

We at CCHS are always working on finding ways to make the pets in our care more adoptable. One of the ways we can do that is with the help of foster families. Many animals are in need of additional care before they can be adopted into their forever home.

We often need help with **puppies** and **kittens** that are too young to be adopted out. This usually is a commitment of 1-4 weeks. These babies need your love, attention and time to grow in a loving home.



Some animals come to us as a result of a cruelty situation. These animals need a loving place to stay while they are in our care. This is a commitment of a few weeks or more.

There are also animals recovering from surgery and other health conditions that may need a week or more to recover. Some of these animals may need medication at times when the shelter is not open. Placing them in a foster home will help these animals recover faster.

When there is not enough space at the shelter, having foster homes available would help us make room for animals that are ready for adoption, while the ones that need more time could go to a foster home.



Our adoption center and our stray center are not equipped to care for the special requirements and care of **farm animals**.

Families with barns and pastures would be able to help us with these animals.

A foster home provides an ideal environment for the animals that may need a little extra work to become more adoptable.

Fostering has a positive impact on the lives of the animals. It also helps us to reduce the number of animals euthanized. If you feel you have what it takes to be a foster parent or just have more questions, please contact the shelter for more information.

## What is needed from you:

1. **Your time, patience, and love are the most important things.** Ask yourself if you have the time in your schedule to devote to the extra need of these animals. They are in foster care because they require extra attention. Can you still care for the needs of your own pets and the special need of your fosters too? Also, your own pet(s) may experience some stress from a newcomer in the home.
2. **Space.** Do you have the space in your home for additional animal(s) including crates or a private area? Many of these animals need their own area to feel relaxed and safe. Do you have an area to keep your fosters separate from your own pet? If you are fostering a dog, do you have a fenced yard, a dog run, or other way of keeping the dog confined?
3. **Vaccinations.** Your animals need to be up-to-date on all of their vaccines, including kennel cough for dogs and FIP vaccine and leukemia/aids testing for cats. This is to protect your pets from any diseases that may be brought into your home by the foster animal. CCHS does its best to screen for all diseases, but some are difficult to detect while in their early stages.
4. **In Home Visit.** A representative of CCHS will need to visit your home and talk with you. They can ensure that you have the appropriate environment and space for the animals you wish to foster.
5. **Can you let go?** Fostering is very emotional. It is natural to become attached to the animals in your care. When that time is right this animal will be placed for adoption.

## What does CCHS provide?

1. We provide the animal. When we have an animal (s) that needs some extra help we will call our foster parents and ask if they are able to help. We understand that there are times in people's lives that it would be inconvenient to take on another family member. You can always say no. We also understand that not every foster is the right match. If you should find that the situation is not working for you, we will always take the foster back and place it with another family and try to find a good match for you.
2. We provide the basic supplies like food, litter, shreds and any needed medications. We also have a limited supply of crates available.
3. We will be there for any questions. We will always provide you with help, advice and support. Fostering is not always easy and you may run into questions. The staff has lots of experience in medical issues as well as behavioral issues. They will be happy to help you.
4. We will find a permanent home for your foster. We are always delighted if you have found a home for them and if you do, we will have our adoption counselors finalize the necessary paperwork.

**CCHS is a privately funded, not-for-profit organization. All operating funds are received by the generosity of the public through individual donations, memorials, wills/bequests and fundraising. We receive no state or federal funding. Without donations from individuals like you and the help and support of our volunteers and foster families, we would not be able to provide for the animals. The more help we receive, the more animals we can help.**

**For all you do, the animals thank you!!**

# CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY



CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY  
HUMANE SOCIETY

100 YEARS OF CARING

## FOSTER PROGRAM

Contact Foster Coordinator:

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