A Better Life Pet Rescue

A BETTER LIFE PET RESCUE • PEMBROKE PINES • FLORIDA 33027

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F O S T E R P A R E N T C O N T R A C T

The foster dog shall hereinafter be referred to as “the dog.” The aforementioned person shall hereinafter be referred to as “I” or the “foster parent.” A Better Life Rescue, Inc. shall hereinafter be referred to as “BLR.”

Arrange to introduce the new animal to your own pet(s), if you have them, outside on neutral territory. Once inside, it is best to situate the foster animal in a gated off area, such as a kitchen at first, and introduce him/her gradually to other household members. Do not try to make the foster an immediate part of your family. Let him/her settle into the new place, and help him/her learn the rules of the house as soon as possible. Never let the foster take over and place your own animals at risk or under stress.

Any dog offered for foster care is the sole property of BLR and has been surrendered as such by prior owners or animal care facilities.

Foster families typically provide food, treats and chew toys for foster animals, without reimbursement from BLR. BLR will provide the necessities if the foster cannot do so.

The dog’s health and behavior has been accurately represented to the foster parent, to the best possible knowledge of BLR. BLR cannot, and does not, make any guarantees as to the health, temperament, mental disposition, or training of the dog. BLR shall not be held liable for any illnesses or defects the dog may have or develop, or for any injury or damage that the dog may cause. The foster parent hereby fosters the dog at his/her own risk.

I agree to foster a dog for A Better Life Rescue, Inc. for a limited period of time. I understand that I am acting as a temporary custodian of any and all dogs fostered for BLR, and that BLR retains sole ownership rights of any dog offered for foster care. I consent to the following terms and conditions of this foster agreement.

**General Care**

I will care for the dog humanely. The dog will be a household companion and will live in the house. The dog will not be kept outside except for supervised short periods of play, potty or exercise. The dog will never be left outside when I am not home, even if in a fenced yard or on a tie line. If I have a doggy dog installed in my home, the dog will not be permitted to use it because the dog is not permitted access or use of my outside area unaccompanied or without my personal knowledge.

I will only use an appropriately fitted harness when walking the dog. Attaching a leash to a collar around the neck is not permissible.

I will provide the dog with affection, mental stimulation through play and training, socialization, and regular exercise, appropriate to his/her health and physical condition.

I will provide compassionate and loving care for whatever dog is taken into my home as long as necessary until the dog has been successfully placed in a permanent home. This care includes -- but is not limited to -- adequate food, fresh water, shelter, maintain him/her at proper weight and administer medication when required.  I will provide the dog with comfortable and clean bedding, and appropriate toys.

I will immediately notify A Better Life Rescue, Inc. of any problems or difficulties resulting from caring for the dog.

I will advise BLR when the dog needs to be groomed and arrangements will be made. Bathing the dog regularly is required. Permission must be granted by BLR if you wish to groom (other than bathing) the foster dog yourself, which involves any type of cutting, trimming, and shaving the dog.

I certify that there are no children living in the home under the age of twelve (12).

I certify that I will never allow anyone else to walk, supervise, or train the dog while in my custody, PERIOD!

I will always keep the dog on a leash when outside and will never allow him/her to run loose under any circumstances.  I will obey all leash laws.

I will not allow strange people or animals -- people or animals unknown to the dog -- to approach the dog without being in full control of the dog and the situation.

I will clean up after the dog in public places, and obey all “pooper-scooper” laws.

I will never leave the dog without proper care for more than 7 hours.

I will never leave the dog unsupervised/unattended in any vehicle.

I will never crate or kennel the dog. In the rare instance that this may be required based on the dog's behavioral issues, A Better Life Rescue, Inc. must be informed so that appropriate measures can be taken.

**Health Care**

If your foster animal becomes ill or gets hurt, contact A Better Life Rescue, Inc. immediately. In emergency cases, when every moment could mean the difference between life and death, do not hesitate to take the animal to a vet immediately or to an emergency clinic if something happens after regular vet hours. Contact the President/Founder (Cira Leslie) as soon as possible, (even in the middle of the night) but do not wait to take care of the animal. We will work out emergency expenses. Know where your closest vet and emergency centers are located before you foster. Keep the numbers handy and accessible. The time to search is not when you are holding a sick or injured animal in your arms.  I understand that I will be reimbursed for any illness/condition not resulting from my care, if I provide BLR with receipts for all services rendered. I understand that I will not be reimbursed for any injury sustained by the dog while in my care.

All basic Vet care must be approved by A Better Life Pet Rescue, Inc. previous to scheduling an appointment.

I will administer monthly heartworm preventative to the dog. If Foster cannot donate the medication, BLR will provide it.

I will not euthanize the dog without the approval/authorization of BLR. I will notify BLR immediately upon the death of any dog. I agree to return the body of any foster dog that dies while in my care.

**Behavior and Training**

I will use my best judgment and take all necessary precautions to protect myself when providing daily care and training for the foster dog until I have had sufficient time to become familiar with his/her personality and behavior. I will use my best judgment and take all necessary precautions when first introducing the dog to other members of my household and other family pets, as well as with new people and new situations until the dog has become fully adjusted to my home. I will closely supervise all interaction with children.

I will provide appropriate and humane behavior modification for behavioral problems including, but not limited to housebreaking accidents and urine marking, chewing, barking, digging, aggression, and biting. I will contact BLR if the dog exhibits behavioral problems that are beyond my ability to reasonably manage.

I will never use harsh physical discipline, and will never physically abuse or hit the dog with my hand, newspaper, or any other object.

I will never train or encourage the dog to behave in an aggressive manner for the purpose of protection.

**Safety**

I will make sure the dog is always wearing proper identification, which will be provided by BLR.

I will advise BLR immediately if I plan to change my address and/or phone number. I will request BLR 's permission to transfer the dog to my new address.

I will advise BLR immediately if the dog gets loose, or is lost or stolen, and make every reasonable effort to recover the dog, including, but not limited to posting flyers, and contacting local shelters and veterinarians and personally conduct an exhaustive search for the dog.

**Follow-up**

I will advise BLR regularly as to the condition and adjustment of the dog. I will allow a BLR representative to visit my home to check on the health and welfare of the dog, and for the purpose of determining compliance with the terms and conditions of this agreement if deemed necessary.

**Transfer of Ownership**

I understand that I am acting as a temporary custodian of any and all dogs fostered for BLR, and that BLR remains the lawful owner of the dog. I understand that BLR reserves the right to reclaim the dog at any time and that I will return the dog immediately upon said request.

I will never abandon the dog. I will never give, sell, or transfer ownership of the dog to another person, relative, rescue group, humane association, shelter or pound, pet store, or any medical or experimental laboratory or similar organization. I understand & acknowledge that I do not have any right or authority to keep or place foster dogs in other homes or with other individuals.

If I transfer the dog without the knowledge and approval of BLR, I understand that BLR will reclaim the dog from the transferee and will pursue legal means to do so if necessary, and will pursue legal means to redress any harm done to the dog.

If I decide that I would like to adopt the foster dog, I will advise BLR and follow all adoption procedures. I understand that while I have been permitted to foster a dog, this does not precipitate permission to adopt. I understand that BLR makes the final decision regarding the adoption of this dog, which is based on the best interest of the dog. I understand and accept that the procedure for adoption will be the same for him/her as it would be for any other applicant, and I will be asked to sign the same contract and pay the same fee to BLR that any adopter would. I understand and accept that I may not keep the dog without the approval and consent of the Board.

**Return**

If I am no longer able to foster the dog, I will contact BLR immediately. Arrangements will be made within 6 hours for a BLR representative to reclaim the dog.

**Liability**

I understand that BLR cannot, and does not make any guarantees as to the health, temperament, mental disposition, and training of the dog. I hereby foster the dog at my own risk.

I fully and completely release BLR, its founder and volunteers, from any and all claims and liability, including, but not limited to, any defects or illnesses the dog may have or develop, and for any injury or damage to persons, property, or other household pets, which may be caused by the dog. This includes any and all manner of actions and causes of actions, suits, debts, dues, accounts, bonds, covenants, agreements, judgments, claims, and demands whatsoever arising from or relating to the adoption, placement, and /or possession of the dog. I further agree to indemnify and hold BLR harmless against any and all claims and liability, including, but not limited to, those asserted by third parties for any injury or damage to persons or property caused by the dog.

I certify that all the animals in my home are current in their vaccinations and heartworm prevention. I fully and completely release BLR from any and all claims and liability for any illness that my animals might develop, even if said illness might have been procured from the dog fostered for BLR.

**Spay/Neuter Agreement**

I will never breed a dog fostered for BLR if he/she has not been spayed or neutered while in my care. I will take all necessary precautions to prevent a foster dog from breeding.

I certify that I have never been convicted of animal cruelty, neglect, or abandonment by a court of law or other governmental authority.

I certify that I have read this foster agreement in full (all \_\_\_ pages), and that I understand all of the terms and conditions. I understand that if I made any misrepresentation about myself or home environment, or if I don’t abide by all of the terms and conditions of this agreement and my failure to do so in any way jeopardizes or adversely affects the health and welfare of the dog, that BLR can terminate this contract for foster care and reclaim the dog without notice, irrespective of any expenditures that I have made, and may pursue legal means to do so if necessary. I understand that BLR may pursue legal means to redress any harm done to the dog. I understand that this contract for foster care is legal and binding, and will be governed by the laws of the State of Florida.

Printed name of foster parent

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of foster parent

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Cira Leslie

Founder/Director

A Better Pet Rescue, Inc.

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