



# Foster Family Agreement

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*Our Foster Families provide an extremely valuable service in the rescue of Kerry Blue Terriers. They offer a safe and secure home environment in which our rescue dogs can be evaluated and cared for while awaiting permanent placement. The Kerry Blue Terrier Foundation (KBTF) considers its Foster Families to be essential to the welfare and proper placement of its rescue dogs, and wishes the experience to be enjoyable, free of misunderstandings, and eminently rewarding.*

The person(s) volunteering to serve as a Kerry Blue Terrier Foundation Foster Family agree to the following:

- 1. Duties.** The Foster Family agrees to:
    - Temporarily provide a safe and loving environment for a Rescue Kerry (generally from 2 weeks to 3 months, depending on the dog's needs).
    - Provide any medical treatment or training necessary.
    - Evaluate the dog's temperament and behavior in a variety of situations.
    - Provide a photo of the foster dog and a description, whether written or verbal, for use on the KBTF web site to attract adopters.
    - Meet with potential adopters and provide full disclosure on the Rescue Kerry.
    - Cooperate fully with the designated KBTF Rescue Coordinator on the dog's care and placement.
  - 2. Rescue policy.** The Foster Family will follow all relevant KBTF procedures and guidelines as described by the designated KBTF Rescue Coordinator or Rescue Director regarding foster care, and will make no decisions or actions regarding euthanasia or the animal's placement without prior approval from the KBTF Rescue Coordinator or Rescue Director.
  - 3. Monetary reimbursement.** The Foster Family is not an employee of the KBTF but an unpaid volunteer working for the benefit of the dogs they help rescue.

The Foster Family will be reimbursed by the KBTF for the following foster-related expenses resulting from the care of the animal:

    - all animal shelter fees
    - initial veterinary examination and any necessary vaccinations (rabies, DHLPP, bordetella) or routine medical treatment, and any other previously approved veterinary care, testing, treatment, boarding, or surgery
    - good quality dog food (up to a maximum of 20 lbs at a time)
    - a leash and collar with identification (if not already supplied)
  - 4. Local animal laws.** The Foster Family agrees to obey federal, state, county, and municipal laws and ordinances in performing this service.
  - 5. Family member.** The dog shall reside at the Foster Family's address, and be treated as a household pet and member of the family.

It shall be afforded the same love and attention provided to the other household dogs (if any), and maintained in as stress-free an environment as possible.
  - 6. Humane care.** The Foster Family agrees to provide humane care, including but not limited to adequate food, water, shelter, exercise, socialization, grooming, and the same level of care as they do their own dogs.
  - 7. Medical Care.** The dog shall be provided any medical treatment deemed necessary by a veterinarian or suggested by the KBTF Rescue Coordinator, and the Foster Family agrees to provide any treatment required for the well-being of the animal and to help increase its adoptability.
  - 8. Exercise.** The Foster Family shall provide the animal with a securely fenced yard or other humane means of exercise, and never allow the dog off lead in unsecured areas. The animal shall never be kept constantly outdoors or tethered there alone, nor be crated or on tie-downs for extended periods of time, and must wear a collar and identification tag at all times when allowed outdoors.
- Any other reasonable and necessary expenditures not resulting from carelessness, abuse, or neglect on the part of the Foster Family will be reimbursed only with the approval of the KBTF Rescue Coordinator. The Foster Family agrees to make every effort to keep expenses billed to the KBTF as reasonable as possible, including requesting Rescue discounts for veterinary costs, and taking advantage of coupons and sales.

## Foster Family Agreement—*continued*

**9. Training.** The Foster Family agrees to work with the dog to solve such common behavior problems as pulling on the lead, nuisance barking, destructive chewing or digging, or housetraining accidents. The Foster Family shall provide any basic training necessary to the well-being of the animal and to help increase its adoptability.

**10. Security.** The Foster Family understands that the KBTF and its representatives have limited or no information regarding the temperament and habits of the dogs it rescues. The Foster Family will take all reasonable precautions (through the use of crates, tie-downs, leashes, supervision, and common sense) to ensure that the animal does not run loose, become a nuisance, destroy property, injure or be injured by another animal, or injure or be injured by any person or persons. In cases where the dog is intact, the animal will *under no circumstances* be allowed to mate.

When integrating a dog with resident pets, extreme caution and constant supervision will be exercised to ensure the safety of all animals. Dogs that exhibit dog aggression will be separated by physical barriers (gates, crates, tie-downs, doors) to prevent injury.

**11. Evaluation.** The Foster Family agrees to provide the dog with a range of experiences to help determine the temperament, behavior, and personality of the dog, and to communicate that to the KBTF Rescue Coordinator for help with placement. Whenever possible, the dog will be tested with children of different ages, cats, other dogs, and in a variety of everyday situations.

**12. Home screening.** The Foster Family agrees to be courteous, helpful, and honest to potential adopters, and to fully cooperate in accommodating those who wish to see the animal. The Foster Family will provide the KBTF Rescue Coordinator with a fair assessment of the dog's interaction with the potential adopters and their impression of the likely success of such a placement.

**13. Property rights.** The Foster Family understands that the dog remains the property of the KBTF, and agrees to relinquish the dog when the time comes to do so. The KBTF recognizes and respects the emotional bond a Foster Family develops with a foster dog, and will allow the family to participate in choosing the adoptive home to the fullest extent possible. The

KBTF, however, reserves the right to remove the dog from the home at any time with or without prior notice. If the dog cannot be kept by the Foster Family, the Foster Family shall notify the Rescue Coordinator immediately. The animal shall not be sold, abandoned, relinquished to a pound or shelter or to any other Rescue group, transferred, or given to any individual, or to any retail or wholesale establishment for the purpose of sale or resale to the public, nor to any research institution.

**14. Foster-To-Adopt.** If the Foster Family elects the "Foster-To-Adopt" option (back page), they will be given first priority to permanently adopt the foster dog if the decision is made and communicated to the KBTF within 14 days of the dog's arrival. An Adoption Questionnaire must be completed, then approved by the KBTF Rescue Coordinator or Rescue Director, and, if approved, an Adoption Contract must be signed and submitted along with the appropriate adoption fees. Pursuant to the Adoption Contract, the Foster Family agrees to spay/neuter at their expense.

**15. Liability.** The Foster Family does hereby release, discharge, and hold harmless the KBTF and any person, firm, or corporation charged or chargeable with liability, their heirs, administrators, executors, successors, and assigns, from any and all claims, damages, costs, expenses, loss of services, actions, and causes of actions, whether known or unknown, belonging to the said Foster Family due to any action or occurrence from the date of this agreement arising out of or in connection with the fostering of a rescue dog, except for those expenses specifically described in item 2.

**16. Attorney fees.** The Foster Family agrees to pay the KBTF any and all expenses, including court costs and reasonable attorney fees, in enforcing the terms and provisions of this agreement.

**17. Duration of Agreement.** This Agreement remains in effect until cancelled in writing by the Foster Family or the KBTF.

**Foster Family Agreement—continued**

The UNDERSIGNED Foster Family hereby acknowledges having read the terms of this Agreement and does hereby agree to abide by each of the rules of fostering set forth above.

**FOSTER ONLY**     **FOSTER-TO-ADOPT**

Signature(s) of Foster Family: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name and Address of Foster Family

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Rescue Coordinator: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

<b>KBTF USE ONLY</b>	Comments _____
Home visit date: _____	_____
Approved? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Date: _____	_____