



**BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE
NAPLES, FLORIDA**

WWW.SAVEAGERMANSHEPHERD.ORG

Email Application To: adopt@saveagermanshepherd.org

Date: _____

FOSTER APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Home: _____

Work: _____

Cell: _____

Can we contact you at your work telephone: yes no

Email Address: _____

**BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE
501(C)(3) NONPROFIT CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION)**

FOSTER GUIDELINES/APPLICATION

Please carefully review the following guidelines, in addition to the Foster Agreement you will be asked to sign. Foster families are the backbone to developing and rehabilitating our rescues. We cannot exist as a rescue without your assistance and willingness to bring needy German Shepherds into your home until Fur-ever homes become available. Fosters have our undying gratitude and my deepest respect and admiration. There are never enough foster homes to go around, so each is precious to BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE and the German Shepherds we are trying to save.

We want your fostering experience to be a positive and productive experience, not only for you and your family, but also for our rescued dog. We are always available should you have questions or concerns while you are fostering a dog for us. Please be sure you understand fully the scope of our foster application before bringing a foster dog home:

1. Arrange to introduce the new animal to your own pet(s), if you have them, outside on neutral territory. We can assist with this should you require it. Once inside, it is best to situate the foster animal in a crate at first, and introduce him/her gradually to other household members. Do not try to make the foster an immediate part of your family. Let him/her settle into the new place, and help him/her learn the rules of the house as soon as possible. Never let the foster take over and place your own animals at risk or under stress.
2. Use a training collar or martingale collar to walk a foster so he/she cannot slip out of the collar. A dog can easily slip out of a flat collar, which should be worn for identification purposes only. The training collar should be used only for walking and training and should be removed after the session. Keep the training collar attached to the leash at all times. If you do not know how to put the collar on properly, please check with Director of BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE

3. If you find prospective adopters for your foster on your own, please make them aware of the application process, as well as the BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE requirements and adoption donation. Please make sure you understand the adoption application process, and notify BCGSR if you have a potential adopter contact you. The BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE screens applicants very carefully. First, the written application is evaluated. Next, a reference check both personal and professional checks, a veterinary check is made for all animals the prospective adopter owns or has owned. If the application, vet check and reference checks are good, a home visit is scheduled. If the adoption is then approved, a contract is signed, and an adoption donation is provided by the adopters. The donation amount varies per animal.

Please keep some clean applications and rescue marketing material on hand, or have the capacity to print them from the website, to give to prospective adopters. Remember that not every prospective adopter is approved, and sometimes other applications may be pending.

4. Before taking a foster, ask about the animal's age, gender, temperament, behavior, and why he/she is in need of adoption. Find out to the best of your ability and ours if he/she is a stray, from a shelter, a private surrender, a victim of abuse or neglect, etc. Share any observations you might get on your own with Michelle Delaney.

5. Never turn over a foster to someone who claims it is his/her lost pet! This person could be mistaken, or he/she could be deliberately trying to mislead you. The animal could have been removed from his/her former home for all kinds of reasons. The claimant could well have mistreated the animal. Report any such claims to Michelle Delaney immediately, and we will investigate.

6. If necessary, BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE can lend you a crate, an appropriate collar and leash. Whenever you transport any animal, make certain you have him/her on a leash, with a training and flat collar. (If you plan to foster on a regular basis, it would be a great help to BCGSR if you could pick up an extra crate!) Make sure the dog has ample room to move around when choosing the proper size.

7. BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE provides food for fostered dogs. Some pet stores will donate food for foster dogs, so it is worth contacting your local pet stores like Petsmart, Petco, or small businesses and ask for donations for your fostered dog. If you start to run low on food, please give BCGSR 48 hours notice that you need to pick up another bag of food, and we will arrange a time to do so. Foster families typically provide extra toys and treats for their foster animals, with no reimbursement from BCGSR. Fosters may also be asked to participate in transporting animals or assisting in house checks.

8. If your foster animal becomes ill or gets hurt, contact Michelle Delaney immediately. BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE covers medical expenses, but I MUST authorize treatments and medications before they are administered, and I must also approve the veterinarian who will be doing the work. In emergency cases, when every moment could mean the difference between life or death, do not hesitate to take the animal to a vet immediately or to an emergency clinic if after regular vet hours. We will work out emergency expenses. The important thing is to do everything possible to save the animal in distress. Know where your closest vet and emergency center are located before you foster any animal, or ask BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE. Keep the numbers and directions easily accessible. The time to search is not when you are holding a sick or injured animal in your arms.

9. Please be cautious of what you tell potential adopters. Avoid giving advice and criticism. Please avoid answering any questions with absolutes, and never answer any question you are not sure about. Ask for assistance from BCGSR when you don't know something. Tell inquirers you will get back to them as soon as possible, or share the contact information for the rescue with them. Always recommend that potential adopters do as much reading about German Shepherds, adoption in general, obedience training, and special needs of the breed.

10. If you have any hesitations or peculiar feelings or "bad vibes" about potential adopters, DO NOT ALLOW IT TO GO FORWARD! Say the final decision is not yours to make, and we will get back to them as soon as possible. Discuss your concerns with Michelle Delaney. You do not have to take the heat for your instincts, but I have

learned through experience that it is best to go with them. Try to determine what is giving you pause or making you wary, and take note of it.

11. Be very familiar with the regulations and policies of BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE. Please carefully read the adoption application, and be aware of special needs your particular foster dog may have (medical conditions, behavioral issues, etc.) Most of all, remember that no one can be approved until their application is deemed acceptable, the vet check is satisfactory, and a home visit is completed. If the adopters are approved, the adoption contract must be signed -- by the adopter(s) and by a BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE representative -- with all information carefully filled out and checked by you. Adopters must provide the non-refundable donation to BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE either before taking possession of the dog or upon taking possession of the dog.

12. You are taking full responsibility for the rescue be whether its in your home or out in public. You will not hold Big Cypress German Shepherd Rescue liable for any actions, while in your care. Please remember that your actions are a direct reflection on Big Cypress German Shepherd Rescue.

Any further questions should be directed to Michelle Delaney 239-777-0853

FAMILY INFORMATION



This information is important to us to try and ensure that your foster pet is a suitable match for your family / home.

Adults: _____ Children: _____ Ages of children: _____
Dogs: _____ Cats: _____ Age/Sex/Breed of other pets: _____ Other Pets: (list types) _____

Do you have other children or pets that regularly come to your home? Yes No

Explain circumstances (i.e. Family, babysitting, etc):

What type of residence do you have? _____

Do you: Own Lease Rent

If you rent, do you have the landlord's permission to foster a pet? Yes No

If you are renting, please provide us with a copy of the pet policy from your lease. _____ (initial)

Landlords Name/Telephone: _____

How long have you lived at your current address? _____ HOA: _____

Do you have breed restrictions in your HOA? Yes No

Please provide a copy of your HOA pet policy and restrictions. _____ (initial)

Do you have a fenced in yard? Yes No

Please describe your fence: _____



FOSTERING INFORMATION

Do you have any special requirements/circumstances that we should be aware of? (Health conditions, schedules, upcoming vacations, etc.)

Do you have time limit on how long you can foster a particular pet? Yes No If so, how long?

Do you have previous experience with German Shepherd Dogs? Yes No

Please describe: _____

Are you willing to foster a previously abused German Shepherd? Yes No

Are you willing to foster a German Shepherd with medical needs? Yes No

Are there any times of the year that you could not foster? Yes No If so, when?

Would you be willing to bring the dog to an adoption event? Yes No

Are you willing to be financially responsible for your foster Dog, except for veterinarian expenses?

Would you be agreeable to a home visit by one of our volunteers? Yes No

What age German Shepherd do you want to foster? Dog Puppy Geriatric Any

How long will the dog be left alone during the day? _____

Where will the dog be while you are not home? _____

If necessary, would you be able to check on the dog during the work day? Yes No

Do you crate train? Yes No

How do you plan to exercise the dog? (i.e. leash walk, fenced yard):

Do you have any experience with dog training? Circle all that apply:

Housetraining Crate Training Obedience Training Behavioral

Are you willing to take a dog to obedience training if needed, and provide documentation? Yes No

Your new foster pet will take time to adjust to you, the new environment, other pets and new routines. What do you consider to be a reasonable adjustment period? _____

Please describe how you would handle your foster dog not getting along with other pets:



VETERINARY INFORMATION

Please provide the following information so we can contact your current (or past) veterinarian.

Are you established with a veterinarian? Yes No

Vet Name _____ Phone Number: _____

Address _____

Length of time you have used this vet's services _____

Would your vet would consider giving a discount for treatment of a rescued animal while in foster care?

Please note that all pets that you currently have in the home must be up to date on their vaccinations and be spayed or neutered to be considered for fostering. If there is a medical reason why they are not spayed or neutered, please specify reason:

Please list 3 personal references that have knowledge of your experience with animals/fosters and their phone number:

1: _____
2: _____
3: _____

Please list 2 professional references (other than your veterinarian) and their phone number:

1. _____
2. _____

How did you hear about us? _____

Please share with us any particular reasons you are interested in fostering:

Any other comments or questions you'd like to add?

Please read and certify the following: By signing this form, I certify that all the information in this application is true, and I understand that false information may void this application. I agree that upon fostering a dog for Big Cypress German Shepherd Rescue, I will agree and abide by their foster agreement and rescue policies.

Signature

Date

BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE
A 501(C)(3) NONPROFIT CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION

FOSTER AGREEMENT

This agreement is made and entered into this day, _____ of _____, 20____, between Big Cypress German Shepherd Rescue, (BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE or BCGSR) and the following individual(s), hereinafter "Foster," _____. This agreement is valid for any future animals in Foster's care on behalf of BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE, whereas the Foster wishes to foster one or multiple dogs for the BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE. This agreement holds binding for any and all future dogs fostered for the BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE, even if there is a hiatus between fostering. Therefore, for good and valuable consideration, the parties to the agreement agree as follows: (Foster to initial each line)

_____ Foster will provide compassionate and loving care for whatever dog is taken into the home for as long as necessary until the dog has been successfully placed in a permanent home. This care includes -- but is not limited to-- adequate food, water, shelter, and medication when required.

_____ Foster will carefully review the Foster Guidelines provided by BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE and will ask any necessary clarifying questions before taking any dogs into his/her care.

_____ Foster will promptly address any matters of concern to Michelle Delaney.

_____ Foster will be patient and tolerant during the transition period (which can last from a few days to a few months).

_____ Foster is prepared to work with the dog on basic training, such as housebreaking.

_____ Foster will keep the dog primarily inside the home; the dog will not be outside without restraint and proper adult supervision.

_____ Foster will notify BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE if any medical treatment becomes necessary during the time caring for the dog and will see that the dog gets necessary medical treatment as soon as he/she needs it.

_____ Foster will not hesitate to provide necessary emergency care.

_____ Foster will advise BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE of any medical expenses over and above the standard care BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE provides (all routine vaccinations, spaying or neutering, heart-worm test, worming) .

_____ Foster will not authorize veterinary treatments, procedures, or medications without the direct approval and authorization of Michelle Delaney.

_____ Foster will make certain to administer monthly heartworm preventative to the dog. If Foster cannot donate the medication, BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE will provide it.

_____ Foster will make certain that the dog is wearing a collar that securely fits and that a proper identification tag is securely fastened to the collar with a readable name and phone number on the tag.

_____ Foster will immediately notify BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE of any problems or difficulties resulting from taking care of the dog.

_____ Foster agrees to keep the dog leashed outside whenever he/she is not in a securely fenced area.

_____ Foster will not tie or chain the dog in the yard.

_____ Foster will never strike or choke the dog in an attempt to discipline.

_____ Foster will never leave the dog outside in a yard or elsewhere without adequate adult supervision.

_____ Foster will not allow strange or unknown people or animals to approach the dog without being in full control of the dog and the situation.

_____ Foster understands and accepts that prospective adopters may wish to visit the dog before adopting him/her.

_____ Fosters are willing to allow people to meet the dog either at his/her home or at a mutually convenient place.

_____ Foster understands and accepts that the dog s are and shall remain the sole property of BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE. Foster further understands and acknowledges that Foster does not have any right or authority to keep or place the foster dog in other homes or with other individuals. Moving the dog or placing him/her in permanent homes can only be done with the full knowledge and approval of Michelle Delaney.

_____ Foster understands and accepts that BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE makes no representations or warranties concerning the health, temperament, behavior and/or previous ownership of the dog.

_____ Foster agrees to indemnify and hold harmless BIG CYPRESS GERMAN SHEPHERD RESCUE from any direct or consequential damages arising out of this foster care agreement. This includes any and all manner of actions and causes of actions, suits, debts, dues, accounts, bonds, covenants, agreements, judgments, claims, and demands whatsoever arising out of or relating to the adoption, placement, and/or possession of the dog.

Foster Applicant's Signature _____ Date: _____

Foster Co-Applicant's Signature _____ Date: _____

Big Cypress German Shepherd Rescue Representative Signature _____

Date: _____