



FOSTER FAMILY SURVIVAL KIT

**Please remember to always communicate with your foster coordinator.
It is very important to keep us informed as to what is happening with foster dogs!**

Board Members

**Natalie Banas
480-381-1281**

**James Becker
602-750-1611**

**Kara Langley
480-231-5913**

**Cheryl Becker
602-750-1612**

**Jessica Furman
845-492-1572**

**Kristie Taylor
480-239-2897**

Important Notes for Foster Families

1. Let Arizona Beagle Rescue know about all vet visits, meet and greets, etc...
directors@azbeaglerescue.com is the best email address to use for meet & greets, adoptions, etc.
2. Text/email both Cheryl and Natalie at fosterdog@azbeaglerescue.com prior to making vet appointments unless an EMERGENCY. AZBR does not cover nail trims, anal glands expressed, or dentals unless medically indicated. If you are willing to pay for nail trims, anal glands to be expressed, your foster dog would truly appreciate it.

Check with Natalie & Cheryl BEFORE filling any prescriptions. Many medications prescribed for dogs have a human equivalent. If a prescription is needed, please ask for a paper prescription. Websites such as goodrx.com have information on where the medication can be filled for the least amount of money.
3. Want to adopt your foster? Notify directors@azbeaglerescue.com **IMMEDIATELY**. Effective January 11, 2020, as long as there is no one on the adoption wait list who is looking for a beagle that matches the age and gender of the foster, then the foster family has 3 weeks to claim 'foster failure' and be first in line to adopt the beagle. After 3 weeks, the beagle will be made available for adoption. If the foster decides they want to adopt the dog after the 3 week period, they will be next in line after any other potential adopters as of that date. Thank you for understanding and respecting this delicate situation.
4. Do not leave your foster in the care of anyone else without specific permission from Arizona Beagle Rescue. Please email fosterdog@azbeaglerescue.com if you are in need of a sitter for your beagle and feel free to post in the AZBR Foster Families & Volunteers Facebook page.
5. Please keep the foster evaluation form updated. This evaluation is crucial when matching up beagles with potential adopters, as are cute pictures!

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Email: fosterdog@azbeaglerescue.com

Website: <http://www.azbeaglerescue.com>

FACEBOOK GROUP: AZBR FOSTER FAMILIES & VOLUNTEERS

MAIL: P.O. BOX 61193 PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85082-1193

VOICE MAIL: 623-977-1355 AND FAX: 602-606-8313

IRS TAX ID/EIN: 01-064624210



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6. AZBR Board of Directors (Texting is preferred and if it's something urgent, send a group text to all board members as many of us cannot access our phones during the day).

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When you are a new foster, it can be a little confusing about how to get your feet wet.

These steps will help navigate the waters:

1. Requests for Fosters

a. The intake coordinator tracks dogs that may be coming in. These beagles generally come from shelters and owner releases. The dogs coming from a shelter come with very little information as compared to owner releases. The shelter dogs also have to be brought in within 24 hours. Owner release dogs do not usually require such an immediate response and can be matched a little more with the foster home.

b. In most cases, the foster dogs will be entered into RescueFoster and matching families will get an email/text noting a potential match. This is why AZBR asked you to fill out your personal information and fostering availability at Rescuefoster.com. As a potential foster, you respond to the request via the website (click on the link in your text/email). We (intake and/or foster coordinator) will then reach out with specific details to arrange pickup. If it is determined that the dog is not the best fit for your family, we will move to the next available foster. Please do not arrange for pick up until instructed to do so by AZBR (intake and/or foster coordinator).

c. Foster requests will also be sent out regarding owner releases via the RescueFoster website (Rescuefoster.com). These requests can often include several beagles at a time. The intake coordinator will work to take all responses and match them, as much as possible, to the best beagle for each home.

d. Sometimes foster beagles need to be moved around for a variety of reasons, for example the foster and other dogs in the home may not get along or the foster may not be good with cats, etc. When this is needed, the foster coordinator will see if any foster home has mentioned availability and directly ask that foster. If not, a foster request will be sent out via RescueFoster. If there are potential issues arising, please give the foster coordinator as much time as possible to arrange for another foster. Special consideration can be made by the Board of Directors to evaluate if a boarding facility is an option.

e. Be on the lookout for an email invitation from AZ Beagle Google group and “Like” us on Facebook. Arizona Beagle Rescue has a Facebook Group dedicated to AZBR Foster Families and Volunteers. This is how we communicate upcoming adoption events, socials, updates, etc.

Fostering Procedures

1. Before bringing a foster dog into your home:

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A little preparation will help to make your fostering experience much more enjoyable.

- a. A number of the dogs that have come from County facilities have Kennel Cough (similar to a human cold). This is a contagious, non-fatal upper respiratory infection characterized by a gagging/retching cough. In order to protect your pets, we recommend vaccinating your pets against Bordetella (Kennel Cough). You can get this vaccination through your veterinarian or through one of the vaccination clinics at your local pet store.
- b. Dogs coming in to foster often have ticks. We recommend that the pets currently in your home receive a monthly flea and tick preventative.
- c. Consider where the foster dog will sleep and will stay while you are away. Given the temperament of your companion pets, do you expect any conflicts? If so, consider various ways in which you can separate the foster dog from your personal dogs or other pets. You may also want to consider where you can feed the foster dog separately until you determine that there is no food aggression. We highly recommend crate training your dog as this will give them a "safe place" of their own and can eliminate a lot of training issues. We have crates to lend you if you don't have one. Crate training will also help prepare your foster to be adopted into a home that may want to crate him/her.

2. When your foster dog arrives:

- a. If AZBR brings in a foster dog that is an owner release, AZBR may ask the owner to bring the dog's medical and vaccination records, proof of sterilization, AKC records, and all other paperwork related to the dog. Please mail all paperwork to: PO Box 61193, PHOENIX, AZ 85082-1193. If you have access to a fax or scanner, the paperwork can be faxed to 623-977-1355 to speed the process along. If you chose to mail the paperwork, please take a picture of each page of the paperwork and email them to fosterdog@azbeaglerescue.com prior to mailing (this will help expedite the intake process). Please also make sure the dogs name is clearly marked on all paperwork.
- b. If you are picking up or receiving a dog from a county shelter, you should receive paperwork with all of the dog's info, along with the dog's county license tag from the shelter. There will be two license tags. Please place one license tag on the dog's collar. Please mail all paperwork (after taking pictures of all pages) and extra license tag to: PO Box 61193, Phoenix, AZ 85082-1193 and make sure the dogs name is clearly marked on all paperwork. Again if you have access to a fax or scanner, the paperwork can first be faxed to 623-977-1355 to get the beagles moving toward their forever home more quickly.

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- c. Some of the dogs coming in from the county shelter have contracted Kennel Cough (see above). Severe cases are sometimes treated with antibiotics; milder cases are usually left alone or treated with over-the-counter cough medicine. Contact the Foster Coordinator for questions or concerns if you detect symptoms. If the foster dog has kennel cough then they should be quarantined for at least ten days and not taken to adoption events till they no longer show symptoms.
- d. Make sure that you have an AZBR tag for the foster dog as well as a collar and leash that the foster can use while staying with you (if you don't have any, please contact us as we do get some as donations). You will also receive via mail an AZBR tag for your foster dog. It is a good idea to also get an ID tag that says "being fostered by" with your information that you can use over and over on the dogs that you foster.
- e. The Foster Coordinator will send you an evaluation form. The evaluation form is what is used to gather as much information as possible about the beagle's behavior as well as tracking all medical needs. Everything you notice and learn about your foster needs to be included in this evaluation form. It should be continuously updated and sent back to the Foster Coordinator within 7-14 days.
- f. Vet appointments must be made at one of our Partner Vets under Arizona Beagle Rescue to ensure AZBR will be charged for the service. The vet will fax the invoice to AZBR. When at the vet any tests/procedures, blood work, etc., must be approved by the Foster Coordinator prior to treatment, or AZBR will not pay for the service. Tests/procedures that are not approved include bathing; nail trims, fecal tests or anal sac expression unless medically necessary. If your foster needs to see the vet for reasons other than updating their vaccines, please make sure the vet visit is approved first unless there is an emergency. Vet bills can be very costly to the rescue and we try to control expenses as best we can.
- g. If your foster requires spay/neuter surgery, you will be assigned a Partner Vet to use. AZBR does not require blood work prior to the surgery, so please decline if the vet asks. We do not spay puppies less than 6 months of age.
- h. Microchips are also required for all the beagles in our care before adoption. Please ask the vet to scan for an existing microchip before inserting one. If your foster needs a microchip, all of our partner vets should have ones specific to AZBR on hand.
- i. If you have a foster that is on continuing medication for things such as thyroid, Valley Fever, pain management, etc., please do not obtain a prescription for these items from the vet without approval from the Foster Coordinator. If the meds are available at a discount pharmacy (Target, Wal-Mart, Costco, etc.), we ask that you request a written prescription from the vet and have it filled. You can

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also check <http://www.goodrx.com/> to find the best possible price. Please check with your foster assistant to make sure. Please mail the prescription receipt and payment receipt to AZBR, PO Box 61193, Phoenix, AZ 85082-1193 for reimbursement. Also, AZBR receives discounted prescriptions via 800-PetMeds, and saves us considerable money each year.

- j. Your foster dog will be tested for Heartworm. If negative, heartworm prevention pills will be mailed to you. Please do not purchase from the vet. If your dog is heartworm positive, vet visits and treatment will take place at Desert View Animal Hospital in Phoenix (they are our heartworm experts).
- k. We recommend that you introduce the foster dog to your pets slowly and on neutral ground. One good idea is to take them for a walk together. The foster dog should come into the house at the same time as your dogs (just as if the foster is one of the pack).
- l. If your foster has ticks, we request that all foster families do some tick removal on the foster dog when he or she first arrives. Use tweezers, your hands, and/or a flea/tick comb and wear gloves. You can drop them in a cup of water mixed with Dawn dish soap or alcohol for easy disposal; the soap/alcohol kills them if they are still alive. Do not crush the tick. This isn't a fun job, but it is better to find them up front, than one by one throughout the house, and think how much better the dog will feel! Then you can apply a flea & tick preventative.
- m. We also ask that you give your foster dog a bath. We want your foster dog to put its best paw forward when meeting prospective families. If your foster dog has just been altered, you will be unable to immerse him/her in water for at least 10 days. You may choose to do a careful sponge bath, or use pet bathing wipes to clean him/her up.
- n. If there are behavior issues you are not sure how to handle, please email the Foster Coordinator ASAP. We have a few relationships with certified trainers that offer their services to our rescue. If there are any signs of aggression from your foster dog (other than the initial "adjustment" behaviors), you must inform the Foster Coordinator immediately. Aggressive behavior must be monitored closely, and it may require an immediate evaluation by our certified trainers.
- o. If you need to go out of town while you are fostering, the Foster Dog Coordinator will work directly with you to place your foster dog in a temporary foster home while you are away. This may involve some transportation on your part and coordination with the temporary foster home. Because our foster home space is limited, we ask for at least 2 weeks notice (more is better!) if you need AZBR to arrange for an alternate foster home for your foster dog - for vacation or any other reason. If you prefer to leave the foster dog with your regular pet sitter or boarding facility, you may work with the Foster Care Coordinator to do so. AZBR cannot reimburse you for this extra expense, but some

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foster families do this for their own convenience and are willing to bear this cost. This is entirely up to you.

3. Finding your foster dog a permanent home:

- a. As soon as possible after bringing your foster dog home, please take photos of him or her and send it to the Foster Dog coordinator at fosterdog@azbeaglerescue.com. The sooner we get a photo on the website, the sooner he or she will find a forever home.
- b. Expose your foster dog to a variety of situations. Once your dog has all vaccinations and is altered, take him or her to PetSmart or Petco, the dog park, one of AZBR's events and other places where he or she will encounter people and dogs of all shapes and sizes. Use common sense in introducing your foster dog to new situations, especially with children, unfamiliar pets, and strangers. Be prepared to remove the dog from the situation immediately if needed. As you do this, evaluate your foster dog's reactions and provide information to the Foster Coordinator and Adoption Coordinator that will help place the dog in the appropriate permanent home. These reactions will also need to be included on the evaluation form. Important information includes reaction to children, cats and other dogs; cute traits or habits; size; housebreaking information; personality; degree of training; and anything else that may be helpful to know about the dog.
- c. Taking your foster beagle to AZBR events is a wonderful way for people see and get to meet him/her. Many of our adopters come to AZBR this way. Please be careful about speaking to potential adopters about the availability of your foster dog. Adoption applications are approved in the order they are received/best match, and we cannot guarantee that a family who meets a dog at an event is the first applicant in line. Appropriate language to use would be "I DON'T KNOW IF THERE ARE ANY APPLICATIONS IN ON THIS ONE, BUT THERE IS A PLACE ON THE ADOPTION APPLICATION TO PUT THE NAME OF THE DOGS YOU ARE INTERESTED IN, SO YOU SHOULD COMPLETE THAT APPLICATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE". If you have any questions about your dog's availability, please contact fosterdog@azbeaglerescue.com.

4. Adoption Process:

- a. When the Home Visit Coordinator approves applicants, an email will be sent out to the foster families with the application and home visit notes. If you think your foster would be a potential match please reply to directors@azbeaglerescue.com
- b. Someone from the Board of Directors will then ask you to contact the potential adoptive family to set up a meet and greet. It is generally a good idea to have the meeting at a neutral location, such as a pet store. You are not responsible for driving the entire way to the potential adoptive family's

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- home – they can come in your direction, or meet you halfway. Please email directors@azbeaglerescue.com when you have set up a meet and greet.
- c. At the end of the meet and greet if you feel it's a good match, they may take the dog home that day. Adopters will need to pay the adoption fee either by check or online at <http://tinyurl.com/azbradoptionfee>. Adopters will also need to sign a Foster to Adopt Form; you can sign as the AZBR rep (please print and bring with you). Please also take a "family picture" for AZBR to post online.
 - d. Please let the adopter know someone from AZBR will be following up with them after a week or so, and if all is going well, AZBR will send them the official adoption contract and dog records.
 - e. If for any reason you don't think it's a good match, follow your gut! Tell the family a representative from AZBR will be in touch with them in 24-48 hours regarding the adoption of their new family member.
 - f. Please mail/fax/scan one copy of the signed adoption contract to AZBR PO Box 61193, Phoenix, AZ 85082-1193, along with the adoption fee payment. If you chose to mail the paperwork, please take pictures of the paperwork and email them to fosterdog@azbeaglerescue.com.

Foster Home Responsibilities

Being a foster home is a very rewarding and sometimes challenging experience. Below we have outlined some important points about fostering for Arizona Beagle Rescue (AZBR).

1. Provide a safe, loving, fenced environment for AZBR dogs under your care.
2. It is mandatory that your foster beagle is never off their leash except in secure, fenced areas. We highly recommend not taking your foster beagle on vacations (especially camping trips) because there are many opportunities for them to get lost and it would be difficult to search for them.
3. Keep your own dogs up-to-date on vaccinations, including: Distemper and Parvo. Bordetella (kennel cough) vaccination and a flea and tick preventative are also highly recommended.
4. Please give your foster dog 7-10 days to adjust to his/her new environment and expect the unexpected. Due to the fact that most of our dogs come from various shelters, AZBR will generally have little or no information about the dog's history, including housebreaking. Dogs coming from

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the shelter are often scared, tired, and anxious. Therefore, there may be accidents in the house or other negative behaviors initially. AZBR has found that the dog's true personality will slowly emerge over the first couple of weeks. Be sure to monitor your foster dog's behavior and give him/her space and distance as needed.

5. If your foster needs food, a crate, thunder vest etc. please communicate with the foster coordinator. We have these items in our storage unit in Tempe. Arrangements can be made for pick up or delivery.
6. Alert the AZBR Foster Coordinator if the dog appears to need medical care. AZBR covers veterinary costs through our contracted partner vets (list of partner vets will be provided to you).
7. Alert AZBR if you are unable to continue fostering a dog. Please give AZBR as much time as possible so an appropriate backup can be found.
8. Provide good quality photos of the foster dog and send to Foster Coordinator (fosterdog@azbeaglerescue.com). These photos are posted on the website, so should be "cute", show the dog clearly, and show the dog's best side.
9. If you are unable to transport your foster dog to AZBR events, be open to an AZBR volunteer picking the dog up for events, adoption or introduction to a new family.

Items of Note for Foster Homes

1. As a foster, it is likely that you will get very attached to your foster dog. We highly value your insight as you probably know the dog better than anyone else in the organization and the Board of Directors will take your recommendations into consideration when matching your foster dog with their potential forever home.
2. AZBR highly recommends crate training for both the health/safety of the dog and the sanity of the foster family. We have a few loaner crates, if you do not have one. We can provide tips on crate training if you are not familiar with the process.
3. Due to our limited financial resources, AZBR is unable to provide reimbursement for any damage a foster dog may do to your home or yard.
4. Dogs can take anywhere from a few weeks to a few months to be placed. The average is 2-3 months; while older, very mixed breed, or special needs dogs may take longer. The sooner you

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complete the Foster Dog Evaluation Form, the sooner we can start looking for a forever home for your foster.

What do I do if my foster dog gets out of my possession?

1. **CONTACT AZBR IMMEDIATELY** (see page 1 for contact information for Board of Directors).
 - a. Please text all AZBR Board Members and make sure you hear back from someone. This will ensure that someone is guaranteed to be notified as we are all volunteers and have various work schedules.
2. Post missing dog on YOUR social media including time/date/location dog went missing.
 - a. AZBR will post to AZBR website/lost dogs az/ straydar
 - b. If you have the nextdoor app please post here too
3. Contact/Visit Maricopa Animal Care & Control (East or West location depending where you live) or Pinal County Animal Care & Control.
4. One additional way that lost dogs can be tracked down is by way of trained scent dogs. For the scent dogs to be successful, they must be able to 'isolate' the scent of an individual dog, which can be difficult if there are multiple dogs in the household. So, here are some tips for getting a scent article prepared and saved so that if such a scent item is ever needed, it's already collected.

Please do this for every foster as soon as they come into your care! (In other words, please do it ASAP for dogs currently in your care!). We strongly recommend that you do it for your personal dogs too!

 - a. The search dogs work from cotton scent pads - cotton balls are fine, or makeup remover pads. BUT they must be cotton, and they must not have any additives (eucalyptus, baby oil, aloe vera, etc.). For each pet, take 4 or 5 cotton balls or makeup remover pads, and wipe them down with the cotton. Get their lips, their ears, their bellies. Scrub them down well, and even clip a little hair, if you want. Label the bag with the animal's name, and throw it in the back of the freezer and forget about it.

Revised January 2020

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