



Foster 101: Welcome!

Thank you for opening your home and heart to a foster dog. Fostering saves lives and plays a critical role in helping dogs transition into adoptive homes. This guide will walk you through the basics to help set you (and your foster pup) up for success!

What to Expect

- **Adjustment Period:** Every dog adjusts at their own pace. Expect 3 days to decompress, and 3 weeks to settle in.
- **Transport:** You may be asked to assist with pick-up, vet visits, or meet-and-greets. We will work with you as best as we can to accommodate your schedule based on your availability.
- **Medical Care:** All dogs will be kept up to date based on H.O.P.E.'s Standard of Care Policy. All appointments and procedures must receive prior authorization or be scheduled by HOPE.
- **Supplies:** We provide basic supplies as needed, let us know if you're missing anything!
- **Adoption Process:** We handle the screening and approval of adopters. You may be asked to provide photos, videos, and personality notes to help promote your foster.
- **Check ups:** Members of the HOPE Animal Rescue Dog Team will regularly check in to see how everything is going and provide advice as needed.

Your Responsibilities

- Provide a safe, loving home environment
- Help establish routines and reinforce good manners
- Communicate any behavioral or medical concerns
- Share updates, photos, and videos regularly
- Keep dogs leashed and supervised at all times outdoors



H.O.P.E.
Homes for Orphaned Pets Exist

- Take notes to share with further families around routines, behaviors, likes and dislikes
- Let us know if you're unable to continue fostering, need support, or will be going on a vacation while planning to have a foster dog.

Tips for a Smooth Foster Experience

- **Create structure:** Dogs thrive on routine. Feeding, potty, and walks at consistent times help them feel secure.
- **Avoid overwhelming them:** Limit new experiences at first. Let the dog settle before introducing visitors or outings.
- **Use positive reinforcement:** Reward good behavior and redirect undesired actions without punishment.
- **Crate training is helpful:** It gives dogs a safe space and helps with potty training and boundaries.
- **Always leash outdoors:** Even in fenced yards, dogs can escape or dig. Supervise outside time.
- **Multi pet homes:** Have all pets separated during feeding

Contact Info

Kelsey:

📞 Phone: (518) 409 - 6040

Sophia:

📞 Phone: (518) 380 - 1688

Team Contact:

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Primary Veterinarian: Spring Family Veterinary Hospital

📞 Phone: (518) 554-8484

🏡 Address: 9 Hampstead Pl Suite 105, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866



For Emergencies:

Animal Poison Control Center:

Phone: 888-426-4435

Local Emergency Vet: Capital District Veterinarian Referral Hospital

Phone: (518) 785-1094

What You Should Have

Here's a checklist to make fostering smoother:

- Leash & collar or harness
- Crate
- Food & water bowls
- Dog food
- Treats
- Toys/chews
- Bed or blankets
- Poop Bags
- Any medications or flea/tick preventatives
- Copy of your foster care agreement (always sign before taking in a new foster pet!)

Let us know if you need help getting any of these items!