



NAME:	
PHONE:	
DATE:	
APPROVAL	FCVA

Operation Save-A-Vet, Save-A-Pet Foster Application Checklist

<input type="checkbox"/>	DD214 (if applicable)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Drivers License
<input type="checkbox"/>	Car insurance Policy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Copy of Homeowner or Renters Insurance Policy
<input type="checkbox"/>	*If renting: Notarized letter from the landlord saying you can have a service dog/ service dog in training at the residence.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Copy of medical/health insurance for everyone in the home.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Foster Application Application
<input type="checkbox"/>	Veterinary Records for any current animals in the home.



FRANKLIN COUNTY
Office of Veterans Affairs
Operation Save-A-Vet, Save-A-Pet

FOSTER FAMILY APPLICATION

Welcome

We appreciate your interest in serving as a foster family for our Operation Save-A-Vet, Save-A-Pet program. Service dogs graduating from this program will be available for veterans with service-connected disabilities who reside in Franklin County.

Please complete this application and submit to our office for consideration.

Franklin County
Office of Veterans Affairs
425 Franklin Farm Lane
Chambersburg, PA 17202
(717) 263-4326

Applicant Information

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Do you rent or own your residence? Rent Own

**Note: Proof of homeowner's or renters insurance will be required prior to placement. Renters will require written proof that the placement of the service dog is not a violation of their lease terms.*

Do you anticipate any changes to your residence in the next year? Yes No

If yes, please explain: _____

How many people reside in your home? Adults ____ Children ____ Ages: _____

Does anyone in your family suffer from allergies? Yes No

Do you currently have dogs? Yes No If so, how many: _____

**Note: If you own other pets, submission of veterinary records is mandatory*

Name of Veterinary Clinic _____ Phone _____

Why are you interested in serving as a foster family?

If approved, who would primarily care for the dog during the day?

Who would primarily care for the dog during the evening?

Would you be interested in sponsoring the dog for the duration of their time with you?

Please list 2 references, which will be contacted prior to approval

Name _____ Phone _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Signature

All information provided is accurate as of the date of this application. I will notify the Franklin County Veterans Affairs Office of any changes. I understand that providing false information will result in disqualification from the program indefinitely. I further understand that completion of this application does not guarantee that I will foster a program puppy/dog.

Signature

Date

Name (Please print)



FRANKLIN COUNTY
Office of Veterans Affairs
Operation Save-A-Vet, Save-A-Pet

FOSTER FAMILY CONTRACT

Initials

_____ I attest that I will be the temporary foster parent of _____.

Although _____ is in the process of being trained, I understand that even trained animals can be unpredictable and that risks still exist, including risk to me, family members and guests. These include, without limitation, risks of physical injury, trauma, death and property damage. All risks are known and appreciated by me. I waive any and all specific notice of the existence of the risks. I voluntarily agree to become a foster parent with full understanding of these risks.

_____ I understand that by accepting temporary physical possession of this dog, I will become responsible for:

- Ensuring the dog attends any and all required training sessions
- Maintaining the daily care of the dog, by providing food and water, adequate shelter, and basic hygiene care in a humane manner
- Providing annual evidence of homeowners insurance or renters insurance and automobile insurance (if transporting dog) to the Veterans Affairs Office or training site.
- Providing emergency veterinary care, if needed, pursuant to the program policies
- Maintaining physical possession of the dog (dogs may not be given or lent to other individuals)
- Handling the dog in a manner that will not put the health or safety of myself, the dog, or the public at risk

_____ I have been provided with a copy of SAV-SAP foster family policies and agree to abide by these.

_____ I understand that the foster dog remains the property of the Franklin County Veterans Affairs Office, and I may be asked to surrender the dog at any time for any reason deemed appropriate by the Franklin County Veterans Affairs Office.

_____ I agree to surrender the foster dog within 24 hours of notification by the Veterans Affairs Office.

_____ I agree to release, and promise to hold harmless and indemnify Franklin County, its officers, designees, agents and assigns from and against any and all liability of any kind or nature arising, growing out of, or in any way connected, directly or indirectly, with participation in the Save-A-Vet, Save-A-Pet Program. I expressly assume the risk of such damages or injuries and losses throughout the duration of the foster period.

_____ I agree to notify Franklin County Veterans Affairs immediately of any of the following: Change in address, any serious injury, serious illness, loss, straying or death of the dog, and/or any incident resulting in damage to any person, animal, or property. I further agree to notify the Franklin County Veterans Affairs if I become uncomfortable with serving as a temporary foster parent for any reason.

_____ This agreement shall be interpreted to reflect that the intent of both parties is to provide for the safety and well-being of the dog user, the dog and the general public.

Signature

Date

Name (Printed)



FRANKLIN COUNTY

Office of Veterans Affairs

Operation Save-A-Vet, Save-A-Pet

Foster Family “Puppy Raiser” Policies

Overview

During the process of training service dogs, foster families may be utilized to house and care for the puppies. Selection of these foster families will remain at the sole discretion of the Franklin County Veterans Affairs Office. Foster families will be required to meet all ethical standards, policies, and regulations set forth by the program as well as the trainer.

The Franklin County Veterans Affairs Office encourages foster families to serve as community ambassadors for Operation Save-A-Vet, Save-A-Pet. As such, foster families are expected to help raise public awareness for the program and legal statutes.

Selection/Qualifications

Prospective foster families must complete an application prior to consideration. All applications will be reviewed by the Veterans Affairs Office. Suitability will be determined by reviewing a number of factors, including: Information gained from home visits, compatibility and family factors, input from trainer, and geographic and/or transportation concerns. References and veterinarian (if other animals are present in the home) will be contacted to verify suitability for program participation. Official selection of all foster families will be at the sole discretion of the Veterans Affairs Office.

Home Visits

Home visits are required prior to initial acceptance as a foster family as well as throughout the foster relationship. If there are concerns about the environment, or adaptations are necessary, Veterans Affairs will discuss these with the foster family. All concerns will need to be addressed adequately in order to maintain approval as a foster family.

Compatibility with other animals and household members

We value the well-being of all household members and animals involved. All household members, including other dogs, will be expected to meet and demonstrate compatibility with the puppy prior to placement in the home. If any detrimental changes to the household dynamics occur, please contact our offices immediately (see surrender section below). Every effort will be made to remediate the issue, including further training, if necessary.

Minimum Standards for Foster Families

- Ensure puppy is available and in attendance at all training sessions
- Demonstrate ability to give basic commands, as recommended by trainer
- Demonstrate the ability to fulfill the basic needs and healthcare requirements of the dog
- Attend to the basic hygiene requirements of the dog
- Provide a secure, stable home environment for the dog
- Maintain good communication with trainer and Veterans Affairs Office, to coordinate care and training.
- Promote positive public image of program

Laws and Regulations

State laws which regulate access for assistance dog trainers, do not apply to volunteers who foster puppies throughout the training process. During this process, these puppies have the legal status of a pet.

Public Outings

If a foster family elects to take the puppy to a public business, they must ensure that they have the proper permission from the owner or manager on duty. If requests are denied, foster families are expected to respond with courtesy and respect. If an identification vest has already been issued by the program, the puppy should wear it in public at all times.

Surrender

If the puppy needs to be removed from the home at any time, for any reason, you must contact the Franklin County Veterans Affairs Office.

Franklin County Veterans Affairs
425 Franklin Farm Lane
Chambersburg, PA 17202
(717) 263-4326

Throughout the training program, puppies remain under the ownership of Franklin County Veterans Affairs. Foster families are never considered legal owners of the dogs during this process. Foster families must willingly surrender the puppy upon request from the Veterans Affairs Office.

Veterinary Care

Veterinary care will be provided for all puppies prior to placement with their veteran. Foster families will be expected to transport puppies to scheduled appointments, as needed. Fees will be paid by the program and not by the foster families unless the family has elected to sponsor the puppy/dog.

In the event of a veterinary emergency, foster families should contact the veterinarian assigned to the puppy. If the assigned veterinarian cannot be reached for any reason, and emergency care is required, the foster family should take the dog to the nearest available veterinary facility. At the earliest convenience, the foster family must contact the Veterans Affairs Office to coordinate payment of emergency care.

Adoption of Non-Passing Dogs

Service dog training is extensive, and the requirements are stringent. Despite initial screening and training investment, not all dogs will pass the appropriate tests to receive certification as service dogs. At this point, the dog may qualify as a therapy dog and will still be utilized for the program. Any dog that does not pass or cannot become a therapy dog will become available for adoption. Preference for adoption will be given to the current foster family. Adoption of a non-passing dog will not interfere with ability to continue in the foster program.

Retirement

Service dogs are expected to have a 6-10 year career prior to retirement. This time frame will vary based on age and health of each dog. When the service dog is no longer able to perform his/her duties, the dog will be retired.

After retirement, the veteran may choose to keep the dog. If the veteran elects not to keep his/her service dog, the dog will become available for adoption. Preference for adoption of a retired service dog will be given to puppy raiser families. First priority will be given to the initial foster family.