



## **FOSTER CARE OUTLINE**

### **FOSTERING DOGS IN YOUR HOME**

Providing foster care can be difficult and challenging, but it is also very rewarding. IGCA Rescue does not have a "shelter" or "kennel" facility; we rely solely on foster homes. A Foster Volunteer provides a safe, loving environment where the Rescue Orphan resides until it is adopted into a new, permanent, forever home. The length of time a dog is in foster care varies from several weeks to several months. The area Rescue Representative monitors each dog and foster care giver regularly through e-mails and telephone conversations and is available to provide guidance and support throughout the term of foster care.

**Q: What does fostering entail?**

A: The foster care giver welcomes the dog into their home and provides food, shelter, exercise, training and love until the dog finds a permanent home. Foster caregivers assess the personality, temperament, energy level and sociability of the dog so that we can successfully match an approved adopter with a rescue dog based on these qualities. Foster care givers may need to take the dog to one of our Rescue veterinarians for routine medical care and follow-up (wellness exam, vaccinations, spay/neuter, dental cleaning) appointments. Basic socialization training, potty training guidelines, proper diet and weight maintenance are part of foster care. Foster care givers also speak with approved applicants to provide current information on their foster dog. Only approved applicants are allowed to speak with the foster care giver or to meet a Rescue Dog.

**Q: Why are foster homes needed?**

A: Foster homes save lives! Foster homes make it possible for us to take in a dog from a shelter or an owner. IGCA does not purchase a dog from Craig's List or any Social Media site.

**Q: Who is responsible for expenses of the foster dog?**

A: Italian Greyhound Rescue covers all **approved** medical care (vaccines, spay/neuter surgery, dental cleaning, etc). Medical care **must** be approved by the local area Rescue Representative and/or the National Rescue Committee prior to any treatment. Payment for services is handled by the local area Rescue Representative. The foster family provides the basics such as food, transportation, exercise, training, shelter, and love.

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