**FOSTER HOME APPLICATION**

 ****

 **Clarksdale Animal Rescue Effort and Shelter**

310 Anderson Blvd ▪ Clarksdale, MS 38614 ▪ 662-627-7870

**FOSTER VOLUNTEER JOB DESCRIPTION AND RESPONSIBILITIES:**

These are some of the things we would like you to know as you consider applying as a foster home.

**Your Major Objective**: To ensure a nurturing environment in the comfort of your own home that will allow the fostered animal to grow, socialize, and become or remain adoptable.

**Your Responsibilities:** Feed and house the animals; socialize, train, groom, and medicate animals, as necessary.

Ensure the animal’s safety and respond to the animal’s needs. Isolate foster animals from your own companion animals when necessary. Keep your companion animals current on vaccinations and make sure all are spayed or neutered.

Observe and report any problems with the animal to the Oktibbeha County Humane Society Shelter Manager or Foster Care Coordinator. Maintain confidentiality regarding foster animals and their situations. Make the foster animals available for adoption whenever possible.

**Required Orientation and Training:** Complete a Volunteer Application and Foster Application.

**Home Interview:** Have a home visit by a Foster Care representative. Foster homes are considered an extension of the shelter.

A written record of that interview and site visit will be available at the shelter.

**Emergencies:** In the event of a medical emergency, please contact the Shelter Manager or Foster Care Coordinator.

Clarksdale Animal Rescue Effort and Shelter

310 Anderson Boulevard

Clarksdale, MS 38614

FOSTER CARE APPLICATION

Thank you for considering becoming a foster parent for the animals at the Clarksdale Animal Rescue Effort and Shelter. We want to make the most informed decision regarding which animals to place in your care. Completing this application is the best way to ensure a positive experience for both you and the animals.

Name: Date:

Address:

Phone: Daytime: Evenings:

Best time to call: E-Mail:

Circle type(s) of animals you are interested in fostering:

**Special Needs:**

Pregnant cats Nursing cat litters Orphaned kittens (bottle feeding) Sick/Injured cats

Pregnant dogs Nursing dog litters Orphaned puppies (bottle feeding) Sick/Injured dogs

**Healthy dogs to be adopted through the Rescue Waggin® program or who need short-term fostering**

Have you fostered animals before? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 If not, what experience have you had with animal that would be helpful in fostering? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you live in a House Apartment Condo Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a fenced yard? Yes No

 If yes, what height is it? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Are there any children in your household? Yes No

 If yes, what are their ages? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do any members of your household have allergies? Yes No

Will you be able to keep the foster animals separate from your own if necessary? Yes No

(This may apply to sick, unvaccinated or unsocialized animals and puppies.)

Where do you plan to keep your foster animals? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

How many hours per day will your foster animals be without adult care? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What pets have you had in the past, if any? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Where are they now? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any pets in your household now? Yes No

 If yes, what type and quantity? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 What are their ages?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Are they spayed or neutered? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Are their vaccinations current?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Who is your regular veterinarian?\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Are they currently licensed? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 If dog(s) what breed(s) are they? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 If cat(s), are they keep indoors, outdoors, or both? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever surrendered a pet to an animal shelter / humane society? If yes, please explain.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Do you understand that anyone interested in adopting your foster animals (including yourself) must go through the standard adoption process, and approval of candidates and placement of animals is up to the Clarksdale Animal Rescue Effort and Shelter? Yes No

(Of course we welcome your referrals.)

I have answered the questions above truthfully and completely. I understand that although Clarksdale Animal Rescue Effort and Shelter take reasonable care to screen animals for foster care placement, it makes no guarantee relating to the animals’ health, behavior or actions. I understand that I receive animals at my own risk and can reject or return any animals for which Clarksdale Animal Rescue Effort and Shelter has asked me to provide care. I understand that a third party may make a claim against me based upon the action of the animal and that it is in my best interest to have in force and effect a policy of liability insurance to cover such a possibility. I indemnify and hold Clarksdale Animal Rescue Effort and Shelter and its officers free and harmless from all liability arising out of any and all claims, demands, losses, damages, action, judgment of every kind and description which may occur to or be suffered by me, members of my household, my animals, or by any third parties by reason of activities arising out of this agreement.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Return this application to: Clarksdale Animal Rescue Effort and Shelter

 310 Anderson Boulevard

 Clarksdale, MS 38614

For Staff use only:

Approved: Yes No Staff member:

Date:

Comments:

FOSTER CARE AGREEMENT

For Clarksdale Animal Rescue Effort and Shelter (CARES)

FOSTER VOLUNTEER JOB DESCRIPTION AND RESPONSIBILITIES

These are some of the things we would like you to know as you consider applying as a foster home.

**Your Major Objective**

To ensure a nurturing environment in the comfort of your own home that will allow the fostered animal to grow, socialize and become or remain adoptable.

**Your Responsibilities**

Feed and house the animals in a safe, non-stressful environment; socialize and medicate animals, as necessary. Bring the animal back to CARES for needed medications and vaccinations.

Ensure the animal’s safety and respond to the animal’s needs. Isolate foster animals from your own companion animals when necessary. Keep your companion animals current on vaccinations and make sure all are spayed or neutered.

All foster animals remain the responsibility and possession of CARES until formally adopted. A foster animal may not be transferred to a new guardian or foster home without approval of CARES. The foster animal shall be returned to CARES upon request, or if the foster parent/family is not able to adequately care for the animal. Should the foster parent/family want to adopt the foster animal entrusted in their care, the CARES shelter manager shall be contacted to initiate your adoption request.

Trips out of town while fostering:

If you will be leaving on vacation or on an extended trip out of town while caring for a foster animal, CARES shall be informed as early as possible prior to departure. This will allow CARES to find the most suitable temporary accommodations or approve a pet sitter prior to your departure.

Vaccinations/Medical Needs for your Foster pet:

CARES will be responsible for all medical needs and treatment for the foster pet. CARES will work with the foster parent on a case-by-case basis to determine additional supplies necessary to care for the foster pet.

Observe and report any problems with the animal to the Clarksdale Animal Rescue Effort and Shelter Manager. If you notice the animal isn’t feeling well or is in distress, please contact CARES at (662) 627-7870.

While the foster animal is in foster care, the CARES may visit the foster parent/family from time to time to check on the animal's progress and address any concerns. Additionally, it is critical that foster parents keep CARES informed of the current status of the foster animal if there are any immediate issues or concerns.

The foster parent/family should maintain confidentiality regarding foster animals and their situations, when requested and make the foster animals available for adoption whenever possible.

Like many shelter animals, your foster dog may not be house trained or may chew on furniture, clothing, or other objects. Your foster cat may not be litter trained or may scratch on furniture, clothing or other objects. As a foster parent/family, you will be responsible for teaching the foster animal how to be a lovable, loyal and well-behaved family pet. The CARES shall not be held responsible for damage to personal property.

*Caring for the Foster Animal*

**Foster Dogs:**

* Foster dog(s) MUST be on a leash or enclosed within a fence adequate for the animal or in a home at all times.

Introducing your Foster Dog to Other Dogs

* Take precautions while you are getting to know the dog's personality, especially when

he/she is around other animals and children. Introduce them to one another slowly, ALWAYS using a leash. Never leave the foster dog alone with children, cats, small pets, or other dogs during this time.

* Introduce your dog(s) to the foster dog on neutral territory, not in your home. If possible, walk them together before bringing the foster dog into the home. Otherwise, let them meet through a screen door, baby gate or something similar. Keep the foster dog on a short leash close to your side. Bring your dogs out on leashes one at a time.
* Keep the atmosphere calm and do not let your pets rush up to the new dog.
* Observe the reaction of the new dog and of your own dogs. Watch for signs of

 aggression and/or dominance.

* Once they have sniffed and greeted each other, take them around your property and into

the house. If all pets are behaving well with each other, you may remove the leashes, but continue to monitor and supervise. DO NOT not leave dogs unattended together until you are 100% confident that they are getting along well.

Introducing the Foster Dog to your Cats

* Introduce the foster dog to your cat indoors with the animal leashed.
* Hold the leash tightly in your hand.
* Leave the cat on the floor and walk toward the cat slowly.
* If the dog pulls or lunges, give a sharp pull on the leash and firmly say, “NO!” Correct the foster dog every time it shows interest in the cat. If you observe any signs you may feel are a threat to either animal, please inform the OCHS shelter manager immediately.

**Foster Cats:**

Foster cats MUST be kept indoors at all times but not in a cage.

* Don’t give a new foster cat the run of your house right away. Start out by confining him to a bathroom or spare bedroom to start. If you have cats of your own, keep them separated until the health of your new charge can be verified.
* Provide a cozy bed, a bowl of fresh water, and a clean litter pan at all times.
* In the beginning, approach your foster cat slowly, cautiously, and in a non-threatening way.
* Don’t allow a cat to go without eating for more than a day. Note that fasting can have serious health consequences in cats. If your foster cat has to be coaxed to eat, try tempting treats like canned salmon or tuna.

**Home Interview** CARES may require a home visit prior to approving you as a foster. Foster homes are considered an extension of the shelter. A written record of that visit will be available at the shelter.

**Emergencies** In the event of a medical emergency, please contact the Shelter Manager at (662) 627-7870 during regular business hours.

**Contact Information:**

**Clarksdale Animal Rescue Effort and Shelter**

**310 Anderson Boulevard**

**Clarksdale, MS 38614**

**Phone: 662.627.7870**

**Shelter Hours:**

**Tuesday-Saturday: 11:00 am – 5:30 pm**

**Sunday & Monday: Closed**