

**\*If you are interested in becoming a foster parent, and/or a foster captain, foster medical captain or a foster behavioral captain please contact Maggie O’Neill (foster coordinator) at [moneill@nycacc.org](mailto:moneill@nycacc.org) – include your home and email address, all telephone numbers and your experience working with animals. Alternatively, if you know anyone that you think would be interested in volunteering in any of these capacities, please ask them to contact Maggie as well.\***

## **Animal Care Foster Rescue**

Our goal is to have Animal Care Foster Rescue to function as an internal rescue within AC&C. We are trying to get whatever animals that cannot be placed by New Hope out of the shelter and into foster homes (this includes, but is not limited to: bottle babies, young kittens, nursing moms, pits, mixed breed dogs, senior or geriatric animals, sick animals and paired animals.)

We are trying to maintain and vastly increase our database of foster parents with responsible and dedicated individuals – our main goal with each foster animal is to have that animal fostered until a permanent home is found. Each foster parent is encouraged to find an adoptive home through their own avenues (but all adoptions are done through AC&C) and through our adoptions events. Eventually, we hope to have a section on the website with pictures and description of each animal that is in foster care that will also help with adoptions.

## **Foster Captains**

Foster captains are volunteers who cannot physically foster an animal, or experienced foster parents that are comfortable assisting other foster parents.

Foster captains will act as a liaison between foster parents and Maggie O’Neill and Sarah Brown. They are available to field general questions from foster parents and sometimes research the best answer/solution. Foster captains assist our foster parents find permanent adoptive homes for their foster animals by post listings, assisting at adoption events and generally getting the “word” out to potential permanent adoptive homes. Foster captains may also assist the foster program with checking potential foster parent references and assist in finalizing adoptions once the foster animal finds a permanent home.

Foster captains are essential to keep an open and positive line of communication between AC&C and our foster parents – we don’t want any foster parents feeling as if they’ve received a foster animal, and are on their own in taking care of the animal and finding it a home. Foster captains can help foster parents feel comfortable, in control and know that AC&C is with them every step of the way. The most foster captains we are able to recruit, the less phone calls any single foster captain will receive.

## **Foster Medical Captains**

Foster medical captains consist of our head vet technicians at each of the AC&C shelters, and various other volunteers with veterinary experience (within AC&C and from outside of the organization.) Foster medical captains should alert Maggie O'Neill or Sarah Brown to any emergency situations and/or add a memo to the animal's record.

Foster medical captains field telephone calls from our foster parents with medical questions. They answer medical questions for foster parents and help deal with any medical emergencies. Foster medical captains can help keep Maggie O'Neill and Sarah Brown apprised of any emergency situations that may occur. Again, many foster parents will be more comfortable with fostering if they know they have access to someone that can answer medical questions – and the more foster medical captains we have, the less phone calls any single foster medical captain will receive.

## **Foster Behavioral Captains**

Foster behavioral captains consist of AC&C's canine enrichment facilitators and behaviorists, and various other volunteers with animal training or behavioral experience (within AC&C and from outside of the organization.) Foster behavioral captains should alert Maggie O'Neill or Sarah Brown to any emergency situations and/or add a memo to the animal's record.

Foster behavioral captains field telephone calls from our foster parents with behavioral questions (i.e. helping fix fears, housetraining, barking, socialization questions, etc.) They can help keep Maggie O'Neill and Sarah Brown apprised of any severe (or fixed!) behavioral issues that arise with the foster animals. They can also assist the foster parent in determining what type of home is best for that foster animal by helping “diagnose” certain behavioral issues. Again, many foster parents will be more comfortable with fostering if they know they have access to someone that can answer behavioral questions – and the more foster behavioral captains we have, the less phone calls any single foster behavioral captain will receive.