

# ANIMAL INTAKE POLICY

## I. Mission Statement and Geographic Focus

The primary mission of our organization is the rescue, rehabilitation, and rehoming of canines. While we aim to assist wherever possible, our organizational priority is the rescue of dogs from **states with high euthanasia rates (e.g., Texas)**. By focusing on these high-risk areas, we aim to provide a second chance to adoptable animals facing immediate threat of euthanasia due to shelter overpopulation.

## II. Species and Diversity

- **Canines:** Our primary area of operation and expertise.
- **Secondary Species:** We occasionally accept **cats and rabbits** on a case-by-case basis. Acceptance is strictly contingent upon the availability of specialized foster homes and resources.

## III. Intake Sources

- **Shelter Partners:** Priority is given to dogs in high-kill facilities with urgent "exit dates."
- **Owner Surrenders:** We accept owner surrenders on a **case-by-case basis**. Acceptance depends on current foster capacity, the dog's temperament, and the organization's ability to meet the animal's specific needs.

## IV. Priority Behavioral Criteria

To maximize the success of our placements and ensure the safety of our foster families, we prioritize the intake of dogs that demonstrate the following traits:

- **Child-Friendly:** Safe and comfortable around children of various ages.
- **Dog-Friendly:** Socialized and capable of living with other canines.
- **Cat-Friendly:** Non-reactive or safe to live with feline companions.

## V. Safety Exclusions

For the protection of our volunteers, fosters, and the general public, the following animals are **ineligible** for intake:

- **Known Aggression:** Any animal displaying unprovoked or severe redirected aggression toward humans or other animals.
- **Bite History:** Any dog with a documented record of biting a person or another animal.

*Note: All potential intakes are subject to a behavioral assessment. If a history of aggression or a bite incident is discovered during or after intake, the organization reserves the right to transfer or return the animal.*

## **VI. Medical Needs Intake**

We are committed to helping animals with medical challenges (chronic conditions, manageable illnesses, or injuries) under the following conditions:

1. **Financial Resources:** The organization must have the specific liquid funds or dedicated donations to cover all projected veterinary and rehabilitation expenses.
2. **Specialized Foster Care:** A foster home capable of administering required medical care, medication, or post-operative support must be available.

## **VII. Intake Process**

1. **Inquiry:** Submission of a formal Surrender or Shelter Pull request.
2. **Records Review:** Submission of all known veterinary and behavioral history.
3. **Assessment:** Temperament evaluation.
4. **Final Decision:** Approval is granted based on the alignment of the animal's needs with our current funding and foster availability.