

Fostering for Whiskers: Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is a foster home?

A home that can provide isolated housing and care for rescued cats and kittens while they are prepared for and await adoption.

2. What type of opportunities are there for fostering?

Homes are needed for adult cats, pregnant cats, mom cats with kittens, and orphan kittens. There are always a variety of needs and we try to match up our foster homes with appropriate situations.

3. What are the benefits of fostering to the rescued cats and kittens?

The foster parent can learn about the personality of their fosters so that they can be matched up to the type of home that best suits their fosters. Often, too, kittens need additional socialization, which is best carried out in the home setting. This allows a smoother transition into the adoptive home.

4. What is expected of a foster parent?

- Provide a space in your home in which foster cats can be isolated from resident animals
- Transportation to and from veterinary appointments
- Maintain medical records for fosters
- Once foster is ready for adoption either bring to day clinics or leave in the adoption center for up to two weeks
- Provide pictures and descriptions for posting of fosters on Petfinder.com
- Make a commitment to keep the foster until they are adopted

5. Who pays for the vet care for my fosters?

Whiskers covers the cost of all vet care required to prepare fosters for adoption.

6. How many trips to the vet will I have to make?

It depends on the fostering situation. The minimum will usually be two, once for an initial exam and vaccinations and then a second visit for spay/neuter. Very young kittens and sick cats will need additional trips. We work with several vets that have evening and weekend hours.

7. Who pays for other supplies?

Whiskers can provide food and litter as they become available from donations and other sources although it is greatly appreciated if the foster home can supply these items. Old towels and blankets can be used for bedding, and many cats are content to play with simple toys so a foster need not spend a lot on these items.

8. My cats have been to the vet and are ready for adoption: What now?

You can bring them regularly to adoption clinics at Petsmart in Clifton Park or you can leave them at PetSmart in the adoption center for a period of two weeks at a time until they find a home.

9. How long will I have my fosters before they are adopted?

We ask our foster homes to keep their foster cats and kittens until they are adopted. This can be anywhere from 2 weeks and up to several months or more.