

SPCA Cincinnati Foster Program

How does it work?

We try to make our process as simple as possible. First, you'll want to fill out the application online. After that, our Foster Coordinator will review your application; please give ample time for this and watch your inbox – email is the predominant form of communication due to the amount of inquiries we get. Within a week of submission, you'll see an email with your foster status and any available candidates. From there, you'll want to review the candidates and see if one may be a good fit. Be honest with yourself. If you pick an animal just to have one and not because it is a good fit, it is likely that both you and the animal will be unhappy. If you think there's a good fit, reply to the email to set up a potential meet and greet.

I want to foster kittens but you never seem to have any!

That could depend on the time of year; Kitten Season runs from April – October which is when we have the most amount of kittens needing foster. We also have a large kitten foster base so when we do have kittens, they go quick.

I filled out an application to foster dogs and still haven't been matched... why?

SPCA Cincinnati has hundreds of foster families but only a few foster candidates at a time. We encourage foster applicants to remain patient and also to reach out to other shelters who may have a more immediate need.

What kind of supplies do I need?

We will provide all starter materials and will provide food and any medication on an ongoing basis. Supply pickup is arranged with the Foster Coordinator.

Can SPCA Cincinnati foster my animal out temporarily while I get back on my feet?

Unfortunately we do not offer this service. We recommend contacting Interfaith Hospitality Network.

Read on for more information about fostering opportunities!

SPCA Cincinnati Foster Program

Thank you for your interest in SPCA Cincinnati's foster program! With the help of our dedicated foster base, we are able to do more for the homeless animals in our community. Fostering is a rewarding experience and directly impacts the lives of our shelter animals.

We foster out both cats and dogs for a variety of reasons, such as:

- Animals that are not yet ready for spay/neuter surgeries
- Animals who need socialization
- Animals who are recovering from an injury or illness
- Animals who are not thriving in the shelter

SPCA Cincinnati requires that all foster applicants are at least 18 years of age. To apply, go to our website. spcacincinnati.org/get-involved



SPCA Cincinnati

Location and Contact Information

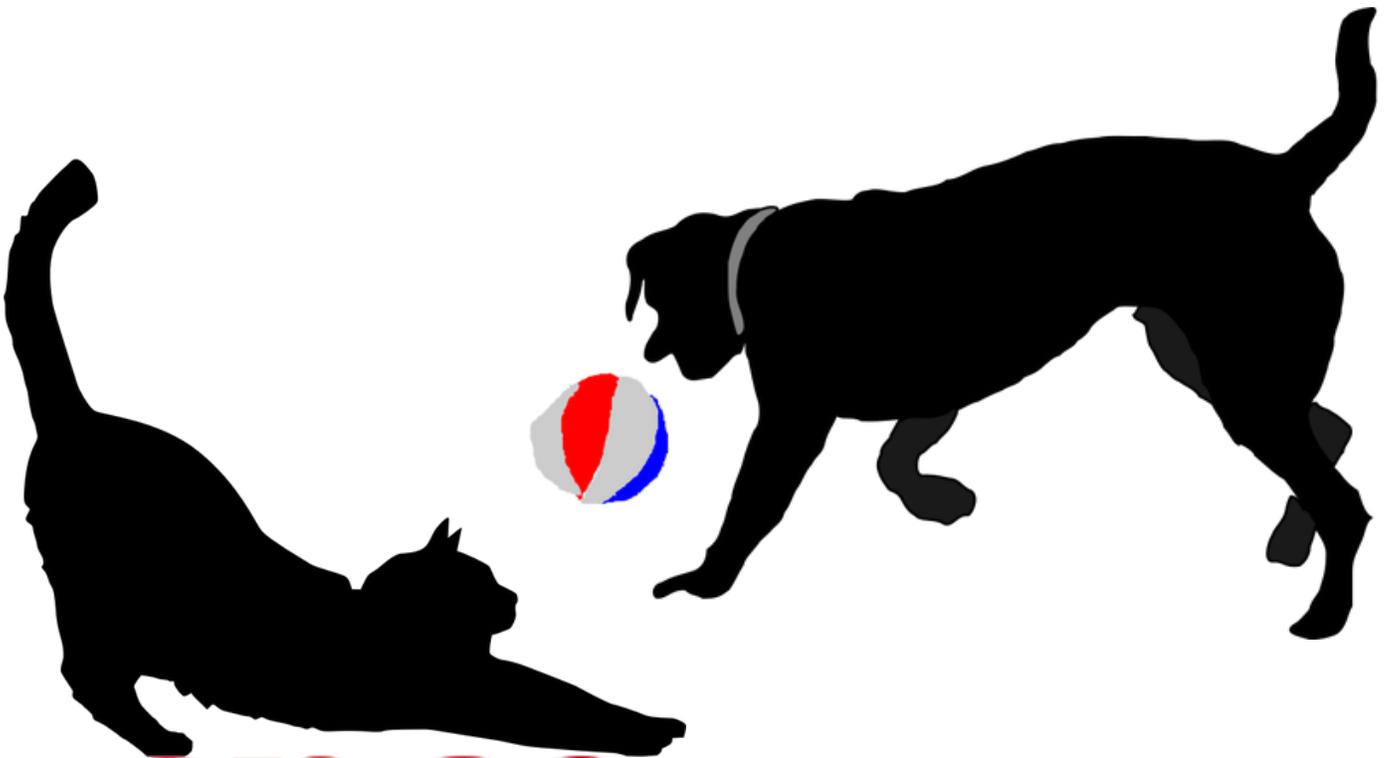
SPCA Cincinnati Foster and Rescue Coordinator:

Erin Lawson | foster@spcacincinnati.org

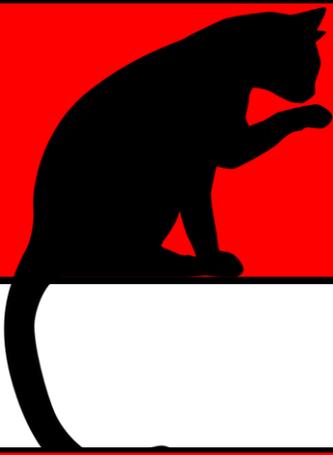
SPCA Cincinnati Headquarters: 11900 Conrey Road Cincinnati Ohio, 45249

513-489-7387 | 513-541-6100

www.spcacincinnati.org



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Cat/Kitten Fostering

Why foster kittens? There's countless reasons, but here are a few!

- You get a bunch of adorable little critters that will provide you with endless cuddles and love.
- You allow the kittens to grow up in a home environment, making them more adoptable.
- You can help find them homes by showing your family and friends how cute they are!
- You get to be first in line to adopt if you fall in love with one.
- You get the satisfaction of knowing that you are making a direct impact on the lives of the little ones in your care.
- Who doesn't LOVE kittens??

SPCA Cincinnati sees hundreds, sometimes thousands of cats and kittens come through our doors during Kitten Season. Kitten season runs from early spring through late fall, and is the time where we need the most fosters. Fostering kittens is not only fun, it's much easier than you may think!

Not a cat/kitten expert? No problem!

SPCA Cincinnati will provide you with all the materials and knowledge you need to be a great foster family. The only thing we ask you to provide is love and care.

What kind of care do these kittens need?

Kittens need to be fed regularly depending on their age, and should be socialized with humans. This means playing with and loving on them!

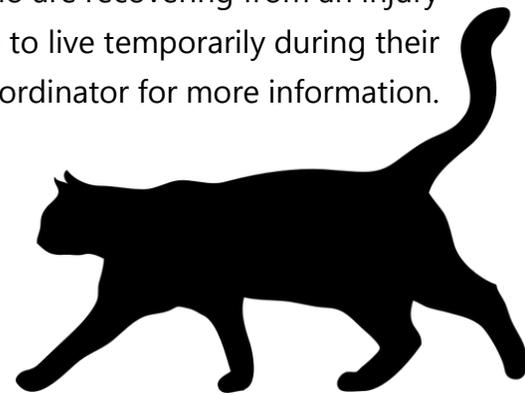
We also require that kittens come in every two weeks for boosters and a weight check; once they are 2.2lbs, they are ready to be spayed or neutered.

What happens if my kittens get sick?

First and foremost, don't panic! Kittens have weak immune systems and may get a URI (upper respiratory infection). If you notice sniffing, sneezing or watery eyes, contact the Foster Coordinator to arrange a time to pick up medication.

Kittens aren't my cup of tea... do you foster out adult cats?

Yes! We often have adult cats who are recovering from an injury or illness who need a calm place to live temporarily during their treatment. Contact the Foster Coordinator for more information.



Dog/Puppy Fostering



SPCA Cincinnati relies on dog fosters for many reasons. While the shelter is not ideal for any animal, some of our dogs take it harder than others and need some extra help to become adoption candidates.

Can I foster any dog at the shelter?

No. Currently, the only dogs who are able to be fostered are not adoption candidates for any of the following reasons:

- Medical case (sick, injured): Many of these dogs are recovering from a surgery, need to gain weight, or have an illness that isn't getting better in the shelter.
- Behavior/Socialization: Sometimes, a dog needs to learn to love again or needs a home environment to show their true colors.
- Pregnant moms: gives momma a calm place to raise her puppies

I'm not a dog trainer or vet, how do I know I can do this?

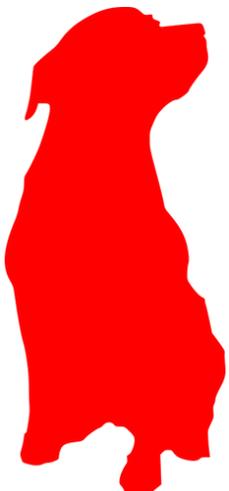
It doesn't take an expert to give a dog the love and care it needs to become adoptable. You will be given an outline of care when you take your foster dog home, and you can contact the Foster Coordinator with any questions.

Dogs are expensive! I don't think I can afford that right now.

SPCA Cincinnati will cover all costs related to fostering. We will provide you with everything you need, such as food, treats, toys, harnesses, leashes, a crate, and all medical care needed. (A crate is highly recommended to avoid damage to personal property)

How long am I expected to foster?

The length of fostering differs for each dog. It can be as short as a couple weeks, and as long as 5-6 months depending on the dog's progress and initial need for foster. You will need to bring the dog back at agreed upon times for medical or behavioral evaluations



Guidelines of Dog/Puppy Fostering:

- Any existing dogs in the potential foster home must be brought for a meet-and-greet with the shelter dog.
- Any medical care done outside of SPCA Cincinnati without approval will not be reimbursed
- You must bring all household members and any existing dogs to meet the foster pup before taking them home
- If fostering to adopt a Foster Candidate, you have 30 days to decide if you would like to complete adoption.
- If a dog is not a good fit, you can bring the dog back—no judgement!
- If you miss appointments and we are unable to reach you, a Dog Warden may be sent to your home to retrieve the animal.