



FOSTER CARERS NEEDED!

Shar Pei Rescue Inc. is in need of foster carers in VIC & NSW to assist us in our efforts to save needy Shar Pei. Without our foster carers, Shar Pei Rescue Inc. would not be able to do the work it does ; they are the very heart of the organisation. If you think you can help SPR Inc. out by becoming a foster carer, please r fill out an online application form (click [here](#))- we would love to hear from you!

Foster Caring - Frequently Asked Questions

Becoming a Foster Parent

What will I be responsible for as a foster parent for SHAR PEI Rescue Inc?

Foster homes are extremely important in the operation of SHAR PEI Rescue inc. At this time, SPR Inc does not operate any kind of shelter or kennel, and so we rely on foster homes for the temporary housing and care of the dogs that come into our program. We are also limited in the number of dogs that we can take in by the number of available foster homes that we have, so the need for additional foster homes is always ongoing.

Foster homes provide such information as whether or not the dog gets along with other dogs, cats, children, etc. and other behavioural observations. They also give the dogs their first opportunity to have a loving caregiver, something many of our dogs have never had. Using the information provided by the foster home, we are able to then screen potential adopters to find the right one for the dog as well as give the adopting family as much information about the dog as possible.

We ask that foster homes provide regular reports to the SPR Inc committee regarding behaviour and temperament observations, provide reinforcement of basic obedience commands, as well as provide love and security to dogs who have just left what was probably a very traumatic experience.

What will SPR Inc provide for my foster dog?

SPR Inc covers all veterinary costs for the dogs in our program with the requirement that foster homes use the vets that SPR Inc has developed a relationship and has an agreement with. We ask that foster homes provide a high quality food and toys for their foster dog and anything else that they feel inclined to provide, but food and other supplies will also be provided by SPR Inc if the foster home requests it. Heartworm and flea preventative are also provided for by SPR Inc.

How long will I be expected to foster a SPR Inc dog?

SHAR PEI Rescue Inc requires that dogs remain in foster homes for a minimum of three weeks for evaluation and observation, but the actual placement length depends on the particular dog. Healthy, young dogs may only be in the foster home for a few weeks while dogs in poor physical condition when entering rescue may be in the home longer as they convalesce. Other factors affecting the length of foster placement may be the age of the dog and the number and quality of adoption applicants. We understand that foster home situations may unexpectedly change; so when necessary, we move our foster dogs at the first available opportunity when required.

Do I have to have a fenced yard to be a foster for SPR Inc?

SPR Inc does require that a foster home have a fenced yard. Puppy mill dogs and dogs from other situations are sometimes what we consider a "flight risk" and so are more secure in a fenced yard. All SPR Inc foster dogs must be harnessed and leashed when outside in an unfenced area.

Who chooses which dog(s) I will foster?

SPR Inc does everything possible to match the right foster dog with the right foster home. The NEW SPR Inc foster application asks a series of questions as well as includes a place to list your preferences for the dog you will foster. SPR Inc then utilises that information to make the best possible match.

What kind of training will I receive as a foster parent?

As part of our new foster care program, foster parents will soon be given a Foster Handbook that includes a lot of information and guidelines that are useful when fostering a SPR Inc dog. At the moment this information is provided by point form via email. New foster parents will also be assigned a mentor to assist the new foster parent/foster family. SPR Inc committee members are also always available by telephone or email to answer any questions or help with any problems or situations that arise.

What if I want to adopt my foster dog?

The purpose of a foster home is to provide a loving and safe environment for a dog that has, most often, been literally pulled from death's door. The ultimate goal is to prepare the dog for its forever home. For every foster dog that is adopted by its foster family, that is one less foster placement opening for future dogs needing to come in to rescue.

SPR Inc understands, however, that sometimes the bond that develops between a dog and its foster family is a forever one. In those cases and after discussion with the SPR Inc committee, foster families will be allowed to adopt their foster dogs. A foster contract will be signed, and the appropriate adoption donation will be required, based upon the dog's age.

I understand and want to be a SPR Inc foster parent. What do I do next?

Contact us!!! Fill out the form at the top of the page linked and give us as much information about your home life as you can think of. Who lives in the house? What ages? What other animals? Where will the dog sleep? How often and in what way will the dog be exercised? Basically anything you feel you can offer the dog we would LOVE to know of!