

WOULD YOU CONSIDER BECOMING A BTRNC FOSTER HOME?

Fostering is a very challenging, yet hugely rewarding experience that is shared by the entire family. The dogs in our program require loving, stable environments that will provide the training and rehabilitation they need to prepare them for their forever homes.

Many of the dogs that come to our rescue are owner surrenders, strays or are from local shelters. Many have been neglected and/or abused and lack proper medical care. Often, we do not know the dog's history or personality. Some dogs need house breaking or crate training, one may need to recover from surgery or injury, and another may need time to build the confidence and trust stripped from him at the hands of a cruel owner. We cannot save and rehabilitate these dogs without your participation in our foster program; foster families are an integral link in the rescue process. The BTRNC volunteers recognize the importance of having qualified foster homes available for our constant influx of dogs. Therefore, I encourage you to learn more about how your family can help.

What do I do if my foster dog escapes, is lost or stolen?

Notify the following BTRNC Lost/Stolen Emergency Dog Contact:

Betsy Myers 336 339 4368

How do we become a designated foster home?

We require that you complete a foster home application and sign a foster home agreement indicating that you comply with the terms of the contract. We also conduct reference and veterinary checks and do a home visit. The purpose of the home visit is to validate that your home will in fact provide a haven for a foster dog. We also like to meet with your family face to face to get to know each other. Once all this is completed and reviewed by the foster committee, we work towards placing a foster dog in your home.

If we do not live in MD, NC, SC, VA, or GA, can we still become a foster home?

We generally do not maintain foster homes outside the above five state area. However, this determination will be made on a case-by-case basis. If you are interested in fostering and live in other than MD, NC, SC, VA, and GA, please contact Betsy Myers.

Can any home be a foster home?

No, not every home is qualified to be a foster home. We screen all applicants very carefully and attempt to identify risk factors early in the screening process. Families that commercially breed dogs or do not provide their pets proper veterinary care such as rabies vaccines and heartworm prevention are not suitable for our program. We assess each application on its own merit because we know that each family is unique, but the bottom line is that we must protect the dog's well-being and safety.

Why must we sign a foster contract?

BTRNC considers rescue and improving overall animal welfare a very important mission. As a foster home, you contract to uphold BTRNC's policies. If a foster home cannot or will not comply with BTRNC policies, the dog will be removed from the foster home. The BTRNC foster application/contract is a legal document and will be treated as such. Therefore, a signature is required.

Must we have a fenced yard?

It depends on the dog. Some dogs will require a fenced yard while others do not. Those that do not need a fenced yard will need to be kept on a leash at all times. Additionally, an electronic/invisible fence or the use of shock collars for containment or training is strictly forbidden.

Can we be a foster home even if we have small children?

Yes. Many of our foster homes have children. However, the home must provide a safe and stable, low stress environment for the foster dog. This is often impossible when there are multiple small children in the home. Applicants with children under 5 years of age will be considered on a case-by-case basis. We consider the unique characteristics of each applicant's home and family and how that situation would fit with the health and behavior of each dog to find the best fit for all. No one guideline/rule fits all situations the same

Must we own our home?

No, ownership is not a requirement of fostering. However, if you rent, BTRNC does require a copy of your rental agreement. BTRNC will not pay for any pet fees the landlord may levy for having additional animals.

How long a foster period must we commit for?

There is no predetermined time limit associated with fostering. Some foster dogs are adopted very quickly while others remain in the program for months. In some rare cases, a foster dog may never get adopted. BTRNC will work with each family on a case-by-case basis if the family becomes unable to keep their foster dog.

What happens if the foster dog and our home do not fit well together?

BTRNC will not leave a foster dog in an environment that is high risk for the dog or the family members. Foster families are encouraged to advise Betsy Myers if they are having difficulty integrating the foster dog into the home.

Are we responsible for vet bills?

No, BTRNC pays all vet bills for the foster dog. However, if a vet bill is incurred because of non-compliance with our foster contract or gross negligence, BTRNC may require the foster family assist in the payment of expenses.

What are we financially responsible for?

Foster families are responsible for daily life expenses such as food, bedding, accessories, and toys. BTRNC considers these items a non-tax exempt donation to the rescue.

Do foster dogs bite?

Biting behavior does occur when animals are in strange and new situations. Fear biting is not uncommon in foster dogs. There is no situation in which we can guarantee a dog will not bite so being observant and familiar with your foster dog is very important.

Once approved, how is a foster dog chosen for our family?

Once BTRNC has screened your application and coordinated your home visit, we will screen incoming dogs for suitability in your home. You and a BTRNC representative will discuss the dog's origins and behaviors and collectively choose a dog that appears to fit. Unless the foster family is a veteran home experienced with many animals, every attempt will be made to put a dog without substantial behavioral problems in a first-time foster home.

Does BTRNC guarantee the behavior of the foster dog?

Foster dogs have unknown histories, and their behaviors cannot be guaranteed. It is up to the foster family to employ control measures and take action to manage their home. Integrating a dog into your home properly is very important. Remember, the dog looks to you for structure and control. The foster parent must be the leader.

Must we administer heart worm and flea/tick preventive?

BTRNC requires all foster dogs be given preventives unless the vet has determined the dog's health conditions precludes it. The rescue will pay for the purchase of the heart worm/flea tick preventative from a veterinary practice. Approval must be granted by Betsy Myers if you prefer to purchase from any other source..

What if the foster dog needs to go to the vet?

Routine vet care is coordinated in advance with Betsy Myers by phone or email. Emergency vet care is coordinated, while at the clinic, by phone with Betsy Meyers.

Must the foster dog wear a harness at all times?

No, only when going outdoors.

Must the foster dog wear ID tags at all times?

Yes. Three tags: rabies, microchip, and BTRNC ID.

Must the foster dog be crate and house trained by us?

Yes, we strongly encourage you to crate and house train the foster dog. Many of our intakes already are trained but some need this training. A dog that is house and crate trained stands a much better chance of adoption than one that is not.

Do we have to purchase a crate for the foster dog?

Not necessarily. BTRNC may have an extra crate to lend or BTRNC may purchase a crate for the foster dog. Also, the foster family may purchase a crate and will have it for future foster dogs.

What do we have to do to get our foster dog ready for adoption?

The foster dog must be rehabilitated or socialized to the point that he/she is expected to do well in a forever home. All veterinary requirements must be accomplished: vaccines, micro-chip, alter, and treatment of acute illness/injury. Chronic illness/injury must also be addressed and documented. After approximately two weeks, we will ask you to complete a bio form for the dog and to take several good pictures. We will use that information to post your foster dog on our website/FB, etc., to facilitate adoption.

May we source adoption applicants for our foster dog?

Yes, the more adoption applicants BTRNC approves, the more dogs get adopted. Please send those interested in adoption to our website www.BTRNC.org to complete an adoption application.

What happens to the foster dog when we go on vacation?

The foster family should notify Betsy Myers of their travel dates. BTRNC will post for a request on the volunteer Facebook page. BTRNC will work with the foster family to locally board the dog if no one is available to board the foster dog

Please view the following agreement. If you are able to agree to the terms of the foster contract and would like to become a foster home, complete and submit a Volunteer Application at <https://btrnc.org/volunteer/>.

SECTION 4 FOSTER HOME AGREEMENT

BOSTON TERRIER RESCUE OF NORTH CAROLINA FOSTER HOME AGREEMENT

I certify that all the information contained in this agreement is true and complete. By signing this document, FOSTER agrees to all terms, policies and regulations administered by BOSTON TERRIER RESCUE OF NORTH CAROLINA (BTRNC).

FOSTER shall keep Boston Terrier as an indoor pet and will ensure that Boston Terrier wears 3 tags (rabies, microchip, and BTRNC ID) at all times.

FOSTER shall ensure that Boston Terrier is always kept under positive control; either on leash and/or in enclosed area.

**FOSTER will immediately notify the following BTRNC Lost/Stolen Emergency Dog Contact if Boston Terrier is lost or stolen:
Betsy Myers 336 339 4368**

FOSTER shall conduct integration into home, socialization, training, and rehabilitation as necessary to prepare Boston Terrier for adoption.

FOSTER shall notify Betsy Myers of any change in status to include new address, new phone #, new family members, new pets.

FOSTER or **interested family and acquaintances** should advise the Adoption Committee **PRIOR to the adoption being made public** if they are interested in adopting their FOSTER dog(s).

BOSTON TERRIER RESCUE OF NORTH CAROLINA assumes responsibility for all **pre-approved/authorized** routine veterinary expenses; BTRNC will not pay for **unauthorized routine** vet services and supplies.

(1) FOSTER shall provide and maintain veterinary care for Boston Terrier, including all vaccinations, heartworm preventive, flea and tick control, and all other care authorized by BTRNC and recommended by a veterinarian.

(2) FOSTER must obtain prior authorization for routine vet care from Betsy Myers prior to services being rendered.

(3) FOSTER shall obtain immediate vet services for A bona fide **life-threatening** medical emergency as needed and contact Betsy Myers as soon as possible thereafter.

(4) FOSTER shall provide, at own cost, those items that contribute to the healthy, safe, and loving environment, and socialization of a Boston Terrier to include food, toys, chews, crate, and bedding.

FOSTER shall provide a status report for each Boston Terrier as requested.

FOSTER shall contact Betsy Myers immediately should a biting incident occur.

FOSTER shall contact Betsy Myers if the FOSTER becomes unable to keep or provide for their Foster Dog.

FOSTER shall not sell, give, or otherwise transfer Boston Terrier to anyone other than a designated member of BOSTON TERRIER RESCUE OF NORTH CAROLINA.

FOSTER REPRESENTS THAT NO MEMBER OF HOUSEHOLD HAS EVER BEEN CHARGED WITH CRUELTY TO ANIMALS, CHILDREN, OR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

FOSTER shall indemnify and hold harmless BOSTON TERRIER RESCUE OF NORTH CAROLINA and its members from any and all loss, damage or expense incurred by the foster Boston Terrier(s).

BOSTON TERRIER RESCUE OF NORTH CAROLINA does not warrant the temperament or behavior of any foster BOSTON TERRIER.

BOSTON TERRIER RESCUE OF NORTH CAROLINA does not warrant the physical health of the foster BOSTON TERRIER.

BOSTON TERRIER RESCUE OF NORTH CAROLINA reserves the right to IMMEDIATELY remove Boston Terrier from FOSTER should FOSTER not uphold the terms of this agreement.

Upon receipt of foster dog, please ensure that you keep a copy of this agreement and return the original to the BTRNC representative.

Signature and date of all adults residing in household:
