

Happy Hearts Dog Rescue Foster Responsibilities:

Yay, you have decided to save a dog on death row!! What do you do next?

First, like the Happy Hearts Dog Rescue Facebook page. That is how we communicate with each other and notify you of adoption events, fundraisers and foster needs. We will get all supplies to you prior to your dog arriving, when possible.

- Once your dog has arrived. Give the dog a name, if one has not already been provided. Preferably something unusual, but easy to remember. We have multiple dogs with names like Lily, Buddy, Pepper, Bella, etc. so please check with the Rescue Directors, Adri and Alyson to get approval for your dog's names.
- Most dogs will require a decompression period, usually 3-7 days. Understand that many of these dogs have had difficult former lives and will require time and patience to understand their role as a loved pet and member of a family. You can find linked articles on our website, which go over proper decompression practices. If you have other animals in your home, proper introductions are necessary. All dogs we pull from the shelter have been tested with other dogs and usually kids. HHDR strives to only bring dogs into our rescue that are good with other dogs, but please note: sometimes dog's behavior in the shelter can differ once getting into a new home. If there are issues with your foster dog and other dogs in your home, please let Adri and Alyson know ASAP. We ask you to review our Foster Resources (*Tips to Help Decompress Your New Foster* and *Tips for Introducing a New Dog to Your Pack*).

If there are non-workable issues, we will work as quickly as possible to move your foster dog. It can take up to 7 days for us to find a new foster home. We do not have a facility. You can find links to articles that help with dog intros on our website.

- Take photos of your dog and write a bio. Some dogs will not be very photogenic when first coming from a shelter so update photos as the dogs get healthy. The before and after photos can be inspiring for potential adopters. Photos of dogs outside, playing with toys or wearing bandanas are always fan favorites. Your dog will need to be posted to our Facebook page. Send Adri Robles-Grogan or Alyson Horak a message in Messenger or email happyheartdogrescue@gmail.com. Please send photos and a description (bio) of your foster dog. Include the following: good with dogs? good with cats? good with children? crate trained? potty trained? likes toys, which ones are their favorite? good on leash? personality and temperament? You may not know all these things right away, but create a little bio with the information you do have.

- Share your dog on social media. Getting the dogs posted promptly is key. HHDR likes to post dogs for adoption 5-7 days after receiving their first round of vaccines to insure the dog is healthy enough for adoption. Most dogs are adopted within 4-6 weeks. A majority of our adoptions come from people seeing the dogs on our Facebook page, Petfinder and other social media outlets. We encourage fosters to share their dogs on their personal social media platforms and group pages too. Please tag HHDR on Instagram (@happyheartdog), along with tagging us on Facebook. The more places the dog is seen, the greater their chances of being adopted quickly.
- Teach your dog basic manners; like sit and stay. Teach them not to jump on people. Dogs get returned because of bad behaviors, so it is best not to allow them at all. Please teach your dog to walk on a leash. Even if they can't be in public yet, the backyard is a great place to practice leash training. There are great resources for learning how to teach dogs basic manners on the rescue's website at happyheartdogrescue.org and we have a trainer that can work with you, if your dog has any unusual issues, not covered in the training videos.
- Getting Your Dog Vaccinated, Spayed/Neutered and Other Medical Care: We will make an appointment promptly for your foster to have any needed shots, fecal test or spay/neuter. Dogs need to be vetted as quickly as possible. Adri can help you find a mobile clinic near your home for vaccines. Your dog will more than likely need the following vaccinations upon arrival: DHPP- depending on age, will need at least 3 doses (unless an older dog- 2 doses), given 3 weeks apart Rabies- at 3 months old Lepto- at least 4 month old (injectable, 2 doses needed), this is sometimes combined with DHPP.
WARNING: Your dog cannot have their paws on the ground ANYWHERE (except inside your home and backyard) until 7 days after their 2nd booster of DHPP. They cannot go to dog parks, regular parks, pet stores, or boarding until 3 days after being fully vaccinated.

We provide all heartworm prevention, flea/tick prevention, and de-wormer to HHDR foster dogs. If you don't receive meds prior to getting your foster, please contact Adri Robles-Grogan, on Messenger or email the rescue. She will need to know the dog's weight. Please do not purchase any of these medicines at your vet, unless you are told by the physician that the dog requires a specific medication, then reach out to the rescue for approval, prior to making the purchase.

If you have a dog that is sick and requires doxycycline (antibiotic), please let Adri know. We usually have this on hand and it can be mailed to you or available for pick up at one of the Rescue Director's homes. It will save us the cost at the vet's office.

Dogs over 8 months of age will need a heartworm test. Dogs 6 months and older will need to be spayed/neutered. Let us know right away if you are concerned about your dog's health.

Prevention Meds Distribution Instructions:

Troncil Plus is the Dewormer. These are the yellow loose tablets in your medicine bag. Dose according to weight. (Note: form of Drontal Plus) Give one dose now, then repeat in 2 weeks. Dosage for Troncil Plus is as follows: Under 5 lbs = 1/2 Tablet, 5 - 7 lbs = 1 tablet, 8 - 12 lbs = 1 ½ Tablets, 13 - 18 lbs = 2 Tablets, 19 - 25 lbs = 2 1/2 Tablets, 26 - 30 lbs = 1 Tablet, 31 - 44 lbs = 1 1/2 Tablets. 45 - 60 lbs = 2 Tablets, 61 - 90 lbs = 1 ½ Tablets, 91 - 120 lbs = 2 Tablets.

Vet Biochem or Milbeguard is the monthly Heartworm preventative. Administer the entire tablet. (Note: form of Heartguard)

Nexgard, Simparica or Credelio is the monthly flea/tick preventative. Administer the entire chew/tablet.

Please keep a record of when your foster has had his/her monthly preventatives so that we can relay that information to the Adopter. It can be written on the *Pet Health Record* you print from the HHDR website.

Also, it is your responsibility to request medication refills at least one week before the next round of monthly meds are needed. Please make all requests through happyheartdogrescue@gmail.com.

*** DO NOT GIVE YOUR DOG ALL THREE MEDICATIONS AT THE SAME TIME.** IT IS RECOMMENDED TO FEED YOUR DOG ONE SMALL MEAL PRIOR TO ADMINISTERING THE FIRST MED, AS TO MAKE SURE THEY ARE KEEPING FOOD DOWN. THEN FEED THEM THEIR FIRST PREVENTATIVE WITH A SECOND SMALL MEAL AN HOUR OR SO LATER.

**** ONE MED SHOULD BE GIVEN PER MEAL, SPREAD OUT OVER THREE MEALS.**

List of Vets Happy Hearts Dog Rescue Uses:

A. Emancipet, multiple locations in Austin and Pflugerville (emancipet.org) - You can schedule vaccinations, heartworm test, and spay/neuter here. We do not have an account at this location. You will need to email your invoice to happyheartdogrescue@gmail.com to receive a reimbursement. This facility is

walk-in only for shots and heartworm tests, they will put you on a waitlist for the same day, and they will text you 30 minutes before your appointment. When having your dog fixed, ask they provide a microchip, if your dog doesn't have one yet. If using a voucher for spay/neuter, you will need to put yourself down as the owner.

B. Vanguard Mobile Vet, multiple weekend locations (vanguardvet.com)- This is a walk-up clinic and you can get your dog vaccinated and/or heartworm test, no fecal. We do not have an account with them. You will need to pay out of pocket and send your invoice to happyheartsdogrescue@gmail.com.

C. Animal Care Clinic, 2000 N Mays Street, Round Rock, (512) 388-2222. This is for sick dogs only. Adri or Alyson will need to make an appointment for you. We do have an account with them. There is no need for you to pay out of pocket. The doctor will need to call one of the rescue directors for approval of services and for payment. Foster cannot approve services.

D. Lakeway Vet, 1003 Ranch Road 620 South, (512) 263-2134. This is for sick dogs only. Adri or Alyson will need to make an appointment for you. We do have an account with them. There is no need for you to pay out of pocket. The doctor will need to call one of the rescue directors for approval of services. Foster cannot approve services.

- Taking your dog to meet 'n' greets. Due to COVID-19, we are requiring all meet 'n' greets be conducted in the Foster's backyard (only) while practicing mask wearing and social distancing. If that is not possible, we ask that the same safe practices are conducted at the potential adopter's backyard. If your dog is not fully vaccinated, a backyard only meet 'n' greet is required. All home checks will be conducted virtually by the Rescue Directors. **A dog will never be left with a potential Adopter at the meet n' greet.** Your foster dog will always go back home with you if the meeting is at the Adopter's home, unless otherwise specified by one of the Rescue Directors. HHDR requires a signed adoption agreement and adoption fee payment before a dog can go live with their forever family.
- If you are planning to go out of town while fostering, please provide at least two weeks notice to Adri and Alyson. They will need time to find a temporary foster home for your dog. We do not have a facility and boarding is expensive.
- Foster forms will need to be printed and filled out. You can find a copy of our *General Pet Health Record* and *Foster Agreement Form* on our website. The agreement will need to be printed (or electronically initial and sign) and return to the rescue at happyheartsdogrescue@gmail.com. We must receive a copy of the signed foster agreement before your dog arrives at your home. Please print a

copy of the health record and keep it updated as this will go with your foster dog to their forever home.

Thank you so much for helping HHDR save the life of a death row dog in Texas!! We cannot do it without you. Fostering really does save lives. Please email the rescue or send a message on Facebook if you have any questions or concerns.