



## Lost Our Home Foster Parent FAQ

### Foster Volunteer Coordinator Contact Info

- Brandon Algandar: [fostering@lostourhome.org](mailto:fostering@lostourhome.org)

### Medical Appointments

- If you have any non-emergency health-related concerns, email [fostering@lostourhome.org](mailto:fostering@lostourhome.org) as soon as you notice a problem—DO NOT wait until a crisis occurs. Be as detailed as you can and provide photos if needed. In the care and treatment of foster animals, there is no such thing as a silly question! When you call, it will be helpful for us to know:
  1. Is the animal vomiting?
  2. Does the animal have diarrhea?
  3. Is the animal active or listless?
  4. Is the animal eating and drinking

### Examples of Non-Emergent Medical Symptoms

- Any change in the appearance of the eye: squinting, winking, tearing, swelling, redness, yellow, green, or crusty discharge or vision loss
- Coughing for more than 24 hours
- Diarrhea
- Excessive drinking for more than 48 hours
- Increased appetite, especially when accompanied with weight loss
- Increased scratching at any part of the body including head shaking
- Increased urination or sudden accidents in the house, difficulty urinating, and straining for more than 24 hours
- Nasal discharge – white, yellow, or green or sneezing
- Poor appetite for more than 24 hours
- Unexplained lameness that does not improve with rest within 24 hours
- Vomiting - first report
- Pain – irritability when handled or touched, particularly if it seems out of character for that animal
- No apparent weight gain or weight loss is observed over a 48 hour period, especially with kittens, puppies, or nursing mothers
- Hair loss

Not sure if it is an emergency? Call our main line at 602-445-7398 and we will advise you on next steps.

### Medical Emergency Procedure

- Call the Shelter & Medical Director Emily Vivian at (480) 226-3228 (TEXT IS BEST- personal cell phone for foster use only).
- If you are unable to reach Emily, please contact the Shelter Operations Manager Kris Shaffer at (623) 734-2259 (personal cell phone for foster use only).

**IMPORTANT: Do not take your foster animal(s) to a veterinarian without the approval of a Lost Our Home staff member. Any charges incurred without approval will not be reimbursed.**

### Examples of Medical Emergencies

The shelter should be notified of the following conditions immediately:

- Blood from any orifice/opening
- Blood in vomit
- If the foster animal is unable to urinate at all
- Congestion, wheezing, or labored breathing
- Fever (often accompanied by lethargy)
- If an accident has occurred and the foster animal appears to be injured
- Lameness that appears severe and painful
- Seizures or convulsions
- Trouble eating, mouth pain, or drooling
- Lethargy or decline in activity level normal for your foster animal for more than 24 hours

### Vaccine Appointments

- Kittens and Puppies between 5-20 weeks of age are due for vaccines every 2 weeks and will generally receive 2 treatments of dewormer. We prefer for kittens and puppies to stay in foster care until they have at least two vaccines. We will schedule the appointment with you via call or email. Please plan on 10-20 minutes for each appointment.

### Spay/ Neuter Appointments

- Both kittens and puppies are ready for spay/neuter when they are 2.3+lbs (preferably 2.5).
- We will check with you when a spay/neuter appointment for your foster pet is most convenient for you. Spay/neuter are Monday, Tuesday,

Wednesday, and Friday at Gentle Care (1835 E Guadalupe Rd, Tempe, AZ 85283) with drop off times between 7:30-8:00am.

## **Adoptions**

“Foster failure” happens! If you wish to adopt a foster animal, please email [adoptions@lostourhome.org](mailto:adoptions@lostourhome.org) to start the adoption conversation as soon as you have made the decision.

If you know someone who is interested in adopting one of your fosters have them go to our website and apply online at <https://www.lostourhome.org/adopt-a-pet>

***PLEASE NOTE: Applying does not automatically guarantee an adoption. Our Adoptions Team will review all applicable applications and choose the best match possible!***