÉ WINE BAR

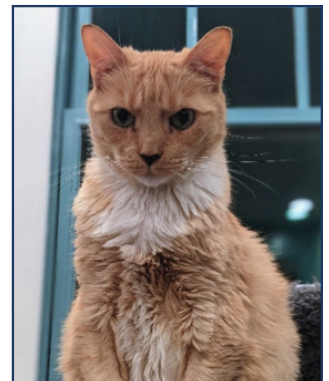
Mount Purrrnon opened on August 1, 2020. Since then, they have adopted out 106 cats (as of March 1, 2021) at a rate of around one every other day. Some memorable adoptions include Emerald, Jojo, Aqua and Pam, and Butters.

Emerald and Jojo were the first two cats adopted from Mount Purrrnon. After spending years in a shelter, they were finally able to let their personalities shine in the cat café environment. Both are friendly lap cats who never met a stranger and became favorites of staff and visitors. They were adopted together and remain best friends and cuddle buddies.



Aqua and Pam, also part of the original nine cats at Mount Purrrnon, quickly became best friends. Because they are fairly independent, these two had the longest residence at Mount Purrrnon so far, but this made them even more special in the hearts of the staff and guests. Their personality growth during their time at Mount Purrrnon was remarkable to watch, not to mention the changes in their physical appearance as well—from juveniles to adult cats. Aqua (now Cairo) and Pam are now living their best lives together.

Butters arrived at Mount Purrrnon after some difficult times. During her six weeks at Mount Purrrnon, it was amazing to see her transformation, both physically and in personality. During much of her early time at the café, Butters would sit in the same spot, almost as if she wasn't sure she was allowed to explore. Over time, she became more bold, eventually jumping on laps and playing with catnip toys. Her coat, which was crusty and matted upon arrival, began to improve, and slowly became softer and brighter. While Butters did—and continues to—require some TLC, she recently got adopted to a loving family who is giving her the home she always deserved.



In addition to over 100 heartwarming adoptions thus far, Mount Purrrnon also has a café/bar attached where food and drink are provided. Mount Purrrnon also loves hosting events! Every month there are various events at the café such as wine tastings and pairings, cat-themed Jeopurrdy!, guided meditation, arts and crafts, and holiday-themed events.

Below is a list of Mount Purrrnon's events for March 2021:

- Wed, March 3 - Wine Tasting Wednesday: Featuring a selection of our wines with our in-house expert*
- Fri, March 12 - Guided Meditation: March's theme is "focus"*
- Wed, March 17 - 1st Annual Mount Purrrnon St. Patrick's Day: Irish-themed food & drink specials all day.*
- Thu, March 18 - Jeopurrdy!: Our version of jeopardy leans cat and history but has trivia on all topics*
- Wed, March 24 - Wine Tasting Wednesday: Featuring a selection of our wines with our in-house expert*

SUCCESS STORIES

CHIP

When Chip came to FCDRT from Fayetteville, WV he barely weighed 35 pounds at 5 years old. On top of being severely emaciated, he was also heartworm positive. We knew Chip's road to recovery would be a difficult one.

Heartworm treatment is a 5 month process and requires a very patient foster home. Dogs are treated for 30 days of antibiotics followed by a series of 3 injections spread out over a month to kill the worms. Chip had to endure months of crate rest between the injections and for 8 weeks after. When heartworms die, pieces of the decomposing worm bodies can block blood vessels in the lungs, causing a potentially fatal blood clot. If the dog's heart rate is increased by exercise or excitement, the worm pieces can be forced into blood vessels of the lungs, increasing the chances of complications.

We are happy to report Chip is happy and healthy in his forever home now. He's up to a healthy 55 pounds now. Way to go, Chip!

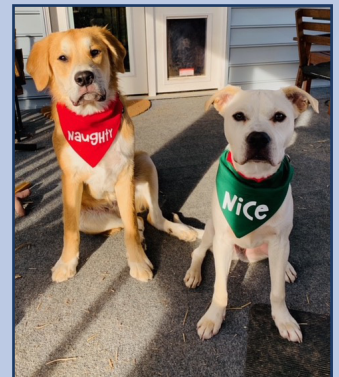


Bear & Marlo came to FCDRT from a rural shelter in Georgia as a bonded pair. Poor Bear was so malnourished you could see almost every bone in his body and Marlo came to us with multiple lacerations from possibly being dragged. His fur had to be shaved down so a topical antibiotic ointment could be applied twice a day.



BEAR & MARLO

After 6 weeks of intensive TLC by the foster home, both boys were ready for adoption. We are thrilled to report they were adopted together by a wonderful family and are living their best life. Marlo's skin has now completely healed and Bear is finally at a healthy weight. Congratulations, boys!



GEORGIA & PUPPIES



Remember Georgia and her puppies? This poor mama dog was found tied to a metal crate, dragging her 4 puppies down a dirt road, covered in fleas and feces. A Good Samaritan found the dogs and was kind enough to bring them to the local shelter. FCDRT pulled mom and the 4 puppies and up they came to Virginia!

Georgia, unfortunately, tested positive for heartworms but was treated and adopted out to a wonderful home. All 4 puppies found loving homes as well.

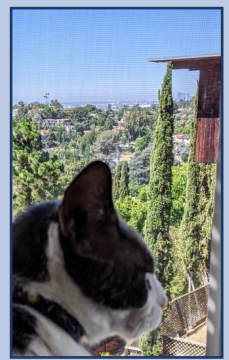
Palmer, one of the puppies, has a truly amazing story. His adopted family has been training him to be a service animal. Palmer sleeps every night with his boy and protects him from seizures. He alerts if someone is not feeling well and he loves to snuggle and play with his brother, Pancake, who was also adopted from FCDRT.

“Palmer is seriously the most amazing pet. He is empathetic and sweet and calm. He follows and comforts whomever he senses needs it. Best thing we’ve ever done.” So proud of you, Palmer!

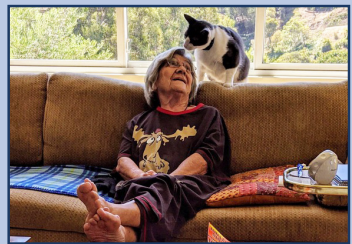


BAXTER

He is doing great, he is a very affectionate kitty. He is now known as Baxter but his old name lives on in his nickname, “Herbie the Love Bug.” Everyone loves him.



No major health issues. He had some dental issues (gingivitis and two broken teeth) which are now resolved, and he became much more comfortable after that. He had some mild allergic reactions (swollen lips or cheeks) back in the fall, I think it may have been stress-related given all the changes in his life, so for now we have him on Royal Canin z/d “skin sensitivity” canned and dry food. I have him ensured with Embrace and my vet of 20 years at VCA here in Alexandria takes care of him. He has settled in at a healthy weight of around 16 pounds. His shoulders and leg muscles are very well developed, he is a good jumper. Sometimes he takes one of my sneakers from the closet, carries it to the living room, and plays with the laces. If you don’t believe me, we have photos and video! He has made two trips to Los Angeles, he loves the California sunshine, and he likes to join my Zoom calls, too, including my language lessons. He has been exposed to both Russian and Turkish, and when the crew from Merry Maids come to clean, they talk to him in Spanish. So glad I could give him a home.

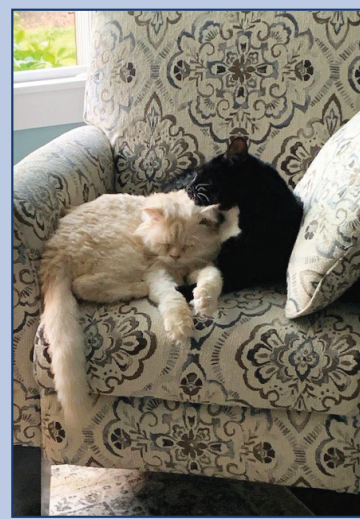


Angela, he loves the California sunshine, and he likes to join my Zoom calls, too, including my language lessons. He has been exposed to both Russian and Turkish, and when the crew from Merry Maids come to clean, they talk to him in Spanish. So glad I could give him a home.

TURBO, EASTON & CREAMY

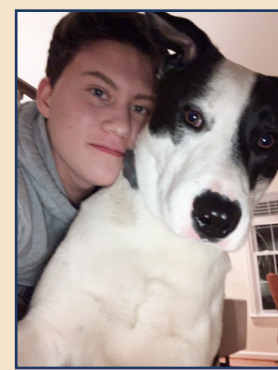
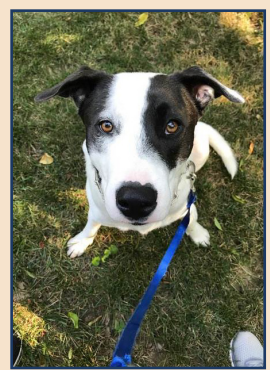
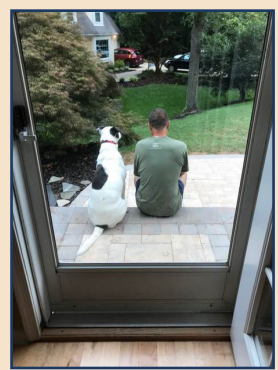
The cats, Turbo, Easton & Creamy (Samba) are great!!

They are healthy and thriving. And getting along well.



We adopted Toby in early June of last year. He was a bit of a shy guy at first but quickly came out of his shell and revealed the big puppy he still is inside. He loves playing around the yard, spreading out full length on the couches for his downtime, and spends many hours sitting by the front screen door checking out whatever's going on outside. He adores his hikes on the neighborhood trails and is friendly with other dogs he meets along the way. Most of all, he loves getting attention from his family and we are only too happy to oblige. The more of us petting him at one time, the happier he is. We have had some challenges with him. We learned early on that he is a chewer and seems to love eating "things" even more than food! We think this is a hold over behavior from maybe having been a stray. He is clearly a survivor and still would love to eat every piece of trash he passes in the street :). It has been great, though, building our relationship with him and seeing his progress. We try to give him a big variety of chew toys to meet his needs and he has definitely learned what kinds of things he should and should not be eating. At the end of the day, Toby is a big goof ball who has provided us with constant entertainment as we have quarantined over the last year. Our sweet, quirky boy is a great companion and has become such a big part of the family and we are super proud of how far he has come.

TOBY



ADOPTIONS

LORELEI

Give her a couple of days to adjust to new environments, and Lorelei will transform into a sweetheart that loves cheek scratches and brushing so much, that she drools from happiness!

Once she has gotten comfortable she'll even seek out a warm quiet lap. Like most princesses, Lorelei loves to find comfy places to cuddle up and nap and is super cute when she hides in the pillows, or lays on the cat tree.



As with most 4 year olds, Lorelei has plenty of energy and gets her exercise in spurts with quick laps around the house or a graceful jump onto the bed. Here's Lorelei's thing: she wants to get know you before you can pet her. It won't take long at all, and her requests for petting and attention increase as she gets to know you. If she growls, she is just letting you know she needs a wee bit more time to learn her surroundings! After a few days she might surprise you with a kiss. Lorelei will make a great companion for a patient adopter, in a quiet home where she can be your one and only pet, or perhaps with another cat who will leave her be. (She is not fond of dogs!) She eats a diet of kidney kibble, which Fancy cats will supply to her new foster.



Gigi is a sweet, talkative torbie (tortie tabby) with a clear meow (and sometimes the most adorable squeaks) when she wants food, treats, or to play, and a little whisper meow paired with head-bonks when she wants attention or a snuggle. She's a half-lap cat, meaning she likes to lie half-on and half-off a lap (or a chest)! Her me-time consists of resting in a bed, on her warming pad, or a cat tree by a window.

GIGI

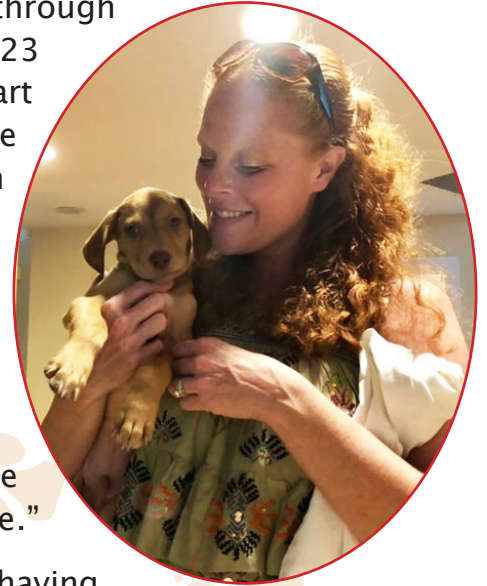


She may let you pick her up and carry her around a bit, but only for short periods. Even though Gigi is over 10 years old, she is still quite playful. Her favorite games are chasing a rope, pouncing on a bag, running through a tunnel, or batting around a toy mousie.



Why I Foster

Anne Marie Kimmell and her family have been fostering dogs through Fancy Cats & Dogs for a little over a year, and have welcomed 23 dogs temporarily in their home to date. “The most rewarding part of fostering is seeing the progress that they make when they are with you. I have had everything from one dog who laid down on my chest and fell asleep snoring through the night with deep sighs hours after picking him up to one who took a week for him to allow me to touch him,” says Kimmell. “Fostering is about taking care of them physically of course – a lot of times they come emaciated from the stress of being in a shelter or from abuse, but it is also about teaching them to trust again. Fostering gives us the opportunity to teach them that they are loved, they matter, and it’s amazing what blooms from there.”



One of the most rewarding by products of fostering has been having the opportunity to give her children the experience that there is much joy to be found when living beyond yourself, Kimmell adds.

Foster Home Story



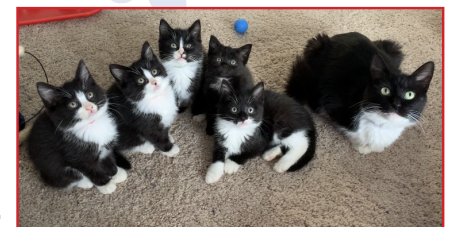
My name is Megan, and I am a wife, science teacher, and foster mama to kittens. Last summer, my spirit hit rock bottom. After being ripped away from my students in March, and being home alone for most of the day, I was having difficulty finding productive uses for my time. I looked for volunteer opportunities and connected with Fancy Cats.

Fostering kittens has created so much joy in my life and the lives of other. I have become friends with people who adopt my kittens, and I have over 100 followers on my Instagram. I also post on Imgur and many of my adorable kittens “go viral.” I love that their fuzzy faces bring smiles in such a tough time.



Fostering is so fulfilling. Adopters send me updates and I love watching kittens who were skinny, sick, and helpless grow into plump, happy members of families.

Your walk-in closet or extra bathroom is a kitty haven compared to their lives on the street or in an over crowded rescue center. Many people say they don’t want to foster because it would be too hard to “give up” the kittens. I fall in love with every kitten I have, but I only feel happiness when I place them into the arms of their new forever family.



Foster! Its a wonderful thing. Feel free to follow and/or contact me on Instagram@kittycrazy88 with any questions or thoughts.

Our Kitten Foster Program saves lives

Fostering with Fancy Cats and Dogs Rescue Team is a rewarding experience. Our kitten foster program continues to grow but we always need more help, the more fosters that we have the more moms/kittens we can save. Last year we were able to adopt out over 900 homeless kittens and mom cats and we were only able to do that because of our kitten foster homes. This was a record number for us doubling over the previous year. The Thing we would like people to know is that all the cats and kittens were in shelters where they were in danger of being euthanized. Our animals come from shelters that need help because they do not adopt out cats. Most of these kittens come in needing lots of TLC and an available foster home often makes the difference between life and death for these little ones. We provide all the training!

Our fosters would provide Love and other basic needs cats (food, litter, toys). We do get donations of these things often and they are passed on to the foster homes. We need your help to save more lives in 2021! We already have many requests for pregnant cats coming in and we want to help in every way that we can. Sadly, foster homes become unavailable for one reason or another. Please tell your friends, your high schools (service hours counted) and anyone you can think of. We also get requests for newborns without mom cats that need to be bottle fed! We do not want to have to say no to any shelters. If you can help, please fill out our foster home application

<https://www.fancycats.org/adoption-information-2/fancy-cats/adoption-application>

Dog Foster Program – You should know

We just wrapped up our third year of the dog program, can you believe it? In 2020, we adopted out 314 dogs! That's almost a 50% increase from our 2019 numbers. Throughout this year, we've been able to continue our adoptions despite COVID restrictions, going primarily to a remote model for application reviews, home checks, and such. Though we haven't been able to do in-person adoption events, demand has continued to grow. Applications are up 70%, and we have increased our sourcing efforts by continuing to work with ground transportation groups across the south and with Pilots for Paws for the occasional air transport.

While we continue to grow, we still need your help. We are looking for a foster home coordinator and additional people to screen applications, please note training is available for both roles. We're all in this together!

Our biggest need still remains foster homes. As you all know, our dog program is 100% foster based. We are completely limited by the number of people that sign up to foster. Could you help us by spreading the word? On the next page are our top 6 reasons you should foster!

Top 6 reasons you should foster

- 1. Fostering increases an animal's chance of being adopted!** Foster families are usually the first to find out about the pet's personality. You may even be the first to teach your foster pet basic house manners, making them more appealing to potential adopters.
- 2. You get to see if you're ready to own another pet.** Maybe you want to foster a certain dog to see if you're ready to adopt one, or you want to see if adding a cat into your all-dog household will upset the balance.
- 3. Fostering is temporary!** If you've already got a dog, it's not a big change to add one more pup to your daily walks and potty break schedule. Knowing the foster animal will only be with you for a short time makes it easier to find the time to take care of them, and it also makes it easier to give them up when it's time.
- 4. You probably already have the space for one more.** A spare bedroom or office is the perfect place for a foster pet. Even a bathroom is enough room for a kitten or puppy, and it's much larger than a cage in a shelter. Sometimes a spare room is the only thing standing between an animal and euthanasia in an animal control facility.
- 5. You can choose how to foster.** Only want to foster bulldogs or a puppy? Prefer to look after kittens? Can't foster for more than a few months at a time? We can accommodate your requests, as long as you agree to it before hand and give them plenty of notice.
- 6. You are saving a life.** You feel good, Fancy Cats & Dogs can help more animals, and your foster pet is happy, healthy, and well-socialized. Talk about win-win-win!

Foster Home Coordinator

Fancy Cats & Dogs Rescue Team

fancycats.org

www.facebook.com/fancycats

twitter.com/fcrt

If your place of work participates in the Combined Federal Campaign (98772) or the United Way of the National Capital Area (8929), please consider Fancy Cats as the recipient of your donations!



RESCUE TEAM

PO Box 182, Herndon, VA 20172
www.fancycats.org