

DOG FOSTER (DF) SCARED DOG PLACEMENT PROTOCOL

This placement protocol will be used for all dogs that are scared, feral, flight risks, small breeds known to be fearful, or dogs in need of extreme socialization.

1. The plea will include information regarding the dog's need for socialization and a foster home where they can be kept safely.
2. When a person comes forward in response to a plea for any of these types of dogs, the DF Placement Coordinator (DFPC) will reiterate the flight risk to the foster and ask the potential foster questions to make sure they can safely care for the dog. The DFPC needs to take into consideration our history with the foster parent, their housing situation, and their ability to work with the dog under the guidance of the Behavior Team.
3. Whenever possible these dogs will be placed with an experienced foster that has worked with this type of dog before. In general, a house with a secure fenced yard is preferable to a busy apartment complex, especially if the foster lives on an upper floor.
4. The DF Placement (DFP) Team will also take into consideration:
 - a. If this is a first time or inexperienced foster. If yes, extra precaution must be taken to make sure they understand the risks and steps necessary to avoid escape and/or further trauma.
 - b. If this foster has had a dog escape. If yes, we need to consider the circumstances and make a decision as to their ability to prevent another escape.
 - c. The foster parent's ability and willingness to work with the dog to address the behavior issues
5. The DFPC will confer with the DFP Team Lead (DFPL) to ensure it is an appropriate placement (if necessary, the DFPL will confirm with the Dog Foster Manager [DFM]).
6. The DFPC will email the [Dog Foster Scared Email](#) to the foster and instruct them that they must confirm that they will follow the protocols or they will not be able to take the foster dog.
7. The DFPC will also confirm that the dog has been microchipped. If not, the DFPL will confirm the dog is microchipped at the intake exam.
8. At the discretion of the DFPL, scared dogs may be labeled as needing a Behavior Consult (BC) and should not be placed with a foster prior to the foster receiving the BC (if a BC attribute is present).
- 9. If it is only discovered that the dog is a flight risk after transport to us, the DFPL will perform all the DFPC duties above.**
10. Scared dogs should be on a drag leash AT ALL TIMES.