

**FOSTER CARE
PROGRAM**

AT HOME ANGELS



Foster Introduction Overview

- KHS FOSTER PROCESS
- UPDATES
- POLICIES & PROCEDURES
- HEALTH
- BEHAVIOR
- PROBLEM SOLVING
- TRAINING TOPICS
- GETTING STARTED: WHAT'S NEXT

KHS FOSTER PROCESS

You always get to choose which animal to foster

Foster requests are emailed

Pick up your animal and needed supplies from the shelter

Send photos and descriptions of your foster animal and lifestyle to Foster Coordinator

- Complete New Foster Caregiver Survey
- Home visit conducted by Foster Care Coordinator (optional)
- You will be contacted via email when an animal needing foster care matches your Caregiver Profile. You always have the option to accept or refuse any foster assignment.
- First come fulfillment.
- Arrive to the shelter to pick up your new foster pet, supplies, records and details of next appointment or pets return.

KHS FOSTER PROCESS

Seriously ill,
temperamentally
unsound animals are
euthanized

Choosing to foster should
be a family decision

All foster animals should
be kept separate from
private pets

- All appointments are scheduled unless an emergency
- If further medical attention is needed, you will receive a reminder call the day before your appointment.
- Return animal for adoption, or keep at home and place on Petfinder.
- We are always looking for ways to improve; therefore, at year end you will receive an improvement survey to be completed.

Foster Program Updates Include

- Training Class
- Foster Pet Parent Brochures
- Survey
- Electronic Communication
- Foster to Adopt Program
- End of Year Survey



Policies & Procedures

- NOT ADOPTABLE until cleared by Vet Services or Behavior Department
- Euthanasia
- Step by Step Process
- Foster Privacy Policy

Foster Parent Privacy

- It is KHS's Foster Parent Privacy Policy to not give the public or any individuals a foster parents personal contact information or details regarding the pet they are fostering. Should a foster parent wish to provide additional information to the shelter regarding their foster pet they can submit write ups to the Foster Care Coordinator to be displayed once of proper age and made available for adoption, but not prior.
- If a pet is of age and considered Adoptable (example request due to shelter stress etc. (not for medical recovery), and a Foster Parent wishes to advertise to friends and family, please see instructions for Foster to Adopt Program.
- Any pets leaving KHS who are considered adoptable at the time of departure need to have their picture, kennel details and progress from their foster parent displayed on our foster board and on petfinder to continue advertisement for potential adopters.
- Any pets in foster care for medical conditions need vet service approval prior to being made available for adoption.

Cleared for Adoption?

- Petfinder.com – send photos and animal write up w/ animal ID to Foster Coordinator to post online
- Your contact info, your choice
- Adopters **MUST** be approved by shelter before adopting foster animal (apps can be downloaded online)
 - Preliminary application faxed or hand delivered to shelter staff..staff will notify you once there is an approved adopter to arrange a meet and greet
 - Arrange all meet and greets **AT THE SHELTER**
 - Your privacy, your safety, adoption counselors present

Up for Adoption

- Animal should be off of medication & symptom free for 1 week, and cleared by vet services or cleared by Behavior team (schedule appts w/ FCC)
- Animal will be spayed/neutered prior to going up for adoption. Schedule spay/neuter appointments w/ FCC
- Foster parents' pets need to have a current FSV exam, up to date on vaccines, flea prevention and dewormers. These will be recorded under the pets' Shelter Buddy profile on their medical record

Foster Care Basics

- Cats/kittens must be kept indoors.
- Dogs must be able to go outside, and must be in a fenced area or on a lead at all times.
- If you have small children in the home, fostering animals can be a wonderful experience. However, close supervision of children with the animals at all times is vital for the safety of the children and the animals.
- The reality of any shelter foster parent is possibility death due to illness or euthanasia. In some cases, pet's will develop illnesses that are not treatable or due to limited financial resources we are unable to treat. Although it is rare, euthanasia and unexpected death (due to genetics or pre existing conditions) is something we need our fosters to be aware of before taking pet's into their care. For more information on KHS Euthanasia Policy please see our web page under "services" = "pet loss" = "euthanasia."

Foster Care Basics

- Fosters are ready for surgery when: Kittens weigh at least 2 lbs., Male puppies are 8 weeks old and female puppies are 12 weeks old.
- If your foster animals should need veterinary care and or medication, contact the Foster Care Coordinator. KHS will only reimburse you for expenditures if it has been approved and recorded.

Safety & Sanitation

PLEASE KEEP ME
HEALTHY & SAFE



- Keeping you pets safe
- Dog-to-Dog Intros
- Containment Indoors & Outdoors
- Foster proofing your Home
- Signs of Stress
- Sanitize you home post-fostering, always wash your hands between handling fosters and your own pets

Health

- Signs of Stress
- Health Problems that manifest as behavioral problems
- Low stress ways to administer medication
- Important to finish all medications and noted day that symptoms disappear
- Taking your foster animal's temperature

Challenges of Maintaining Healthy Animals

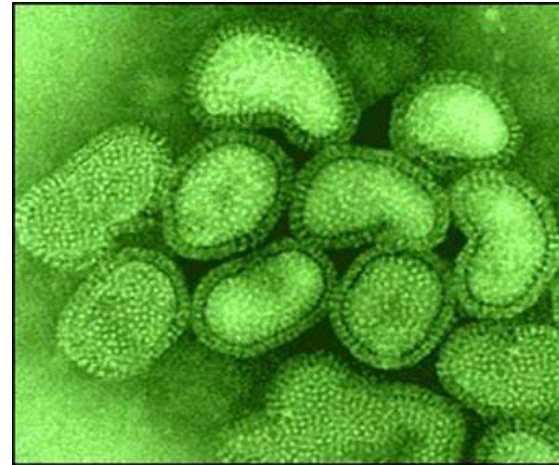
- Incubation factors:
 - Incubation periods
 - Disease carriers
 - Ability to survive in environment
 - Ways diseases are spread

We Will Review

- What are diseases and how do they spread
- How to tell if an animal is sick
- How to minimize disease spread
- Cleaning and disinfecting procedures

Common Types of Pathogens

- Viruses
- Bacteria
- Fungi
- Parasites (internal and external)



Ways Diseases Are Spread



- Objects (“fomites”)
- Direct contact with sick animal or disease particle (ex: Ringworm spores)
- Air
- Feces
- Urine
- Saliva
- Vomit & other bodily substances
- Fleas, Insects & rodents (“vectors”)

What is an “Incubation Period”?

- Animal has the disease, but does not show signs
- Disease cannot be detected by tests yet
- Period of time from getting the disease to showing it
- Example: PARVO



What is a “Carrier”?

- An animal who appears healthy, but who is actually harboring a disease
- May be shedding the disease undetected
- Makes other animals sick
- Can be a lifelong condition (feline calici, herpes)

Does Stress Matter?

- Stress is a leading contributing factor to animal disease
- Lowers disease resistance
- Physical, emotional & environmental
- Can be caused by change in diet, routine or environment
- Signs of stress are same as signs of disease: vomiting, loss of appetite, self mutilation, diarrhea, depression & aggression
- Foster care reduces stress and so animals recover more quickly

Stressors in Animal Facilities

- Physical
 - Malnourished
 - Pregnant/lactating
 - Injured
 - Parasite –laden
 - Diseased
- Emotional
 - Fear
 - Pain
 - Anxiety
 - Boredom
 - Depression
- Environmental:
 - Too hot, cold
 - Too humid
 - Too wet
 - Poor ventilation
 - Noise, overcrowding

How to Tell A Sick Animal

EYES

- Watery or mucoid discharge
- Red or discolored
- Swollen or itchy
- Middle eyelid shows
- Pawing or rubbing eyes
- Squinting
- Unequal pupil sizes
- Filmmy or cloudy

EARS

- Discharge
- Crusty
- Swollen or Red
- Matted Hair
- Scabby
- Fly-bitten
- Itchy (animal scratches ear or shakes head)
- Painful (animal cries when ear is touched)

How to tell A sick Animal

NOSE:

- Discharge (clear, mucus, blood or pus)
- Crusty
- Cracked Skin- that is new
- Scabby
- Congested or blocked

BREATHING:

- Irregular, rapid, shallow or having trouble breathing at all
- Sneezing, coughing, Wheezing
- "Rattling" chest
- Unable to breath through nose
- Normal rate at rest:
 - cats = 24-42
 - dogs= 10- 30 (puppies and kittens can be a little faster.)

How to Tell a Sick Animal

- General Appearance:
 - Overly fat or thin
 - Wounds, lumps or sores
 - Swollen or discharging teats
 - Dehydration (how to tell)
 - Head tilting
 - Bloated stomach
 - Lethargy

How to Tell a Sick Animal

- Temperature
 - Above 102.5 F. anal
 - Below 100.0 F. anal



Dog Diseases



Canine Vaccines & Protection

- Dogs and puppies without a full series of vaccines are susceptible to all of the following diseases.
- Complete vaccine protection does not occur until ~ 10 days AFTER the last vaccine.

“Kennel Cough”

- CONTAGIOUS
- Caused by damage to respiratory system:
 - shipping stress
 - crowding stress
 - heavy dust and cigarette exposure
 - infectious agents (viruses such as adenovirus, parainfluenza virus, *Mycoplasma* and even the [distemper virus](#)).
 - cold temperature
 - poor ventilation

Disease (KC) Occurs:

- In some cases a bacteria (*Bordatella bronchiseptica*) invades weakened respiratory system. - Different but similar bacteria as whooping cough in humans
- Symptoms of common cold, normally goes away on its own in 5-10 days, when only viral.
- Can develop into bronchopneumonia in young, ill, stressed dogs especially when bacteria (*Bordetella*) invade.
- Can shed *Bordetella* for up to 3 months after considered well.

“Kennel Cough”

- Incubation period is 2 to 14 days.
- Lives in environment for days up to 3 weeks
- Spread of air, direct contact with nasal secretions, fomites
- Distemper, infectious hepatitis, canine influenza (H3N8), and allergic rhinitis (nasal allergy) can produce symptoms of URI
- *Bordetella bronchiseptica* can infect other animals such as cats, rabbits and rarely immunosuppressed humans

Distemper

- Highly contagious and often fatal
- Caused by a virus
- Begins as URI, followed by intestinal, then damages nervous system (sometimes after the pup appears to get well)
 - High fever
 - Lack of appetite
 - Lethargy
 - Watery eye discharge
 - Dry Cough
 - Hard foot pads
 - Seizures, rhythmic jerks twitches
 - Pain, crying

Distemper

- Vaccinated dogs may only show neurological signs – they skip the URI phase
- Puppies highly susceptible
- Incubation period: 9 – 14 days
- Inactivated in environment within minutes
- Can cause long term health problems, such as paralysis, nervous or sensory disorders

Distemper

- Spread by fomites, direct contact with nasal secretions, air, and is shed in most other secretions including urine.
- Recovered dog may shed virus for 2-3 months but most intense shedding occurs first 2 weeks of infection.
- Enters host through nose or mouth.

Parvovirus

- Highly contagious often fatal especially without early treatment.
- Viral intestinal disease
- Affects dogs of any age, but puppies are more frequently and severely affected
- Bloody diarrhea, vomiting, lethargy, may also attack the heart in pups under 3 months old causing sudden cardiac failure

Parvovirus

- Incubation period: 4 -10 days
- Lives in environment for long period of time; must use bleach to sanitize after Parvo
- Can live in soil for years
- Parvo test only accurate 3-4 days after infection; once symptoms are evident- can read positive after live vaccine for 5-12 days
- Spread by fomites or feces

Diseases in Cats



Upper Respiratory Infection (URI)

- Highly contagious, spread by FOMITES, air & contact
- Stress & overcrowding contribute to outbreaks
- Persians and kitten are predisposed

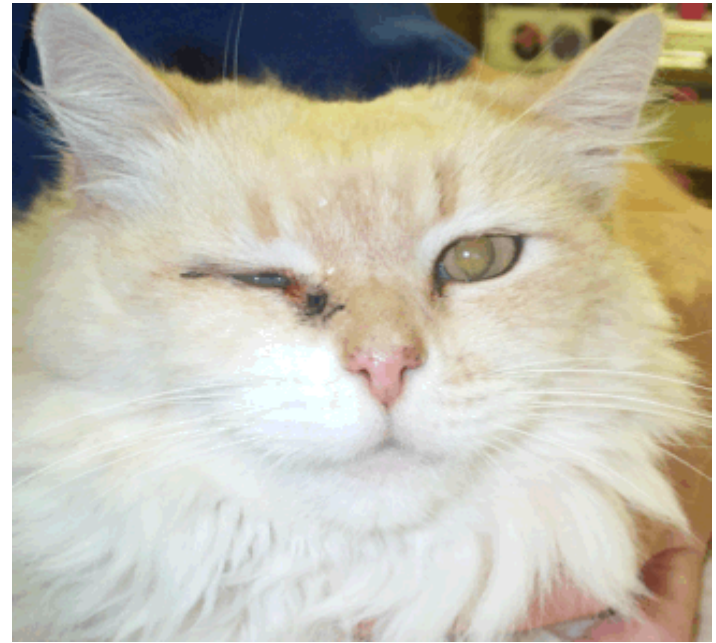
Upper Respiratory Infection (URI)

- May also be caused by a bacteria *Chlamydophila*
- Symptoms of common cold, normally goes away on its own in 10 -21 days, but can develop into bronchopneumonia in young, ill, stressed cats
- 90% of URI cases are caused by one of two viruses or both:
 - Rhinotracheitis (Feline Herpes virus)
 - Calicivirus –many variants

Feline URI - Herpes

- Signs begin as early as 24 hours post infection
- Continues shedding 1-3 weeks usually
- Herpes virus can be permanent carriers and can reoccur in times of stress (80-100%).
- ~45% re-shed about 7 days post stress
- Can be reactivated by:
 - Moving cages (~18-83%)
 - Introducing new cats
 - ****CONTROLLING STRESS #1 Importance***

Feline Herpes (Rhinotracheitis)



Feline URI- Calici

- Signs begin ~ 24 hours post infection includes oral ulcers
- Most cases still shed 30 days post infection
- 50% still shedding @ 75 days post infection
- Few life time shedding
- Vaccine available and used, but variable strains make vaccine less effective
- Very hard to kill in environment
- Shed in ALL body secretions- INCLUDING FUR
- CONTROL FOMITES ***MAIN TRANSMISSION

Diseases Affecting Dogs & Cats



How to Tell if an Animal has Worms

- See them in stool -but not always (roundworms)
- Diarrhea, weight loss, anemia, weakness
- Fecal sample (hookworms, etc. but not 100% reliable)
- Tapeworm signs and sources (rodents, fleas)
- Sometimes no signs

Tracing Internal Parasites

- Types of wormers
 - Wormers that kill many kinds of worms are called “broad spectrum”
 - For example: KHS worms upon intake
 - Whipworms, tapeworms, Coccidia & Giardia need special wormers
- Wormers must be repeated
- Worm eggs may be hard to kill
- Most puppies and kittens have worms
- Eggs can be viable (live) in soil for years and reinfest healthy animals so life time monthly deworming very essential.

How Diseases Spread

- Through feces
 - Parvo , Corona
 - Canine viral hepatitis
 - Feline panleukopenia, FIP
 - Salmonella
 - Toxoplasma, Neospora
 - Worms (rounds, whips, hooks)
 - Giardia and coccidia
 - Canine Distemper
- Fecal contamination

How Diseases Spread

- By air
 - Upper respiratory viruses
 - URI (cats)
 - Kennel cough (dogs)
 - Canine Distemper
- Through Contact
 - Ringworm
 - Sarcoptic Mange
 - Ear mites
 - Feline and canine URI
 - FIP (only occurs with certain cats and certain viruses, not all cats will develop even with exposure to the virus)

How Diseases Spread

- By Insect “vectors”
 - Mosquitoes spread heartworm
 - Fleas spread tapeworms and Feline Panleukopenia
 - Deer ticks spread Lyme Disease
- By Infected Objects (fomites)
 - Ringworm spread on shirt/bedding, fur
 - Feline URI, Panleukopenia, FIP
 - Parvo, canine distemper, corona, leptospirosis, hepatitis
- Cage walls, toys, bedding, shoes, dogs’ hair/feet etc.
- This is one of the most significant ways some diseases are spread! YOUR HANDS, YOUR CLOTHES!

Examples of Fomites

- Hands, clothing, boots, gloves
- Cleaning utensils
- Food & Water dishes, litter boxes
- Toys, ropes, leashes, muzzles
- Medical equipment
- Plastic cage card holders
- Holding and transport cages
- Pens & Pencils

Preventing Disease Spread Among Animals

- Isolate sick animals separately immediately
- Avoid indirect contact between animals (bowls, toys, play areas, clothes etc)
- Move into healthy animal housing area if no signs of disease 7 – 10 days after cleared of illness



Behavior

- Safety
- Containment
- Crate training
- Outdoor Containment
- Housetraining/Marking
- Problem Solving
 - Could the problem be medical?
 - Can you manage the concern?
 - What do you want the animal to do?
 - Who and how to contact if you are having a problem

Training Session

- Socialization, husbandry and handling
- Pawsitive start, crate training, targeting 101
- Reading behavior and pets' pet peeves
- Fear and aggression



WHAT'S NEXT

- ✓ Attend a General Volunteer Orientation (if you are not currently a volunteer)
 - ✓ Complete Foster Application
 - ✓ Complete Foster Power point
 - ☐ Complete Certification Exam..go to <http://www.examprofessor.com/> and login in under "student" with your first initial last name – password: Welcome1
 - ☐ Receive Foster Training Welcome Letter
 - ☐ Foster Training – Review Foster Manual
 - ☐ Home visits scheduled (optional)
 - ☐ Complete Annual Foster Survey
- Congrats You're Ready to Begin.....

Who to Contact

- Primary Contact: Foster Care Coordinator

- Name: _____

- Phone: _____

- Secondary Contact: Director of Animal Welfare (for emergencies)

- Name: _____

- Phone: _____

THANK YOU !!!!!

OUR PETS COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU !!!

