



Assisted by  
**ANIMAL RESCUE CONNECTIONS**

## “FOSTER YOUR OWN RESCUE” PROGRAM

*(WORKING TOGETHER TO HELP GET YOUR CAT ADOPTED INTO A GOOD HOME)*

If you have rescued a cat or kitten, or you have a cat that needs a new home, you are probably searching for a no-kill shelter to take him/her in. Unfortunately, spaces in these shelters are hard to get because of the overload of strays in our area. No-kill shelters have spaces available when they achieve adoptions but you can wait a long time for your cat to get in (if ever). To help you help yourself, ARC has designed the “Foster Your Own Rescue” program. If you are willing to work alongside us, you can take advantage of the adoption system we have in place. This option requires your full involvement. ARC will help you get the cats ready for adoption and, when that is completed, you are encouraged to bring your foster cats and kittens to our adoption venues for Saturday and Sunday adoption showings. Temporary crates are set up in the Petco and PetSmart stores so potential adopters can visit with the adoptable cats.

Beth coordinates all of the adoption venues. If, after reading through the criteria, you are willing to do this, contact her to discuss taking part in the program. She will send you a Foster Contract to sign, and you will be included in the distribution list for coordination of adoption days. You also will receive a Medical Form that must accompany all vaccination certificates, etc. When your cat is ready (see requirements below), let Beth know which days you would like to bring your foster cat to adoptions to make sure a crate is available for that day. There are a limited number of crates so if your plans change, please let Beth know so that other fosters have the chance to bring their foster cats that day.

**Contact:** Beth Hemmen at bhemmen@satx.rr.com or 210-559-9655

### What to Bring

1. **Vetting paperwork:** To be eligible to attend an adoption event, your foster cat must appear and act healthy. He/She **MUST** be spayed/neutered, have the results of an FIV/FeLV blood test, and be current on all rabies and FVRCP (distemper, etc.) shots. Kittens under the age of 9 months must have records for at least TWO FVRCP shots. Your foster cat must have recently received both a flea and a worming treatment. If your foster cat is not current on these requirements, please make arrangements with your veterinarian or rescue contact before arranging to attend an adoption event. Vaccinations must be given at least 72 hours prior to cats coming to Petco or PetSmart.
  - **Cats testing positive for Feline Immunodeficiency Virus or Feline Leukemia Virus are NOT allowed at any adoption events.**
2. Your foster cat must be in a secure carrier.
3. An informational sheet (cage card) with detailed information about your foster cat will help adoptability and can be attached to the crate. Photos and the cage card info also will be used for posting on different websites.
4. (Optional) If your foster cat has a favorite toy, please bring that to help show his/her personality.

### What to Expect

1. You will need to provide both a good head shot and fully body photo for promoting your rescue. You also will need to complete a cage card. If your cat has ANY special needs, please make sure that “special needs” is designated on the cage card and that your paperwork explains these needs (medical, dietary, etc.).
2. You are expected to remain with your cat to answer questions and to assist the adoption counselor if she becomes overloaded and needs help. This can be flexible if the counselor is agreeable.
3. **You are expected to attend adoption events at least twice a month. The more your cat is seen at adoption events, the quicker he/she is likely to be adopted.**
4. If your foster cat or kitten gets adopted, ARC will split the adoption fee with you if requested.
5. If an adoption fails (i.e., an adopter returns the cat for any reason), you agree to take him/her back into your home to start the adoption process again. **If you are unable or unwilling to take the animal back after a failed adoption, please be aware that we can only assist the adopter on finding alternative options for rehoming.**

### Why should you bring your foster cat to an adoption event for the day?

- Increases your foster cat’s adoption opportunity significantly over social media listings where potential adopters are not able to meet your cat in person.

***We are happy to partner with you to save lives!***