



JCLDR

Janeen's Catahoula Leopard Dog Rescue



INTRODUCTION TO FOSTERING

First and foremost, THANK YOU for wishing to partner with us to save a dog. Without committed foster homes willing to house, care for, and rehabilitate unwanted dogs, we would not be able to do what we do. Fosters are the lifeblood of rescue, so again...

THANK YOU!

Below you will find our Foster Agreement, which spells out in more detail what is expected of you as a Foster, and what you can expect from us. Most of this has already been explained to you, as you are receiving this document only after being screened and approved to foster a dog with JCLDR. However, it is important to have everything in writing so there is no ambiguity or lapses of memory. You can refer to this document at any time, as well as call or message us with questions.

It is vital to remember that you are a steward for our dog, and that positive, open, and honest communication is the key to our shared success. We have been doing this a long time and are here to help 24/7 -- we are committed to helping dogs and people thrive. The more we work together to help your foster dog adjust and blossom, the better our chances of making the perfect adoptive match!

By signing this document and initialing each page, you agree to these conditions, and officially join our team.

Welcome!

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FOSTER AGREEMENT

This Foster Agreement (hereinafter “the Contract”) is made on _____(date) by and between Janeen’s Catahoula Leopard Dog Rescue, Inc. (hereinafter “JCLDR”) and undersigned foster care volunteer (hereafter “Foster”), residing at the address listed below. This agreement is valid for any current or future animals (hereinafter “Dog”) in Foster’s care on behalf of JCLDR. The parties hereby agree to the following:

1. FOSTER PERIOD and COMMITMENT

- a. Foster understands the open-ended commitment he or she is making by agreeing to foster the Dog. **There is no definitive time period**, and JCLDR cannot guarantee that any dog will be adopted within any given timeframe. Foster understands it may take weeks, months, or possibly longer for the Dog to be adopted, and that Foster is responsible for continuing to care for and house the Dog during that period.
- b. If Foster can no longer care for the Dog for some urgent, unforeseen and unavoidable reason, Foster shall notify JCLDR immediately and cooperate fully as JCLDR looks for another suitable foster home or adopter. JCLDR will do everything possible to place the Dog quickly in such a circumstance. However, the Foster understands that it may take time to find the Dog a new home appropriate for its needs. **Foster agrees to continue to house and care for the Dog until a suitable new placement is found.**
- c. Foster understands that during the foster period, JCLDR has legal ownership of the Dog. Foster is a steward of the Dog and a teammate, but not the owner.
- d. JCLDR may recover the Dog from Foster at any time during the foster period if deemed necessary.

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2. CARE OF ANIMAL

- a. Foster shall accept and consider the Dog as a household companion, not as an outside pet, and will provide the Dog with a safe environment, humane treatment, and provide proper food, fresh water, shelter, and daily exercise (on-leash only).
- b. Foster will provide basic training for the Dog during the foster period to the best of his/her ability, including: housetraining, crate training, leash manners, very basic obedience (sit, lay down, stay, etc.) JCLDR can provide assistance with any/all of these training expectations.
- c. Foster agrees this Dog will not be abused in any manner. The Dog will not be chained at any time. Tie-outs may be used only when Foster is outdoors with the Dog. The Dog shall not be used in any aspect of animal fighting. The Dog shall not be the subject of or subjected to any biological, chemical, psychological, or other experiment.
- d. The Dog shall be allowed to sleep indoors and protected from the elements or adverse conditions. The Dog shall not be housed or kept outside or in a yard or kennel.
- e. The Dog shall not be allowed to roam free or unsupervised outside, except within a securely fenced yard for short daytime periods while the Foster is home. The Dog shall not be allowed off-leash in any unfenced/unsecured areas.
- f. Foster agrees not to take the Dog to any designated "dog parks" or other areas where it must interact with numerous other unleashed dogs.
- g. Foster shall immediately notify JCLDR if the Dog is lost or stolen, and shall make every reasonable effort to recover the Dog.
- h. Foster shall not relinquish or sell the Dog to another person, relative, friend, or any other individual, or any rescue group, humane association, shelter, or adoption center unless pre-approved in writing by JCLDR.

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- i. In the case that the Dog must be temporarily housed with anyone other than Foster (ie: dog-sitting or boarding during vacations), Foster shall notify JCLDR and gain written approval for temporary housing locations/facilities before taking the Dog to said location. Foster is responsible for any dog-sitting or boarding expenses incurred during vacations or other temporary housing.
- j. Foster shall not under any circumstances use e-collars, shock collars, no-bark collars, invisible fences, vibrating remote collars, pinch collars, or other aversive training tools on the Dog. Flat collars, properly fitted martingale collars, and harnesses are permitted. Any other equipment must be approved in advance by JCLDR.
- k. Foster shall not take the Dog to any trainer, handler, behaviorist, board-and-train, or other dog training professional without express consent from JCLDR. If behavioral help is required, JCLDR will provide timely assistance and consultation via phone, videoconference, or in-person representative.
- l. Foster shall not alter the Dog's appearance in any way, shape or form (ex: ear cropping, tail docking, etc), with the exception of routine grooming.
- m. Foster permits JCLDR to send a representative to visit Foster home at reasonable and convenient times to check on the well-being of the Dog.

3. VET APPOINTMENTS

- a. JCLDR covers the cost of all pre-approved veterinary care, whether paying the vet directly or reimbursing the Foster with receipts provided.
- b. Foster must schedule vet appointments with prior written approval from their assigned JCLDR coordinator. Foster is responsible for transporting animal to and from appointments.
- c. Foster is not to seek medical attention for the Dog without prior approval and by JCLDR, unless it is a life-threatening emergency. Failing to do this will result in the Foster incurring the cost of the vet visit.

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- d. If the Dog is not spayed or neutered upon arrival at foster home, Foster must arrange, through the assigned JCLDR coordinator, to have the Dog spayed or neutered with an approved veterinary provider. Foster shall not under any circumstances breed the Dog or allow the Dog to breed on its own. JCLDR covers the cost of spay/neuter.
- e. Foster shall immediately notify JCLDR in the event of the Dog's injury, illness, or death during the foster care period.

4. FOOD and SUPPLIES

- a. Foster agrees to feed the Dog a brand and variety of food designated by JCLDR, even if this is different from food fed to other dogs in Foster's household. Foster agrees NOT to "free-feed" the Dog, and to instead provide 2-3 meals per day at consistent times, removing any uneaten food at the end of designated mealtime.
- b. Foster agrees not to give rawhides, bones, other chews, "raw food" or natural remedies to the Dog without consulting JCLDR first.
- c. JCLDR will provide flea/tick/heartworm preventative as appropriate. Foster is asked to cover the cost of food, periodic de-worming (using Panacur or other pre-approved de-wormer), and miscellaneous optional supplies like toys, leashes, etc. If Foster experiences financial hardship as a result of these expenses, and needs help paying for food or other necessary supplies, he/she should contact JCLDR to request financial assistance.
- d. JCLDR will provide a crate for the Dog if Foster does not already have one that is appropriate size/type. Foster may be required to pick the crate up from seller and/or be reimbursed for pre-approved purchase. Crate training is required for foster dogs.
- e. Expenses not covered by JCLDR, but incurred by Foster, including food, de-worming medications, voluntary purchases, and transportation costs, can be itemized by Foster as a tax deduction. Foster is encouraged to save receipts toward this objective if desired.

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5. ADJUSTMENT PERIOD FOR SHELTER ANIMALS

Dogs coming out of a shelter environment, or even another foster home, are often very unsettled. They may be timid, nervous, anxious, reactive, shut down, overwhelmed, hyperactive, etc. Dogs REQUIRE at least two weeks of very limited novelty in their new foster home. This means that for the first 2-3 weeks that the Dog resides with Foster, the following will apply:

- a. DO NOT immediately introduce the Dog to other animals in the home. Utilize crates, baby gates, doors, and other barriers to provide quiet space for the Dog to acclimate to its new environment for at least several days. The Dog will be able to smell and sense other animals and get used to them without pressure, and same for other animals with the new arrival. Introductions should be done cautiously and in consultation with JCLDR on best approach.
- b. DO NOT bring the dog into public places like pet stores, busy parks, etc., or allow strangers to touch the Dog. Pre-approved vet appointments are OK.
- c. DO NOT invite friends and family over to meet the Dog. Even though it is tempting because you may be excited about your new arrival, this is very stressful for a dog.
- d. Daily exercise should be limited to yard play and leash walks in quiet areas.
- e. Hand-feeding is recommended to build bond and trust with the Dog.
- f. The quieter and more structured the Dog's routine can be during this period, the better.

6. ADOPTION PROMOTION

- a. JCLDR markets pets available for adoption through various methods including Petfinder and Facebook. Foster is responsible for assisting in marketing the Dog through word of mouth and by sharing JCLDR posts online.
- b. Foster should provide JCLDR with quality photos and a thorough description of the Dog for marketing purposes. These materials should be provided within one month of the Dog arriving to Foster's home, and in consultation with JCLDR representative via phone.

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- c. Foster agrees not to generate his/her own marketing materials, not to promise the Dog to any person who may inquire, and to direct any interested parties to JCLDR for application or discussion.

7. ADOPTION

- a. If Foster wishes to permanently adopt the Dog, Foster shall notify JCLDR and upon approval, shall follow established adoption procedures including signing an Adoption Contract and paying the Dog's adoption fee.
- b. If Foster finds a potential permanent/adoptive home for the Dog, Foster shall notify JCLDR. All potential adopters are required to fill out an Adoption Application, to be thoroughly screened by JCLDR, and to pay adoption fee.

8. RELEASE OF LIABILITY

- a. JCLDR makes no guarantees or promises regarding the Dog's disposition, temperament, and/or future health and personality.
- b. Foster agrees to foster the Dog at Foster's own risk, and indemnify and release JCLDR, its founder, board of directors, and volunteers of any and all liability arising from damages to person(s) or property caused by the Dog.
- c. In the event the Foster does not comply with the terms of this Contract, at the reasonable discretion of JCLDR, JCLDR may recover the Dog. Promptly upon demand by JCLDR, the Foster shall relinquish the Dog to JCLDR.

The undersigned Foster hereby acknowledges that they have read the entirety of this Contract supplied by JCLDR, and agree to its terms.

Signed _____ Date _____

Foster address _____
