

Last Day Dog Rescue Foster Manual



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Welcome to the Last Day Dog Rescue foster program

Congratulations! We are excited to have you join our growing group of Last Day Dog Rescue foster volunteers. We appreciate your decision to join LDDR and support the humane and loving treatment of animals that need our help and homes.

Our Foster Care Program is the very backbone and heartbeat of Last Day Dog Rescue- a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization. We do not run a physical shelter at this time. Instead, the majority of our dogs are housed in the homes of our generous, patient, and caring volunteers. Your help will save the lives of many dogs who would otherwise not have homes or would be euthanized.

Time spent in our loving foster homes is crucial and healing for every dog that we take into the Rescue! Occasionally adult dogs in the Foster Care Program may have special medical conditions or are in need of socialization or training. For these dogs, in particular, volunteers are in a unique position to help them begin the journey that will lead to adoption and, ultimately, to their forever home!

Although fostering is a lot of work, it is a very rewarding experience. You will often find yourself in the unique position of helping shy or scared or energetic dogs blossom into confident, well-adjusted family pets. You also get to join in on the fun of raising and sharing your days with a canine companion without the added responsibility of having to provide lifelong care.

You are the bridge between a last day and a forever home. **Most importantly, though, you are saving lives!**

Code of Conduct

LDDR code of conduct:

- Treat others as we would like to be treated (respect, kindness, compassion)
- Present solutions
- Do what we say we will and say what we do
- Be open and honest with your communication
- Act with professionalism at all times

Your Mentor

- Your mentor is your “go-to” person
- Mentors are here to help you:
 - vetting advice
 - with procedure/protocol
 - locate and connect with an appropriate dog
 - help answer behavioral issues or direct you to someone who can

- access needed databases and forms
- evaluate the fit of potential adoptive families
- with the adoption process the first few times

What to expect now that you are a foster

1. You will receive an email from our foster coordinator assigning you to a mentor. The mentor is a foster who has had experience and will help guide you through the fostering process. Your mentor will be your go to person.
General Foster Questions: For all questions on fostering or foster needs, contact your Foster Mentor or contact the help desk if you cannot reach your mentor
helpdesk.ldr@gmail.com
2. *New volunteer and foster orientation is mandatory.* Orientation will be monthly and new volunteers and foster must attend within six weeks of beginning with LDDR.
3. Your mentor will have access to your applications for your foster and will help you go through adoption applications and the adoption process. Once you have more experience, you will be given access rights to manage your own applications. Please keep in regular contact with your mentor.
4. Supplies: If you need any supplies for fostering please let your mentor know and they can help you in getting them. We supply food, vetting, crates, toys and anything else you may need, but if you want to buy the things yourself, you can do that. You may be able to write the cost off as a donation on your taxes.
5. You will be provided with document links and links to help keep track of your dog's vetting or other helpful information. Those links are also provided in this manual.
6. Have an idea of what type of foster would best suit your home and discuss this with your mentor or the foster coordinator. We work with you to find a dog that fits your lifestyle – energy level, size, friendliness with other pets in your household and children, etc.
7. When looking for a foster, please check the NEEDS FOSTER list first. Everyone in the rescue should register with the web site. If you have not already registered:
 - a. Go to lastdaydogrescue.org
 - b. Hover over the tab that reads “Volunteer Login,” then click on “Register” and follow the directions.
 - c. After you have registered on the web site make sure to request to join the volunteer facebook forum as instructed on your welcome email.
8. Vacation fosters are often needed also.
9. If a volunteer resigns, in order to come back to the organization the volunteer's request must be approved by the board.
10. We always need fosters for puppies and pregnant dogs, they also get put down in shelters, and they do not get pulled without foster commitment first.

Getting your first foster

Choosing your foster

1. Discuss with your mentor what type of dog would best suit your home.
2. We will let you know where/when you can pick up your new foster dog! Not all dogs will be fully vaccinated when they come to you. It is best to keep your foster dog isolated from any other dogs in the household.
3. If you have chosen a dog from the **Needs Foster list** they may be vaccinated, but it is still important to follow the introduction procedures for bringing the new dog home.
4. If you have chosen a dog from a needs rescue post and can commit to foster until adoption more often than not the dog will not have minimal vaccinations and will have to be vetted at one of our approved vets as soon as possible, ideally within 3 days. The list of LDDR-approved vets can be found here: [LDDR approved vets](#).
5. All dogs pulled from the needs rescue list or postings need a commitment to foster until adoption.
6. If you are picking up your foster from the transport team, more information can be found here: [Transport team](#)
7. If your dog is new to LDDR and does not have a name, you will need to choose one. Please see the how to name your foster document before choosing a name. Once microchipped and vetted no name changes are allowed. [How to name your foster](#)
8. General Foster Questions: For all questions on fostering or foster needs, contact your Foster Mentor or helpdesk.ldr@gmail.com
9. **All LDDR dogs must be microchipped.** If your foster is not microchipped, contact the Microchip Team Leader: microchipldr@gmail.com
If you want to confirm that your dog is chipped, log into the web site, pull up your dog's profile and you will see a number next to the words "microchip number".
10. No animals are to be brought into the rescue without a board member's approval. This includes pulls from shelters or found animals.
11. The board has the right to reject a foster's offer to foster a dog or certain types of dogs.

Fosters animals pulled from a shelter or needs rescue post

If a current foster steps up with the intentions to foster until adoption and the dog/cat has any of the following, then it is normally an automatic approval for pull.

1. Sponsorship/donation
2. Already vetted and/or a HW test has been done and is negative
3. Already spayed/neutered (unless they are puppies/kitties of course)

Reminder we always pull high demand breeds and puppies and we do not typically pull a dog if we have similar breed/temperament dogs on the Needs Foster list. Always check NF list first to see if there is a fit for your home before pulling a new dog into the rescue.

When pulling litters of puppies we will NOT be splitting up litters under 3 months old that have less than 4 total puppies in the litter. Meaning if 3 puppies are offered, one foster has to take the entire litter. The same thing is true with 1 or 2 puppies. Litters with 4 or more can be split into pairs of two or more. When pulling puppies our policy has always been that we do NOT leave mom and dad behind if they are at the shelter too. We must get fosters for the whole family. If puppies are weaned then mom can go into a different foster home and of course the dad can too.

Animals in need:

No one is allowed to post dogs/cats on the forum. Please send the info for the dog/cat in need to one of the volunteers listed below and they will post the information to the forum. This will help keep pulls and transport organized and keeps our relationships with the shelters simple. We are also hoping it will ensure that the dogs pulled are more adoptable.

Donna Carcone- donna.ldr@gmail.com

Sonja Jones- sonja.ldr@gmail.com

Owner Surrender/Stray Dog Behavior Assessment Process

Team Captain: Alesha Briley

General Information: Behavior Assessments are to be completed by one of the Assessment Team Members for all owner surrenders and stray dogs 6 months of age and older. All assessment requests must be emailed to the board at the.ldr.board@gmail.com.

Items to be included in the email to the board: this information is required in order to schedule the evaluation:

1. Owner Surrender or Foster Partner?
 - a. If Owner surrender, who from the intake team approved this dog?
2. Who will be fostering the dog?
3. Where the dog is located?
4. Breed, age, and sex?
5. Who owns the dog?
6. Spayed or Neutered?
7. Extent of any medical conditions
8. Vetting history
9. Where they got the dog
10. Pictures once the request is approved, an approved evaluator will be assigned. Volunteers will be assigned by zones and willingness to travel. Once the test is completed, the evaluator will then submit the completed review form to the board for review. The evaluator will also include a brief summary with the submission of the form. Evaluations will only be completed if there is a

foster who commits to that dog. All other procedures for Owner Surrenders must be followed accordingly.

Training Information: Training must be completed by all volunteers to be a part of the assessment team. The assessment training will be completed by Mike Baughman. Process training will be completed by Alesha Briley. Once training is completed, the volunteer will be added to the list of zones. New evaluation volunteers must shadow a current evaluator, at least once.

Evaluation Process Steps:

1. Owner Surrender request is received and the approved
2. Request is then forwarded with contact information to lddr.assessments@gmail.com
3. Once the request is received, an evaluator will be contacted and assigned
4. Evaluator will contact the owner or requester to schedule the assessment
5. Evaluator will complete the assessment, using approved form and while taking notes. a. Any attempt from the dog to try and bite the evaluator is an automatic denial.
6. Evaluator will email the board (the.lddr.board@gmail.com) and CC lddr.assessments@gmail.com with the completed form with a brief summary of the evaluation.
7. The board will review the evaluation and determine if approved or denied based on information provided.
 - a. If approved and a foster has committed, the board will notify the evaluator. Once approval is received, the evaluator will contact the requestor and new foster to complete the surrender process.
 - i. Once the dog is accepted, their completed form will be added to the records for that dog for tracking.
 - ii. All other owner surrender and foster protocols must be followed at this point.
 - b. If denied, the board will notify the evaluator. Once a denial is received, the evaluator must contact the requester. A list of other resources will be provided to the requestor to help facilitate the morals and vision that we promote.
 - i. If denied, the record must still be submitted to Alesha Briley at lddr.assessments@gmail.com for tracking purposes.

PLEASE NOTE: There may be some instances, where the dog tests perfectly and then has certain issues in the foster home. If there are any issues with the foster dog, then the appropriate people must be contacted on the foster side to have the dog added to the needs foster list. In addition, an email must be sent to lddr.assessments@gmail.com for tracking and a possible retest.

Supplies for your foster

- We are very grateful that some of our fosters provide their own food and supplies for their fosters. However, we understand that this can get expensive. We do receive food/treat donations; if you need food, crates, martingale collars, or leashes, playpen, and baby gate. Let us know and we will provide them for you. Other items, like treats, beds,

etc. can only be supplied if we have them, these items, if purchased, will be the sole responsibility of the Foster, and will not be reimbursed by LDDR. Please email helpdesk.ldr@gmail.com as these items are available for pick up near Livonia or at local events or fosters home who are providing storage.

- In some cases, when LDDR does not have certain supplies in stock, they may ask you to purchase them, and LDDR will reimburse your expense. (*Reimbursed purchases MUST be approved by a LDDR board member PRIOR to purchasing any supplies that are to be reimbursed, receipt and explanation of purchase are to be mailed in for reimbursement.*)
- Food for your foster can be obtained upon availability by checking the [food inventory list](#). If you have any questions or concerns please contact Dawn Chatman at dchat284@yahoo.com
- Your mentor is also a great source for finding you those supplies that you need.
- Supplies like treats, bones and toys are also available at many adoption events.

Welcoming your foster into your home

QUARANTINE PERIOD

All Last Day Dog Rescue (LDDR) dogs brought in from a shelter or are owner surrendered and not from an approved LDDR foster, require a minimum 10 day quarantine period. This is for the safety of the dog and other dogs it may come in contact with. Your dog may be vaccinated but you cannot control what your neighbors do and this helps prevent the spreading of any illnesses. It also gives you time to learn about your fosters behaviors and personality. Once the minimum 10 day quarantine is over adult dogs are available to attend events or go to adoption. Exceptions to this may be presented to the Board for review and approval.

**** PLEASE NOTE:** Puppies are NOT to be at LDDR events any sooner than 5 days after their 2nd round of vaccines. Even then, the puppy is not considered to be fully protected until the 3rd round of vaccines are given.

What to expect from your foster dog

Allow time for adjustment. It may take some time for the dog to settle in and feel comfortable with you and with his or her new environment. It can take up to 10 days, but it can sometimes take longer, especially if they have just had surgery. Remember that a lot of our dogs are coming from shelters and have had a long ride, and they will need time to decompress and get used to their new surroundings.

Watch behavior closely. Begin training with some basic commands and crate training. Alert your mentor if there are any signs of aggression or fear (growling over food, biting, or hiding) or other behaviors you may need assistance with, many of these behaviors are common in rescue dogs and often times resolve themselves with minor training and confidence building.

How to go about dog-proofing your home?

Walk through the areas of your home the dog will have access to and ask yourself:

1. Is there room for a crate (dog's safe place) if needed?
2. Is there quick access to the outside for bathroom breaks?
3. Is there anything that can be chewed, such as drapes, a couch or rugs?
4. Are there exposed electrical wires?
5. Is there anywhere the dog can hide? Will you be able to get the dog out if hidden?
6. Are there coffee tables with objects that can be knocked off by a wagging tail?
7. Are there plants in the house? If so, check the list of **toxic plants**.
8. Where will I set up the crate once all hazards are removed?
9. Is the crate in a quiet, low-traffic area of the room/ house?
10. Is there a blanket in the crate to train your foster dog that it's his bed?

Where will my foster dog eat, hang out and sleep?

Planning where you will keep your dog before you bring your dog home will make the entire process easier for everyone.

- When you first bring a foster dog home, you'll want to confine them to a crate. You will want to put the crate in a room where you spend a large part of your day or evening, as dogs are pack animals and want to be with you.
- We recommend quarantining your foster dog from all other pets for 10 days. This eliminates the risk of spreading illnesses such as kennel cough, and gives your foster dog the chance to become familiar with your pets from a distance. Take introductions slowly.
- The place where you put your crate is especially important when you're at work or away from the house, as it will be a new environment in which they need time to become familiar and comfortable.
- By keeping the dog in a crate, you're helping prevent "accidents" that may occur because of stress or adjusting to your routine. (Even a house-trained dog might have an accident or two during this adjustment period.)
- For dogs that are not **house trained**, keeping them confined to a crate will help start this important training as you must be able to monitor their activities. LDDR recommends you also use a crate in this room for times when you are away from the house.
- Do keep your foster dog indoors in a location with a crate available.
- Do keep your foster dog in a warm/cool (depending on the season) and dry location.
- Do keep your foster dog on a leash at all times when indoors/outdoors, until the dog is acclimated to your home.
- When in a secured yard, you must supervise him at all times. It is very common for a shelter dog to attempt to escape, so always supervise your shelter dog.
- Do not place your foster dog around dogs that you are unfamiliar with, as we often do not know the dog's past history.
- Do not allow your foster dogs outdoors unless in a securely fenced area and supervised by an adult.

Introduce your foster dog too other pets slowly

Introducing fosters to your home to soon is the number one mistake new fosters make.

1. Introduce dogs outside in your backyard, or on neutral territory (pet store, on a walk around the neighborhood.) Introduce both dogs on leash, and walk them together so they can establish pack order. Do not let the dogs get in each other's faces when they first meet, but instead make sure they meet properly (to a dog, this means they must sniff each other's behinds!)
2. To avoid aggression over food/treats, make sure you are giving both dogs a treat or bone at the same time in separate areas, have your foster in a crate. **And put away all toys or bones BEFORE your foster arrives.**
3. When introducing to cats, always introduce on leash and watch the dog carefully. There is a difference between a curious dog and a prey-driven dog.
4. Do not leave dogs uncrationed alone with cats or dogs until you know they are getting along with one another, and make sure the cat has an escape route high up or away from the dog.
5. [Introducing a new dog video](#)

We caution about the introductions because people often jump to the quick conclusion that their foster dog is not a good fit, when really an initial confrontation could be just the result of an inappropriate introduction or two dogs establishing their boundaries with one another. Try and give your new foster dog at least 10 days to become comfortable in his new environment.

Find out how to best break up a dogfight [here](#).

If the dog is not a good match for your family situation: We will diligently try to move him. We request at least a 10-day lead period on re-homing, however we always do our best to expedite this, especially if there is an aggression/safety/health concern. You may also try to switch with another foster or a boarded dog to find a better fit.

What do I do when I first come home with my new foster dog?

The first few days with a new foster are critical. Potentially, the dog you will be caring for will be very scared and disoriented. Most dogs (and cats) live very routine lives and losing their home can be very disconcerting, even if that home was a chain around a tree or a shelter. Some orphaned animals quit eating. It is a good idea to have some tasty food on hand, just in case. Boiled chicken with broth and white rice or mixing some wet food with the dry food are enticing options.

After the 10 day quarantine period is over, you can begin to introduce other resident pets slowly.

Do:

1. If possible, go for a walk around your neighborhood with your resident dog/s if you have one, go with both dogs and two handlers.
2. Walk the dogs side by side on leashes and allow them to sniff one another and become familiar with each other.
3. **Do** give your own dog LOTS of love and praise.
4. **Do** leave leashes on the dogs when you are in the home, so that you can get immediate control if needed. You may only need to do this for a short time.
5. **Do** talk normally. Letting the dogs know that you are fine; they are fine; everything is fine!
6. Be patient and go slowly with your foster dog as they may have been through a stressful surgery, abusive situation or a lot of recent changes.
7. Don't leave your foster dog unattended with your resident dog. Even if they seem to get along well in your presence, you should separate the dogs when you **leave your house**.

Do not:

1. **Do not introduce foster dogs to other dogs for the first time inside a home.** A home is considered your dog's "turf." They will not always be eager to welcome in strangers, especially other dogs.
2. **Do not** hold the leash tensely as dogs may react with defensiveness.
3. **Do not** over-stimulate your foster dog with too many introductions to neighbors and other dogs in the first few days.
4. **Do not** bring your foster to a busy pet store for treats in the first few days.
5. Leaving toys and chewies around the house. This can cause resource-guarding, which can escalate very quickly - make sure to remove all toys and chewies before you arrive home with your foster dog.
6. Feeding your foster dog with your resident dog. It's best to separate them initially, and to supervise always.
7. Over-stimulating your foster dog with introductions to too many people or your neighbors' dogs too soon.

Introducing a dog to your cats

Before you introduce your foster dog to your cat, you may want to wait a few days until you have built a relationship with your foster.

1. You will need to have your dog under control and know which behaviors are appropriate when interacting with a cat.

2. Allow your foster to settle into its surroundings first, before you start to introduce unfamiliar animals.
3. Introducing dogs to cats is much like introducing dogs to one another. Take your time in a stress free environment.
4. After a few days, allow the dog to meet the cat, but keep the dog in a crate and watch the interaction closely.
5. A dog that is snarling or baring teeth will probably never accept a cat.
6. The cat and dog should be separated, kept in separate rooms when left alone.
7. If all is reasonably calm, walk the leashed dog around the room, but do not let go of the leash in case the dog decides to chase the cat.
8. On leash introductions allow the cats to escape or to sniff the dog if he/she chooses.
9. During the first few meetings, the cat and dog will probably not interact face to face. A dog is a predatory animal. **It is a natural instinct for a dog to chase a cat.** Assume the dog will chase the cat so you are prepared.
10. Do not allow the dog to intimidate the cat with barking or chasing. Use a correction to discourage the dog, like “ack” “ack”
11. Gradually increase meetings and use your best judgment about when the animals are ready to interact freely with one another.
12. When a cat bops a dog on the nose with a paw, this is a good sign that the animals are establishing boundaries with one another.

Children and foster animals

As a general rule, children under 12 should not be left alone and unsupervised with a dog. Teach children to behave with a dog in the same way you would expect them to behave with a younger sibling. Children should be taught to leave a dog alone while he/she is sleeping, eating, or chewing. Pick up food dishes and dog toys off the floor until you have established a good comfort level and behavior assessment with the dog and the children.

Make sure that children know to leave dogs alone when the dog is in their crate.

It is very important not to allow children to handle the foster for a few days or until the animal seems relaxed. Extra care should be taken when bringing a foster into a home with children. It is a good idea to keep the dog's dishes and toys off the floor while children are present.

Housetraining

Be patient with your foster dog. Even **housetrained adult dogs** will make mistakes, especially if they've been at a shelter for a long time and have been eliminating in their kennel. If there are smells in your house from another dog or cat, some foster dogs may “mark” out their territory. This action should be re-directed immediately with a calm “Ah-Ah” and escort him outside

where he can finish. You will then want to use some odor/enzyme neutralizer on the areas where the foster dog “marked” to insure he will not smell and mark that area again. For determined markers, the Rescue can provide a belly band, if needed. Even if you bring home an adult dog that is housebroken, you will want to follow these guidelines until your foster dog adjusts to his new situation and to your schedule.

1. Determine where you want your foster to eliminate. It could be in the backyard or outside on a walk.
2. Puppies are ready to housetrain at 8 weeks of age.
3. Teaching puppies to eliminate on papers and outside may confuse them. If you choose papers, make sure they have that down before making the change to the yard.
4. When you have determined where the dog is to eliminate, take him out to the same place every time and tell him to “do his business,” or some such command.
5. Puppies should go out every hour, after eating or after play time.
6. If the dog does not go in five minutes, take the dog back out in fifteen minutes and try again.
7. Reward with lots of praise and/or treats when the dog eliminates as you wish.
8. Supervise puppies closely inside. If the puppy starts to go inside the house, scoop her up and take her to the approved spot.
9. Remember, tips for puppies can also help older dogs who have to relearn or get used to a new routine.
10. If he goes in the house while you’re not paying attention, don’t correct him - it’s not his fault. Clean it up and go back to your schedule. Use an odor neutralizer to get rid of the smell.
11. **Never put the dog’s face in his mess or yell at him after the fact. You will teach your foster dog to fear you. They do not understand this sort of correction.**
12. [Tips for housetraining an adult dog article](#)

Crate training

Crates provide safe havens and dens for dogs. They calm them and can help prevent destructive chewing, barking and house training mistakes. How long an adult dog can be crated will depend on many factors. For example, if your foster dog was left outside, it has never been required to “hold it” for any period of time. It will take time for this dog to learn to wait until he gets to the appropriate spot and you will need to start slowly.

Older dogs and dogs with some medical conditions may only be able to successfully “hold it” for short periods of time. It helps to be able to adjust your schedule accordingly so that she can always make it outside in time.

Rigorous exercise should be given before and after any long periods in the crate, and good chew toys should be in the crate at all times. You may want to crate your new foster dog for the first few nights in your bedroom - most of them feel more secure in their crate and it protects your house from accidents.

Crates should never be used as a means of punishment for your foster dog. If used for punishing, the dog will learn to avoid going in the crate. Crates should be thought of as dog play rooms - just like child play rooms, with games and toys. It should be a place dogs like to be and feel safe and secure when they are there. [Crate training article](#).

Crate & Confinement Training Pointers

- If appropriate, begin crate training right away — the first day in the new foster home.
- Practice having the dog go in to find small, tasty food treats.
- When he is comfortable going in, practice having him wait a few seconds while he is inside before getting the treat- then practice closing the door.
- Gradually extend his time in crate to 10 minutes with the door open and closed.
- Put the crate next to your sofa, watch a movie and keep dog in crate next to you while he works on stuffed Kongs and other approved toys/chews.
- Put the dog in crate for 30 minutes with chewies while you're home going about your normal routine- visit him in his crate every 5-10 minutes to reassure him that you're still there.
- Start leaving the dog alone in crate — the first few times you do this, he should be tired (just exercised), the time should be short (15–30 minutes) and he should have a good chewy available.
- Take the dog out to eliminate as soon as you come home after an absence.

Fostering the first week

Start a regular routine

Now that you're home with your foster dog, you should start a regular routine so your foster can begin to adjust to your household. Let them adjust by treating them the same way you would any other dog, do not spoil them.

During this adjustment period, please keep stimulation to a minimum. Some recommendations include:

1. Find a quiet route to walk or run your foster dog (depending on energy level) to familiarize him with his new environment. This also helps start the bonding between you and your foster dog.

2. Go slowly when introducing your foster dog to people you meet on your walk. After the quarantine period, your foster dog should lay low while he tries to figure out just what this new situation is. You may not see any unwelcome behavior initially.
3. Go slowly when introducing your foster dog to other dogs. This includes neighborhood dogs, and dogs belonging to your family or friends.
 - a. Why? There is no way to tell how your foster dog will behave when introducing him to other dogs. If your foster dog bites a person or dog you are required to report it to the Rescue immediately. A board member will return the call asap.
248-921-2850
4. During the first week you should try to spend quality one-on-one time with your new foster dog.
5. The most important thing to do during this initial transition time is to clearly but **NON-confrontationally** establish the household rules.
 - a. As well, take care not to indulge your foster dog's timid, tentative or fearful behavior; we understand how tempting this may be as many of our orphans have come from less than ideal situations, but in the long run it does not benefit the dog.

Additional Responsibilities for the first week

Take **new photos** and write a **new bio** for your foster dog. One of the many benefits of adopting a dog from foster care is that the foster parent can provide detailed, personal and anecdotal information about their foster dog. Your dog will be adopted more quickly if you update this information as soon as possible. All foster updates should be emailed to lddr.fosterupdate@gmail.com.

Start a file for your foster

Make a folder for each foster, keep dates for each medication received and when given, the **foster journal** can help you keep track of vet visits and preventive medications.

Writing an effective bio for your foster

Why is the bio important? The biography describing the dog is the first interaction that potential adopters have with each dog when they visit our website. For this purpose, they should be positive and upbeat with a focus on how the dog can add value to their life. The bios are used as a 'hook' to encourage adopters to take the next step of meeting the dog. Once you are face-to-face, it is the responsibility of the foster parents to explain all facets of the dog's personality.

When should the bio be updated?

While a dog is in LDDR's care, it's important to keep the bio updated. Be certain to include as much information as you have on the dog, while still keeping a positive spin. As you learn more about your dog and its behaviors, the bio should be updated to reflect that information.

What makes a good bio? A good bio should only be 2-3 short paragraphs. Therefore, we encourage you to keep statements factual, to the point and briefly and clearly expressed.

Other pointers

If you want to get creative, write the bio from the dog's perspective. Bios written in this manner tend to get a lot of positive attention and can allow for more creativity. Once you've completed the bio, ask a friend or family member to read it and find out if it would persuade them to contact the foster family. The end result of every bio should be something that makes people want to know more about the dog. This will start your foster dog on the path to adoption.

Daily care of your foster

Feeding

Create a consistent schedule for feeding your foster dog. Feed at the same times every day. Create a separate space for your foster dog to eat so they will feel comfortable. If you have other dogs at home, you may want to feed your foster dog in another room or crate - this can help prevent any arguments over food. Do not feed any "people" food. You do not know what the adoptive family will want to do, so don't start a habit they will have to break; and by feeding only dog food, you are also discouraging any begging behaviors.

Feeding will generally depend on the age and size of your foster dog.

- Adult dogs: dry adult dog food twice a day, once in the morning and once at night. Or as needed for their ideal weight.
- Adolescent dogs (4 months to 1 year): dry puppy food, usually twice a day.

The quantity of food you provide your foster dog will vary depending on weight, age and activity level. Please refer to the suggested amounts on the dog food package you are feeding your foster dog as the amounts may change depending on the brand. Remember to reduce this amount to compensate for any treats, including chews. Obesity is an epidemic for pets in the U.S., and can lead to health problems, exacerbate existing health issues and reduces overall quality of life.

Please do not overfeed your foster dog. **Always provide plenty of fresh water!**

Daily routine

Exercise

- Foster dogs should ideally be exercised every day, rain or shine. The old adage, "A tired dog is a happy dog," holds true for most dogs! Most foster dogs will need at least two 30+ minute walks a day to release excess energy. If your foster dog is an adolescent, you may need to step up the activity level to include regular runs/hikes/or brisk walks. A dog that is exercised regularly will tend to sleep when you are not at home - and a sleeping dog cannot do undesirable things, such as bark, chew, etc. The exception to this is if your foster dog is recovering from an illness or injury, then they may need rest.
- When walking your foster dog, leave at least six feet between your dog and any other dog you meet. This keeps handlers and dogs safe from possible conflicts and also reduces the

transmission of diseases. Foster parents will need to be extra diligent because many dog owners seem to encourage their dogs to “greet” every dog they encounter out on a walk.

- This nose-to-nose greeting is particularly stressful for many dogs, as dogs typically greet each other from an angle. One simple way to avoid an oncoming dog walker is to just cross the street, or start to walk in a wide semi-circle around them. Most people recognize that this is a sign that you don’t want your dogs to meet. If this isn’t possible, just announce to the oncoming walker that you are working with a Rescue dog, and you would prefer that the dogs don’t greet each other.
- If you’re a runner/jogger, start off slow and keep an eye on your foster dog and see how they react. Many dogs pull when they are in front of you, and running can intensify this behavior. Keeping them at your side, rather than in front can help eliminate this pulling behavior. You may need to start and stop many times, but be patient. Remember, these runs should be about the dog, not about your own exercise. Also, remember your foster probably is not used to running regularly, and like a person, will have to improve his conditioning and stamina over a period of time to avoid injury.

Attention and Playtime

- Lots of human contact is important for recovering, sick, injured or neglected dogs. Attention and playtime is a reward for your foster dog. Be sure to give your foster dog several minutes of playtime periodically through the day.
- Dogs crave human attention, regardless of their age or life circumstances.
- Close human contact is greatly beneficial. So, play with them and treat them as a member of your family. When it is time for your foster to move on, their experience living with you will greatly benefit them and their new family, too.
- As a general rule, children under 12 years old should NOT be left alone and unsupervised with any dog, but specifically a foster dog.
- Make sure children treat the foster respectfully
- Teach children to leave a dog alone when he is eating, chewing and sleeping and in their crate.
- Never allow a child to remove a toy or any other “prized” possession from a dog. A child will not differentiate between a foster dog and a dog they have grown up with, so you must make sure to keep everyone safe.
- Avoid playing tug of war games

Grooming

Make sure that the longhaired dogs are brushed daily and at least weekly for the short-haired dogs. Looking good is important when searching for potential adopters. Sometimes there is free grooming or discount grooming for our fosters, check with your mentor. Or contact the Helpdesk at helpdesk.ldr@gmail.com

Socialization

After your foster dog has settled in and has acclimated to his new home, it's time to get him out into the world. The more you can do this, the better socialized he will be. Get him used to different people and different environments. Events and [training classes](#) are a great opportunity for socialization. Start slowly and don't over stimulate as many foster dogs may not have had exposure to what seems like a "normal" environment. When you are out and about, you should remain calm as this will help your foster dog key off of your behavior. But always be aware of your surroundings. Always keep a good handle on your leash and be extremely careful around busy streets, or in parks where there are squirrels or birds or other distractions. If your dog reacts to someone/something on your walk, interrupt the behavior by crossing the street or walk in a different direction.

Behavior issues

Some foster dogs will have specific needs regarding behavior, training or socializing. LDDR will try to advise you if your foster dog has a behavior problem that may require your help, such as an abused or fearful dog who needs socializing or confidence-building with other dogs or people. A dominant puppy may benefit from an adult dog in your home to "show them the ropes" and appropriate behavior. A dog with an unknown/questionable history may just need to be observed in someone's home before being adopted. Many times it is the foster parent that is the first to learn about a foster dog's specific behavior so communication with your mentor is important. There are many resources that we can provide to help you manage most behavioral issues. [A good online resource for behavioral issues with dogs.](#)

We don't expect foster parents to be miracle workers. If your foster dog requires more attention, exercise or training than you can provide, the best solution for you and your foster dog might be a different foster home. If this is a concern please contact your mentor as soon as you can, because it may take time to make other arrangements.

Regardless of the issue, we don't recommend punishment as this is not effective in resolving behavior problems. Punishment will not address the cause of the behavior, and in fact it may worsen any behavior that's motivated by fear or anxiety. Punishment may also cause anxiety in dogs that aren't currently fearful. **Never correct your dog after the fact.**

People often believe their dog makes this connection because he runs and hides or "looks guilty." But dogs display submissive postures like cowering, running away, or hiding when they feel threatened by an angry tone of voice, body posture, or facial expression. Your dog doesn't know what he's done wrong; he only knows that you're upset. Correction after the fact will not only fail to eliminate the undesirable behavior, but may provoke other undesirable behaviors, too.

If your foster dog is exhibiting any behavioral issues, ask yourself the questions below:

1. Is my foster dog getting enough exercise?
2. Is he being left alone for long periods of time?
3. Does he have interesting toys to keep his mind engaged and stimulated?
4. Is he getting enough attention and playtime?
5. Am I reinforcing bad behavior? Some examples include shouting at a barking dog, pushing a nosy dog away from you, encouraging the dog to chase after you for fun, playing tug of war etc.
6. Does my foster dog have a safe place that is dog-proofed with appropriate chew toys, or am I leaving my own belongings within reach?
7. Am I providing specific outlets based on its breed, water for labs, hide and seek games for beagles, tricks for Aussies etc.?

Training

Most potential adopters are hoping for dogs with basic manners. You might feel it's appropriate to let your own dog jump on people, eat off your plate, or beg for food, but please don't let your foster dog have these same indulgences. We ask that you try and set boundaries for your foster dog, and try and be consistent.

We suggest positive, rewards based training for dogs. Increasing your foster dog's obedience skills has many benefits. Not only will the future adopter appreciate these skills, but your foster dog will "show" better when visiting with potential adopters and you will have a much happier fostering experience.

Some basic cues that would be helpful for your dog to learn are: sit, down, come, leave it, crate/bed, stay, heel, and an attention cue such as "watch me." These are very useful in managing any dog. If you have a dog that does not like other dogs, these cues will be helpful on walks as well. For example, a dog that can heel nicely and that has been taught to "watch" you has less likelihood of making eye contact with another dog and getting aroused.

Additional training tips:

1. Short 5 minute training sessions 4-6 times a day is more effective than one long session.
2. Dogs need and respond to positive rewards when learning new behaviors. Remember, most behaviors that we want are boring to a dog, so it's important to make it more interesting to them.
3. A positive reward can be a tasty treat, a belly rub, an opportunity to play with a fun toy, a game of fetch or anything else your dog enjoys.
4. You provide the guidance and information he needs to succeed and build his confidence.

5. Always praise your foster dog when he is doing something good.
6. Be consistent with your terminology and routine. Your foster dog will become confused if you let them steal your socks sometimes, but not others.
7. Start small and easy and slowly build from there. Most people jump too quickly into advanced environments (outside on a walk, etc.), so make sure you start inside in a safe and quiet location.
8. Use “Aak-Aak” or “Ah-Ah” sounds instead of the word “no.” The canine mother would use this type of sound to correct her pup. Only use “no” for very serious matters, if it is overused the canine will no longer respond.
9. Be patient and calm. Dogs respond to your tone of voice and facial expressions as well as your emotions. Dogs were once predators, and can read your body language quickly. Don’t try to fake your emotions as your foster dog will know.
10. Never lose your temper with a foster dog or strike him- **EVER**. We want to create and support a harmonious canine/human relationship.
11. **Never, ever call a dog to you to punish him/her.** If the dog makes a mistake, go to the dog to make the correction. If you punish a dog when he comes to you, he will begin to associate coming when called to punishment. They learn this one very fast, so try not to make this mistake.

Training assistance

Last Day Dog Rescue has been fortunate enough to develop a training program and to team up with local trainers to help offer free training classes for you and your foster. If you are having issues with your foster try looking into one of the classes. Or email lddrmike@gmail.com to be directed to a trainer or class.

- A list of trainers/classes for fosters and trainers for you to suggest to your adopters can be found here on the [training list](#).
- If you have a trainer that you have used and can recommend we may add them to the list, just email lddrmike@gmail.com
- Healthy Pawas training assistance programs and classes Email Mike, Chelsea and KelseyAnne at lddr.healthypawdogs@gmail.com
- Join the face book group [Let’s Talk!](#)

LDDR will be supporting and advocating only Progressive Reinforcement Training. This is so that we can ensure our dogs and their adopters are getting the best training resources possible and setting them up for success in their adoptive homes.

How this affects all of you as fosters and volunteers:

- The website already only endorses positive based training. We will only recommend positive trainers to fosters or adopters.
- The foster resources page of the website includes only positive based training resources

- We will not provide fosters with or support the use of choke/correction/pinch/shock collars on LDDR dogs. We encourage all of our fosters that currently use these collars to consider learning how to use positive training to avoid their use. We realize we cannot force you to train our dogs any certain way and that some of you currently use this type of training. We are not trying to force you to change your beliefs. You will still be able to foster and we will not be trying to restrict you in any way but we hope that you will consider learning more about positive training as an alternative.
- All new fosters and volunteers will be informed of our support of positive training methods at orientation.
- Any of you with questions, issues, or concerns relating to you fosters behavior have open access to training classes, monthly dog body language lectures, and Mike's all training Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1575962092664728/>) that we encourage all of you to join where you can ask any questions you have, as well as being able to contact Mike Baughman lddr mike@gmail.com or Chelsea Campbell chelsea.l.campbell@gmail.com

Your responsibilities to your foster

Now that you have your foster home and settled it is time to get to the fun stuff. Make sure you keep in contact with your mentor as they can assist with many of the duties below.

- **Update your foster's bio.**
 - Email lddr.fosterupdate@gmail.com with photos and a bio. Refer to the section on how to write a [good bio for your foster](#) for more detail on this. More than half of the applications we receive are from our PetFinder site, and our website. Keeping the bio fresh and current helps speed up adoption time. Also remember to email lddr.fosterupdate@gmail.com to any change of your fosters status, i.e. pending adoption or adopted.
- **Attend Adoption Events.**
 - Refer to the section on Adoption Events for more details on this, you can also find the [Event calendar](#) on the web site. While at an event, you can meet other fosters and foster dogs, meet prospective adopters, get your dog acclimated to new social settings and meeting new people/animals, get your dog micro chipped if they are not already, pick up additional supplies, get photographs taken of your dog for Websites, and get your dog and yourself some exercise! Attending the Adoption Events helps speed up adoption time. [We ask that all fosters try to attend at least one event per month.](#)
 - The average adoption time is difficult to predict. Sometimes we will post a dog and immediately receive multiple applications on him, before he has even arrived at his new foster home. Other times, we've had dogs that are with the rescue several months.

- We prefer that you continue to foster your dog until adoption, though we understand that life is unpredictable. If there are time constraints to your fostering (i.e. I'll be out of town July 4th weekend and need a temp foster, or I am moving in September so if the foster dog is not adopted by then, he will need a new foster) please let the foster coordinator know, and we can work around these parameters when given some advanced notice. **Also let your mentor know.**
- **Make sure to fully vet your foster.**
 - **What LDDR considers a fully vetted foster dog.**
- **Communication**
 - Respond timely and professionally to inquiries and applicants about your foster animal using a computer and/or telephone.
- **Find a great home for your foster**
 - The goal of LDDR is to place our foster animals into the BEST possible home.
 - This means that our foster homes do not adopt their foster animal into the first available home just to get rid of them.
 - One of the best ways to find a good match for your foster is to be trained on how to do home visits. This allows you to be involved in the final decision making process and to speed up the adoption process..
 - This also means that at times, we disappoint potential adopters because we decided the adopter was not suitable for the foster animal or vice versa.
 - Unfortunately, that is a common issue but we are dedicated to our animals first and adopters second.

Adoption events

Our events are an excellent chance to help socialize your dog, meet-and-greet with adopters, and get to know our other fosters and volunteers. **We ask that all fosters try to attend at least one event per month.** As a foster, you can help your dog get adopted by attending adoption events regularly. If you need assistance getting your foster to an event contact the **transport team** or ask if someone can take your foster to an event on the **volunteer facebook forum**.

At events:

- Dogs must be kept on leash at all times.
- You should bring a leash, water bowl, and crate, as well as a copy of your dog's vaccination records to the event.
- You may also want to bring a chair to relax in.
- Puppies must have 2 sets of vaccines and be at least 12 weeks old to be able to tend events.

We hold adoption events in many different areas; check our [event calendar](#) for the most current details on our events and locations nearest you. We also aim to do a few specialty events each year, such as bringing our dogs to parades, outdoor concerts, and other community events.

If you know you can attend an event, you may RSVP to the event coordinator at rsvp.ldr@gmail.com or via [MEETUP](#). We will make sure we have enough room to accommodate everybody, and we will add the dog's RSVP to the website, some events will have limited space. Potential adopters often come to the events because they saw a dog listed that they would really like to meet. Also pre approved adopters may come to events looking to adopt a dog.

What LDDR considers a fully vetted foster

What Does LDDR Consider a Fully Vetted Dog?

When your foster dog arrives, please review the vetting needs first and keep your dog away from household pets until several days after their first vaccines. We MUST express the importance of your own pets being up to date on their vaccines before you bring a foster home. Having your own pets fully vaccinated, on preventives, including Bordetella, is of utmost importance.

Please take your fosters to one of the vet's listed on the approved [Veterinarian list](#).

Please retain a copy of all vetting done to your foster for your records and to pass on to your foster's adopter. When you do receive vet records for a dog older than 6 months please forward a copy of these records and the shelter papers/intake records, to lastdayrecords@gmail.com , for cats, kittens and puppies send the records to lastdaypuppyrecords@gmail.com . In addition, a copy of the spay/neuter proof also needs to be included in every fosters permanent file. For more information or questions feel free to contact lastdayrecords@gmail.com or the help desk helpdesk.ldr@gmail.com.

Because we treat all adult dogs as if they have NOT been vetted in their past life, many times a dog will still require booster vaccines while in your care. These are important to get as the dog will not be fully vaccinated without the booster. Before your foster goes to adoption, he/she should have the following:

Vaccines for healthy adult dogs:

1. Rabies Vaccine, 1 year only (Please do not ask for the 3 year vaccine for our dogs)
2. Distemper Vaccine (2 total, 3 weeks apart) This injection is a combination of multiple vaccines. Also written as DHPP, DA2PP, DHLPP, DHP. It includes Distemper, Hepatitis (CAV- 2), Parainfluenza, Parvovirus
3. Leptospirosis Vaccine (2 total, 3 weeks apart) This vaccine can also be the "L" in the above

4. Distemper, DHLPP.
5. Bordetella, Intranasal Bordetella (most common) is good for 6 months. Injectable Bordetella needs to be boosted 3 weeks after initial vaccine and then it is good for a year.
6. De-wormer LDDR dogs, with an unknown background, that are healthy and over 4 months of age are to automatically receive Drontal de-wormer at their first visit to an LDDR approved Vet or when you pick them up from transport.

Currently LDDR DOES NOT vaccinate for the Corona Virus Some vets will only offer the DHLPP-CV (with Corona Virus) which cannot be avoided. However, please do not ask for an additional Corona Virus Vaccine.

(Please note: The vaccine schedule for adult dogs is different from mothers and puppies. For dogs over 10 years of age please **contact the Board** for further instruction as there are many variables that need to be considered.)

Required testing/procedures:

Heartworm Test

It takes 8 months for signs of heartworm/microfilaria to become evident in a dogs blood. Therefore testing dogs under the age of 8 months will only result in inconclusive/possibly false negative results. LDDR dogs **8 months and older are to be tested for Heartworm at their initial veterinary visit.** DO NOT give Heartworm medication until you receive the results from the heartworm test and the dog is cleared to take the medication. Giving Heartworm medication to a Heartworm positive dog can lead to complications with future heartworm treatment. **If your dog is Heartworm positive,** contact **Karen Spaulding** for information on caring for a Heartworm positive dog. Also be sure to ask the vet to write a script for the 90 days of Doxycycline needed instead of filling the meds at the clinic at a higher charge. (see more about medications below)

Preventive medications are sent out every 2 months. Contact the Preventive Meds team at deemworden@gmail.com with your address and foster dog's weight.

Fecal Test

A fecal check is to be done on your foster 3 weeks after receiving the initial dose of Drontal. At that time a second dose may be given based on the fecal test outcome. IF your foster dog has diarrhea for more than a couple days once in your home then a fecal check needs to be done to rule out Coccidia and Giardia.

****It is imperative that any treatment outlined by the Vet is completed. If not completed you leave your foster dog and personal dogs at risk. **Drontal is the rescues choice for incoming dogs over other de-wormers due to its efficacy and ease of use.****

Spay and Neuter

Spay or Neuter your adult foster, prior to adoption, if there are no other complications to delay this. Our goal is to send sterilized dogs into adoption. On occasion where it cannot be scheduled prior to adoption then a Sterilization Agreement and a \$50 refundable deposit should accompany each contract. LDDR will only pay for adults to be sterilized after adoption when it is done at our participating vets, and they could not be sterilized before adoption for some medical issue..

However, we will not pay for a puppy to be altered after adoption.

For spay/neuter deposit information, policies, and procedures as well as a list of vets that will perform discounted sterilizations please contact lastdayrecords@gmail.com.

**** Request to have your foster's teeth checked while under anesthesia and to have dental issues resolved at that time if possible. This saves your foster from having to be put under anesthesia twice. ****

**** Please ask the vet for pain meds for our altered animals to have at home or a written prescription if the quantity warrants. Preferably a minimum two day supply for males and a five day supply for females. The amount will be increased if other procedures were performed ie. Dental work etc. As always the amount of medication to go home is at the vet's discretion. Also request an e-collar (cone) if you do not already have one available for use. ****

Medications:

For ALL Dogs

When your foster dog requires medication please ask the Vet to write a prescription for the medication needed, ie. Antibiotics, pain meds, thyroid medication, heart medication, etc. Having prescriptions filled at the pharmacy is much cheaper than having the same meds filled at the vet clinic. A \$10 expense as compared to a \$70 expense could save LDDR thousands. Keep in mind that some generic meds can even be free of charge at some stores.

If your foster is on medication that can only be filled by the vet please contact the.ldr.board@gmail.com or ask if the vet will match petmeds pricing. Most vets would rather match their price than have you request a script and lose your business. Please keep any receipts for medications purchased outside of the vet clinic for reimbursement purposes. Copies can either be mailed to the PO box, faxed to 734-786-0729 or scanned and emailed to LastDayRecords@gmail.com

Heartworm and Flea Prevention

Dog's fresh from the shelter should be treated with topical flea/tick preventative 24 hours after being bathed. If the preventative was given prior to bathing then a bath **MUST** be delayed 24 hours to allow the topical medication to take effect.

Once your foster's heartworm test comes back negative (meaning without heartworm) the first heartworm pill can be given. In most cases the first preventative will be supplied by the vet clinic or at transport. At times the vet may send the medication home with

instructions to administer after they confirm a negative result. You may need to contact the vet and request results as they may not always remember to call you.

Preventative medication

For your foster to be added to the list of distribution bi-monthly and Immediate need for preventative meds for your foster:

Email lddr.preventivemed@gmail.com this is so preventative mailings can be set-up for your foster. Preventative meds are distributed every two months, year round. . If your foster has been heartworm positive in the past, you should receive heartworm medication year-round. If your foster was EVER heartworm positive PLEASE make sure to let the new adoptive family know as it will be imperative for them to use preventative year around.

Puppies and Mama Dogs:

Puppy Protocol

1. **Transport** - Puppies will not be micro-chipped at transport, the foster can contact the microchip team to arrange chipping. (Microchipping will be done at transport for puppies 4 months and older.)
 - a. Puppies need to be transported in sanitized crate. They should remain in crate until transferred to a sanitized crate in foster's vehicle by the foster or transport person.
 - b. Only transporter and foster should handle pups.
 - c. Puppies will not be placed on the ground until at foster home.
 - d. Puppies will not be out for pictures unless held by the foster or transporter.
 - e. Puppies need time and space to decompress. They should not be introduced to other dogs and cats or attend adoption events until five days past their 2nd vaccinations. Meet and Greets can be done in fosters home after 7 days. Care should be taken using hand sanitizer.
 - f. Puppies will receive collar and tag along with preventatives at transport
2. **Intake Preventatives**
 - a. Capstar- for puppies 6 weeks and older. Kills fleas in 15 minutes and lasts 16 hours. * Give to your new foster immediately. Best to give in car before you take them into your home.
 - b. Dewormer Virbanel (Drontal) for the treatment of Roundworm, hookworm and tapeworms. If your foster has loose stools after a couple of days please check stool sample for Whipworms, Giardia or Coccidia. If fecal is solid deworm twice three weeks apart.
 - c. Forti Flora is a probiotic which helps the digestive system adjust to stress and diet changes. Divide the packet over 5 days, a sprinkle a day.
 - d. Pet Trust - ivermectin/Pyrantel is given to healthy dogs over 8 weeks to prevent Heartworm and other parasites. Additional doses will be sent by the preventative team.

- e. Pet Armor- topical flea preventative is given on intake even in the winter to help kill and prevent fleas. If you give a bath to your new foster please wait 24 hours before applying and if you apply at intake please hold off until 48 hours after giving a bath.
- f. Pups who have not had their initial vaccine before transport should receive their first injection 5 days before being exposed to a vet's office: If healthy and not in need of immediate medical attention. Place stickers on the puppy addendum of the contract.

Vet Records will come with each dog on transport. Someone will scan them and send by email the day after transport. Please wait for vet records before heading to the vet. All dogs have had at least one DPPH and many have been wormed.

The following is not provided by LDDR but strongly recommended. Pert Plus for flea baths
 Chicken and rice- helps with transition to new food, prevent/ decrease diarrhea
 Paper towels
 Newspaper
 Puppy pads- many pups will chew and eat pads so not always the best option. Spray bottle with vinegar and water
 Puppy vaccine sheet.

At home prep list: Towels Blankets or sheets Clorox or other cleaner Dishes Toys Crate
 Puppy pen all new puppy fosters need to have a mentor who has fostered puppies. Know where your closest LDDR approved vet is and closest ER vet. Keep number handy. Litters of puppies should always be kept together if possible when younger than 3 months. Large litters (more than 5) can be split into two groups if needed. No less than two at a time unless they are single pups. When you get your puppy home give them a nice warm bath in Pert Plus. During the bath check them for ticks. Give puppy Chow or chicken and rice. Have their crate ready inside the puppy pen.

Socializing your pups: Make sure to handle them several times a day, touching them everywhere, feet, ears... So they look forward to seeing you and being touched. After their 10 day quarantine they can gradually be introduced to other dogs in the home (and cats). And children.

Vetting: Contact microchip team to arrange chipping. If it is less than 10 days and going away from foster home the puppy should remain in the crate and be handled by the foster person only. First shots are at 6 weeks and done every 3 weeks after. Write down dates and keep stickers on puppy addendum or foster journal. Shots can be administered at home if possible. A number of fosters do their own and assist with this. If they go to a vet office do not let them touch the floor at the vet's office. Place them on exam table then right back in the crate. Take a stool sample to the vet within the first week. Puppies should have a vet exam prior to adoption. If they have not received their second vaccination they can go in a crate, then go straight to the exam table, but should not be put on the floor.

* Schedule for vaccinations is on puppy addendum.

Mommas with puppies:

Mamas eat puppy food, cottage cheese and yogurt. Moms will need two to three times normal calories while nursing. Moms will want to escape from puppies starting at about 6 weeks and will spend less and less time with them. When weaning puppies she may correct and seem harsh with puppies. She may need her own crate. Moms will often be protective of her puppies so approach softly and gently. Try and make sure she has a secure place separate from other dogs in the home. Offer her treats when she lets you near the puppies so she associates your handling the puppies with good feelings. Moms cannot get shots is spayed until puppies are weaned.

Adoption Events: No puppies can go to events or meet and greets (away from foster home) until five days after second set of shots. May not attend events until you have had them for 10 days. When able to attend sign them up through Meet Up. Bring puppy pen, newspaper, water, toys and vet records.

Applications: Your mentor will send copies of the applications. Please read them over and discuss with your mentor. Your mentor can help you arrange meet and greets. This could be in your home. If they are not a good fit the application can be forwarded to the matchmaking team. If a good fit your mentor can place on the tracker.

If you are interested in attending the home visit that can be added to the tracker so the home visit volunteer is aware to contact you. When puppies have three good applications please request them to be pending at lddr.fosterupdate@gmail.com

Our Puppy Fosters will have their own separate needs, which require 3-4 visits for boosters. While only in our care usually for their first visit, it is important to complete a Puppy Addendum with all Adoption Contracts, to lay out the remaining booster shots schedule for the new family. Remind the adopters that caution needs to be taken for the first year as fully vaccinated pups can still get parvo.

Guidelines for Moms & Pups:

Mothers or soon to be mothers get no vaccines at all. They are to be tested for Heartworm, have a fecal check, be de-wormed and receive preventatives ie. Flea/tick. These treatments are per veterinary discretion based upon dog's current health etc.

De-worming puppies begins at two weeks old with Strongid or Pyrantel and is to be done every two weeks until adoption or until a fecal test comes back clear. At 12 weeks the puppy will need to have a fecal check, if the test comes back positive for worms then continue the de-worming treatment until a fecal test comes back clear of worms. LDDR provides the de-worming medication. Keep in mind it takes at least 3-4 de-worming treatments to eliminate roundworms.

It is imperative to continue worming treatments after adoption until a stool check comes back clear. Hookworms are the second biggest killer to pups, second to Parvo.

De-worming for older pups is a bit different. Older pups are to receive 2 treatments with Strongid or Pyrantel 2 weeks apart at which point they are to have a fecal test. Continue de-worming treatment until two fecal tests come back negative.

The first Distemper vaccine is to be given at 6 weeks old. When able, having LDDR administer the first round of vaccines for a litter of pups is ideal. By doing this, it gives the pups protection from contaminants they will encounter when they go to the vets office for a full exam and their second round of vaccines at 8-9 weeks. LDDR has the vaccines and volunteers qualified to do these injections.

Lepto vaccines have been known to cause reactions in smaller dogs. For this reason, we are leaving it to the Vet to decide when the Lepto vaccine should be administered.

It is best to have the puppy's second round of vaccines done 2-3 weeks after the first vaccine is given. Though the first vaccine at 6 weeks does not count toward the series because of the mom's immunity it does offer the best protection from parvo.

**** PLEASE NOTE:** Puppies are NOT to be at LDDR events any sooner than 5 days after their 2nd round of vaccines. Even then, the puppy is not considered to be fully protected until the 3rd round of vaccines are given. ******

Please retain a copy of all vetting done to your foster for your records and to pass on to your foster's potential adopter. When you receive records for mom and pups please forward a copy of those records and the shelter papers/intake records, if any, to Alicia Weber either by email at lastdaypuppyrecords@gmail.com or by fax at 734-786-0729. For more information regarding puppy fostering, please contact Alicia Weber at the above email address.

Please Note- ALL dogs must be microchipped before they are adopted.

Vet Records for all fosters

Dogs 6 months and up

- If you need a vet appointment approved or need to request copies or have a questions about dogs vetting history. lastdayrecords@gmail.com
- When you get your foster dog all the dogs vet records, including (initial) intake paperwork MUST be submitted so the dog's file can be created. Always send all vet paperwork in to Vet records lastdayrecords@gmail.com

Puppies / Mother Dogs / Cats

- **Vet records:** Please scan and email to Alicia lastdaypuppyrecords@gmail.com or fax to them at 734.786.0729.
- For information on record requests email Alicia Weber lastdaypuppyrecords@gmail.com
- For vet needs or special procedures approvals email the board at the.ldr.board@gmail.com

Knowing if your foster needs Veterinary Care

LDDR approved Veterinarians List linked here.

Guidelines for seeking vet care in dogs older than 12 weeks:

- Diarrhea that lasts more than 1-2 days
- Diarrhea and vomiting for more than 1 day
- Vomiting more than 2-3 times an hour
- Not eating for more than 24 hours (may be 48 hours for dogs just having been through surgery or other invasive health procedures)
- Lethargy (severe weakness and malaise) for more than one day

Diarrhea

Diarrhea can be caused by a variety of factors—stress, diet changes, poor diet, eating garbage, parasites and viruses. If your foster dog has diarrhea and no other symptoms, you can rule out a change of diet by starving the dog for 24 hours, but be sure to leave 24 hour access to water. Then give a very bland diet of hamburger or chicken with an equal amount of plain boiled rice in very small amounts. After stool has firmed a bit, gradually add the dry food to the bland diet until you are just back to dry food. Provide fresh water at all times, since diarrhea can cause dehydration. To check for dehydration, pull up the skin over the shoulder blades. If the skin snaps back quickly, the dog is not dehydrated. If it returns slowly, then the dog is dehydrated and needs fluids. Dehydration can kill a puppy so contact the foster coordinator if you think your puppy is dehydrated.

Parvo

Parvo attacks the intestinal tract, white blood cells, and heart muscle. Signs of infection are depression, loss of appetite, vomiting, severe diarrhea and fever. The disease is contracted through contact with the infected feces of another dog. A foster puppy that has not completed its shots should not be taken to public places due to Parvo. Parvo is serious and requires immediate veterinary attention. Please, contact the foster coordinator if you suspect Parvo and take the dog to an approved veterinarian immediately.

Kennel Cough

Kennel cough is like the human common cold. It is frequently seen in shelter or kennelled dogs as it is an easily spread virus. The kennels or shelters are like child care centers where as soon as

one dog catches a cold, all the shelter dogs catch the cold. Kennel cough symptoms can take up to 4 weeks to disappear. Kennel cough is usually a dry, hacking cough, sometimes described as sounding as though the dog has something stuck in its throat. Dogs under stress are prone to infection. Our dogs are given a Bordetella vaccination to limit infections of kennel cough, which is much like the human “flu shot.” It may not prevent all viral strains, but it does prevent many common kennel cough infections.

Treating kennel cough:

Treatment includes bed rest and a lot of doggy videos! Make sure there is easy access to plenty of water and food. If after three days, you do not see improvement of the cough or if you notice yellow-green nasal discharge, contact the foster coordinator. Your dog may need to see a vet. It can be difficult to keep dogs resting when they have kennel cough because, often, they do not get a fever and feel pretty good. So, limit activity and encourage rest. Too much strenuous activity or stress can cause coughing episodes. Even a bath might be too stressful. Incubation of kennel cough is 5-10 days. It runs a course of usually 10-20 days. The first week is usually the most severe.

Urgent Vet care

If your dog requires an urgent care visit, please contact one of the board members as they must authorize the visit. The vet will not treat you without prior authorization from the board; contact the.ldr.board@gmail.com or our staffed phone number **248-921-2850** this phone number will go to a board member and if the call goes to voicemail it turns into a Google voice mail and is emailed to the entire board. A board member will return the call ASAP.

For emergency vet care, our preferred caretaker is **Wilson Vet** which is open 24/7.

Your foster has an application

The day has come and your foster has an application!! What happens next?

1. You will receive an email that an application has been assigned to you (or your mentor will receive this email). After the **vet check team** completes the vet check. They will tell you if it passed, and any important details you should know. To pass a vet check applicants must have all dogs currently sterilized only exception will be for medical reasons and with board approval.
2. Review the application answers - do they sound like a good fit for your foster?
IF YES:
 - a. Email the applicant to chat and set up a meet & greet

- b. Adopters often value talking to the foster family because only you can answer the questions that adopters may have about the foster and its personality and behavior, like how the foster is in certain situations or whether he would be okay living in a condo with young children, or living on a farm with barnyard animals.

IF NO:

- c. If they seem like they would be good dog owners, but just aren't the right fit for your foster dog, assign (or ask your mentor to assign) the application to Amy McGee, head of the matchmaking team. This is done on the website and you will not have access at first. Make sure to note on the application, why they are not a fit for your foster, this will assist the matchmaking team in finding them the right match.
 - d. If the application is bad all around and you don't think they should adopt any of our dogs, discuss it with your mentor and forward the application to ourlastdaydogs@gmail.com who can then send a rejection letter. Include an explanation of why you think they should not adopt from us. Common reasons include: They want an "outdoor only" dog, they want to breed their dog, etc.
3. If the vet check passed, and you like the application, add (or ask your mentor to add) the applicant to the Home Visit Tracker, and make sure to add the Y, that the foster has been contacted.
 4. Contact the applicant to let them know they should be hearing from someone within the next week or so about setting up their home visit (HV).
 5. If they email you and say they weren't contacted, check to make sure they were placed on the home visit tracker, if it has been added and no one has signed up to do the home visit (HV) ask your mentor to assist with getting this.
 6. After the vet check is approved and the home visit done (HV) and you think the applicant is a good match.
 - a. Set up a meet and greet if not already done. Make sure the whole family is involved in the meet and greet, including any current resident pets. Some fosters like to wait 24 hours after the meet and greet to do the adoption. This gives the family time to discuss how the meet and greet went and to make the final decision in private.
 - b. Make sure they have gone over the adoption contract and answer any questions they have.
 - c. Make sure they know to have a martingale leash, collar and name tag for the foster at adoption.
 - d. Talk with them about your fosters favorite activities, toys, treats, food etc. and any behaviors that need to be addressed.
 7. Set up a time and day for the adoption to take place.

- a. Some fosters prefer if the adopters come to their homes to pick up the foster and do the adoption. Those fosters believe that this makes it easier on the foster, going for a fun ride, instead of the dog feeling left or abandoned.
 - b. Other fosters prefer to go to the adopter's home and do the adoption.
 - c. There really is no right or wrong way, it is whatever you feel the most comfortable with.
 - d. Sometimes due to distance and schedule you may have to ask a third party to help with transport and adoption.
8. Day of adoption.
- a. You will need 2 copies of the **adoption contract**, one for the adopter and one copy that gets sent in with the check (made out to last day dog rescue) to : **Last Day Dog Rescue | P.O. Box 51935, Livonia, MI 48151-5935**
 - b. PLEASE go over each form with the adopter and make sure they understand what they are signing and what's expected of them.
 - i. Adoption Contract: Bullet 2 which states the adopter is not to rehome the dog, they **MUST** contact LDDR, \$1000 fine.
 - ii. Sterilization Agreement: Make sure the adopter understands they **MUST** send in proof of sterilization to LDDR within 14 days of the SA Due Date.
9. Adoption Contract – Used for ALL dogs/puppies
- a. LDDR no longer accepts cash for the adoption fee. If you are given cash please convert it to a money order. Do not mail cash.
 - b. Mark (top right on page) whether the foster being adopted is a “dog”, “dog-mother” or “puppy”
 - c. Bullet 2 – adopter **MUST** initial, \$1000 penalty will be incurred if dog is rehomed without LDDR's involvement/permission
 - d. Bullet 10 – adopter **MUST** initial (Schedule A is **REQUIRED** for **ALL** adopters)
 - e. Bullet 11 – Place microchip label or write microchip number on the space provided
10. Medical/Behavior Addendum A – Great form to give the adopters specific information on your foster. Fill it out as much as you can.
- a. Food foster is currently eating, time you feed and amounts. Also try and provide a baggie of food to help them in transitioning the foster to whatever brand the adopter chooses to feed them.
 - b. Behaviors that need work or are currently being worked on, ex. continue housetraining, recommend a training class, what commands the foster knows, etc.
 - c. Habits/Routine of your foster, ex. how they signal to go potty
 - d. Vetting due in future (vaccines, deworming, tests, etc), make sure to give the adopter all the vetting records you have, and the rabies certificate if you were given one...

11. Sterilization Agreement – **MUST BE FILLED OUT** for any dog/puppy that is being adopted out **BEFORE** being spayed/neutered
 - a. Adopter **MUST** pay an additional \$50.00 deposit
 - b. Set “Due Date” for when the puppy will be roughly 6 months old (**DO NOT** put “6 months old” – you **MUST** put an actual date)
 - c. For adult dogs set “Due Date” for when the dog will be healthy enough to be spayed/neutered
 - d. Make sure the adopter marks whether they want the deposit “refunded” or “donated”
 - e. Adopter’s now have 14 days (instead of 7 days) to send in proof of spay/neuter, \$1000 penalty for not spaying/neutering unless a vet says it needs to be delayed due to health reason (if that happens – adopter **MUST** send in a letter from the vet)
12. Puppy Addendum – Used for puppies under 6 months of age
 - a. If you (or another LDDR volunteer) are giving the puppy/puppies the vaccines – you **MUST** peel off the stickers from the vaccine vials and place them on this form next to the appropriate vaccine (2 labels)
13. Trial Adoption – This form is **ONLY** to be filled out with an LDDR Board Member’s permission.
14. Heartworm Positive Addendum –
 - a. Used for **ALL** Heartworm Positive dogs who **HAVEN’T** had a post-treatment negative heartworm test
15. **Cat/Kitten contract.**

****After all the paper work is completed you may want to take a photo of your foster with its new family. The happy faces are always fun to share, or send to the new family as their first family photo.**

It is always hard for your first foster dog to leave the nest. They have become a part of your family and day-to-day routine. Usually fosters are very emotional about losing their dog, but give yourself a pat on the back because that dog would not be alive without your hard work and dedication!! He would have been euthanized, abandoned, or existing under inhumane conditions. Because of you, they have a second chance, and is no longer a Last Day Dog.

Adopters usually send us updates on the dog, and we will forward you any pictures/updates we receive. We also have a **follow up team** that emails each adopter and checks how the family is doing. Many fosters also send an email a few days or weeks later to see how the foster is doing.

If you are contacted by an adopter and they want to return a dog, you must contact returns.

LDDR teams and team leaders

Foster Coordinator Team

All Fosters, Returning fosters and owner surrendered dogs are handled by the Foster Coordinating Team.

Returning Dogs

- For returns contact **Returns** at: lddr.returns@gmail.com
- If you have an adopter contact you wanting to return a dog, you must refer them to the returns email
- She will listen to their issues, make suggestions and try to offer help.
- If they still want to return, we need up to date vet records and photos to get the dog back on the site and be able to find a foster or boarding space if needed.
- The returning owner will be sent the appropriate forms from the coordinator, they will have to fill out a Returning Dog form, Dog Info form and the Owner Surrender form.
- The owner will need to print and fill out the forms and give the forms to the person they surrender the dog to.
- We ask for 10 business days to move the dog from the adopter's home.
- It is easy when the foster can take back the returned dog.

Owner Surrenders

- the.lddr.board@gmail.com
- People or families looking for help rehoming an animal.
- May become provisional fosters.
- Ask that they provide all vetting records for the animal.
- They will need to sign an owner surrender form.

Vet Check Team

The Vet check team leader is Stephanie Voss nineothree30@yahoo.com

1. The vet check team are responsible for contacting the veterinarians of the applicants.
2. They will perform a thorough check into each applicant's vet care for any current or past pets.
3. They will then send the application to you/your mentor with notes, please read these notes as they often contain important information.
4. Do not contact veterinarians of applicants unless you are trained and approved to do so.
5. To pass a vet check applicants must have all dogs currently sterilized only exception will be for medical reasons and with board approval.

6. Any questions or concerns about vet checks should be directed to Stephanie Voss
nineothree30@yahoo.com

Home Visit Team

The home visit team is comprised of volunteers and fosters who are trained in doing the home visit (HV) portion of the adoption process. You **MUST** be approved to do home visits. If you are interested in becoming a home visit volunteer please contact the home visit trainer Wendy Schultz at bookdemon@gmail.com

Home Visit Tracker Team

Home visit tracker team leader – lddr.hvcaptains@gmail.com

Tab Captains for the HV Tracker:

- **Central :** Jessica Larkins jrlarkins@gmail.com
- **Westside:** Tisha Pursak tprusak@hotmail.com
- **Northside:** Gina Ison zulugirl1976@gmail.com
- **Eastside:** Amy McGee lddr.amy@gmail.com
- **Southside:** Breanne Neal board.breanne@gmail.com
- **Lansing/Flint/Distant:** Stephanie Voss nineothree30@yahoo.com

Microchip Team

Team Leader is Alicia Weber: microchiplddr@gmail.com

Team Members/Emails are:

- Alicia Weber microchiplddr@gmail.com
- Denise Worden deemworden@gmail.com
- Erin Horning erin.horning@gmail.com
- Jenna Winans jennawinans@gmail.com

1. All animals are to be microchipped **BEFORE** adoption.
2. Your foster should be microchipped as soon as possible. **As fosters parents, arranging to get the animals to the microchip team is your responsibility.**
3. Contact Alicia Weber for microchip team member in your area.
4. Often a team member will be at adoption events to microchip contact the event coordinator for that event or contact Alicia if you have questions on if a team member will be at a certain event.
5. Some vets, such as Jeffrey's, are cooperative and have agreed to chip our animals for free while under anesthetic for sterilization. In those cases, someone from the microchip team can drop off a LDDR microchip for that animal, but this must be communicated ahead of time.

6. If you want to confirm that your dog is chipped, log into the web site, pull up your dog's profile and you will see a number next to the words "microchip number". It may take a few days after the chipping is done to get the information posted to the website.
7. Jenna goes through the list weekly and sends reminders. This list includes volunteers that have not yet received the dog or have fostered it for some time. All those not yet chipped get a reminder email or call. Please, please be kind and respond to Jenna's request. It's one dog to you but hundreds to this team.
8. This team spends a lot of their time and gas getting to events and meeting the transport team. PLEASE be mindful of their time and commitment
9. The Microchip Process is an extremely effective way to ensure our animals are safe while in our care as fosters, and later, as adopted pets.
10. One of the reasons we microchip is **Roxy**.

Transport Team

The transport team consists of volunteers who drive down to Ohio to pick up shelter dogs from other volunteers to transport them to the meet sight at St Paul's Lutheran Church 20805 Middlebelt Rd Farmington Hills, MI 48336, this is where your new foster off transport will be waiting for you.

Transport procedures for picking up your new foster:

1. You will receive an email from the foster coordinator confirming that your dog is on transport.
2. Bring a leash for your foster, as they do not come with one.
3. Have a crate in your vehicle if needed to help your get your foster home.
4. Park together near the dirt part of the parking lot (not all the way out).
5. DO NOT touch any other dogs beside your own foster. This prevents any cross contamination of illness or disease.
6. If you do need to assist another foster with their dog/puppy please use wipes to disinfect your hands. All transporters and microchip team members should have some.
7. The transport team will give you your foster and give the paperwork to the appropriate person. Please DO NOT remove your new foster from the transporters car.
8. Other than the people chipping, handling intake with collars, and holding dogs while being chipped they should be the only ones touching dogs
9. Intake of fosters will take place in front of the church. This is where they will be microchipped, given a collar, and where you can pick up supplies.
10. If you are given any paperwork or vet records, please give all of these to the person microchipping. They will take the records home and copy them and email them to you.
11. Please do NOT take your dog to the vet until you receive these records.
12. Please do not leave with your foster dog until it has been **microchipped** and has an LDDR collar and tag on.
13. Please be patient! And notify someone if you are running late.

14. We are all volunteers and sometimes the transport will be running late also, be patient with them they have just spent hours in a vehicle full of dogs.
15. Your dogs will be listed on the website soon after intake, please send your new cute photos and bio information in as soon as you can, this goes to lddr.fosterupdate@gmail.com

Assistance with other transporting needs

We often need to transport a dog from an animal shelter, to/from a veterinarian office or kennel, or to/from a foster home. If you need help with transporting your foster, please contact the Team Leader Chris Brooks at cbrookszy@yahoo.com there are various form of Transporting.

- Transporting an animal (Dog/cat/rabbit, etc) from Foster home to Adoption event with possible return.
 - This usually happens on weekends
- Transporting an animal from Foster home to Vet with possible return.
 - This usually happens on weekdays, during the day.
 - This can be local or long distance, we have a vet we use for special cases in Kalamazoo.
- Transporting an animal from one Foster home to another (transfer).
- Transporting an animal to or from a kennel for boarding.
- Transporting an animal(s) from a drop off location to a foster meet up or vet
- We have a standing Transport on Wednesday or Thursday each week from Toledo, OH.

When you send a request for transport provide the addresses of the from and to location, The time of departure and needed arrival, the breed, age and weight of the animal, and any special conditions (must be transported in a crate, is injured, doesn't like men/women/children, etc.

Please consider giving a couple hours of your time to help other volunteers in these transports. LDDR reimburses for your mileage if requested or you can deduct mileage from your income taxes. To sign up for the LDDR transport team email lddrtransport@gmail.com.

Newsletter Team

- The Scoop newsletter: Meghan Gavin at lddrscoop@gmail.com.
- Monthly newsletter: Meghan Gavin at lddrscoop@gmail.com
- Questions, comments, and suggestions: LDDR Helpdesk at helpdesk.lddr@gmail.com.

Website Team

Webmaster: Sally Stumbo

Webmaster assistance:

If you have any problems with needed functions contact the team lddr.web@gmail.com.

Dogs in Boarding Team

Contact kennel leaders to get approved to stop by the kennels. No dog can be dropped off or picked up without contacting lead volunteers for the facilities. You can also email the kennel coordinator to come by and walk dogs, or take them to events.

***KENNEL CODE-** This will reference the dogs on the **needs foster** page and which kennel they are in.

- **Arbees Kennel (AK):** 5824 Attica Rd, Attica, MI 48412, lddr.arbee@gmail.com The dogs at Arbee's can be tried out in your home and if it doesn't work the spot there will be held open for 10 days to return the dog guaranteed.
- **Camp Bow Wow Ann Arbor: (CBW-A)** 552 State Circle, Ann Arbor, MI 48108, Email Dianne and Susan at LDDR.campbowwowaa@gmail.com for details on dogs that are in the kennel
- **Camp Bow Wow Commerce: (CBW-C)** 4373 Plant Drive Commerce Twp., MI, 48390, Email Tim Bennett at tmb611@msn.com for details on dogs that are in the kennel
- **Camp Bow Wow Troy: (CBW-T)** 801 Stephenson Hwy, Troy, MI 48083 Email LDDR.campbowwotroy@gmail.com for details on dogs that are in the kennel
- **Healthy Paws: (HP)** 38150 Ford Rd, Westland, MI 48185 Email Chelsea and KelseyAnne at lddr.healthypawsdogs@gmail.com for details on dogs that are in the kennel and for instructions before going to walk dogs and to help with training.

Pets for Patriots

Team Leader:

LDDR has partnered with Pets for Patriots <http://petsforpatriots.org/> Please contact with any questions about this program. “Pets for Patriots’ vision is to end animal homelessness by supporting the permanent placement of adult dogs and cats with every available, able and willing military family in the United States.”

Adoption Follow-Up Team/Roxy’s Team

Adoption follow up team leaders are Karen Johnson Nick: any question should be sent to her at adoptionfollowupteam.lddr@gmail.com

- Team volunteers contact adopters via email or phone to get an update on their new addition. Inquire how things are going, if they have any questions or issues we can give them suggestions, etc.
- Depending on how things are going will depend on how often contact is made, the time frame is often 1-2 weeks after adoption, 3-6 months after and 1 year after.
- Updates on fosters will be posted on facebook.

Why we have a follow up team and microchip team

From a vet records team volunteer: “Earlier this week I was calling adopters trying to collect outstanding proofs of spay/neuter. The daughter of the Roxy's adopter answered the house phone. She told me they had taken Roxy to their local animal control because she turned ‘aggression’. She didn't know which animal control (gave me a street name) and wasn't sure when exactly she was taken in. With the help of the foster, we figured out which animal control and learned from them that Roxy was taken in BEFORE she was even 6 months old. The adopter never mentioned to animal control that she was a rescue or from LDDR. Roxy was euthanized.”

This adopter NEVER contacted LDDR letting us know there was an issue. The foster had gone over the part in the contract that states the dog MUST be returned to LDDR thoroughly and highlighted it. The adopter's application looked great - good vet check, good home visit, experienced dog owners, home a lot, willing to give the dog time to adjust to a new environment, dog would move with them since it would be part of the family, training and patience would be used to discourage unwanted behaviors. She did state she would return a dog for "aggression" but WOULD work with a trainer/behaviorist first.

Even though it's hard to think about - as a rescue we can't let Roxy's death be forgotten. We must turn our anger into action to prevent this as much as possible from happening again. This was nobody's fault but the ADOPTER'S - all the LDDR volunteers involved in the adoption process asked all the right questions.

This is why we microchip all fosters and have a follow up team in place.

Matchmaking Team

The matchmaking team coordinator is Amy McGee: lddr.amy@gmail.com

The matchmakers try and find applicants a good match for their home/family when:

- A home visit is done for a pre-approval
- A foster does not think the applicant is a good match for their foster.
- The application is assigned to Amy McGee via the online application; this will be done by your mentor until you have access.
- If you know of a foster that would be a good match for an applicant email Amy McGee.

Photography Team

The Photography team leader is Mario Dias: mario.dias@gmail.com

Foster Dog Photography is a huge advantage to getting your foster adopted.

1. Adopters are often drawn to a dog with a really good picture.
2. The photography team will make your foster look amazing!

3. The photography team makes every effort to make sure someone is at adoption events to take photos of fosters.
4. To confirm team attendance at an event contact Mario Diaz at mario.dias@gmail.com or via the volunteer forum on facebook.

If you are interested in helping out with the photography team, as a photographer or handler for fosters while they get their pictures taken, contact Mario Diaz for more information.

Board Member Committees

The LDDR board has been broken down into committees, with one or two board members heading each committee. Each board member will oversee the team of volunteers that fall under their committee. When you contact the board regarding an issue, comment, question, or proposal, the board member under the appropriate committee will respond.

LDDR board members and contact information

Board Members Email - the.ldr.board@gmail.com

- Voting Member: Tim Bennett tmb611@msn.com
- Voting Member: Olga L. Naranjo-Mitchell onaranjomitchell@gmail.com
- Voting Member : Carol Snodgrass snodbusch@hotmail.com
- Voting Member: Donna Carcone donna.ldr@gmail.com
- Voting Member: Karen Spaulding spauldink45@gmail.com
- Voting Member: Terry Packer packer@reactiondirect.com
- Voting Member: Alesha Briley alesha.ldr@gmail.com
- Voting Member: Sonja Jones sonja.ldr@gmail.com
- Voting Member: Karen Kaz Karenkaz.ldr@gmail.com
- Voting Member: Breanne Neal board.breanne@gmail.com

For emergencies call and a board member will return the call asap. 248-921-2850

Frequently used links and documents

Needs foster list Needs rescue list LDDR Google documents and forms LDDR approved veterinarians Cat vetting Foster Journal Online home visit checklist Mileage reimbursement form Dog and Puppy adoption contract	Cat and kitten adoption contract Things to consider before you adopt New adopter care package Tips for housetraining an adult dog Crate Training article Pet poison list Quality of life scale MEETUP Behavioral issues with dogs
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How to name your foster

