

Foster Program Making a Difference

Since the beginning of the new foster program in April, 110 shelter animals have received assistance from an outstanding group of kind, giving people. As a result, mother cats and dogs have been given a home environment in which to raise their kittens and puppies, orphaned kittens have been given the care they need to survive, and stressed dogs have gotten out of the shelter and into a home setting.

Of those 110 fortunate pets, 48 still remain in foster care and 33 have been adopted, 13 of those by their foster families. Cats and kittens who have not been adopted through the Petfinder website have gone from foster to the Mounds Satellite Adoption Center where, thanks to DeeDee Goldberg the Cat Room Manager, adoption rates are excellent.

Foster care means open cage and kennel space at the shelter and a great beginning or a fresh start for these animals that may not otherwise have lived. A woman who recently adopted a kitten from a foster home called to inquire about adopting a playmate for him. She had been so pleased with how well socialized he was and his immediate adjustment into their home that she wanted another kitten from foster care.

Foster homes are continually needed. Those interested must complete both a Volunteer Application and an Adoption Application (fosters have the first choice to adopt their pet) and return them to the shelter. Once the paper work is reviewed, the Volunteer Coordinator will contact the prospective home and set up a visit to discuss the shelter's needs and the type of pet(s) that will best fit the family's lifestyle. Dog introductions at the shelter are a must for any adult dogs going into a home where other dogs reside. For further information, please call or email Sue Post, Volunteer Coordinator, at 752-2255 or ginger3dogs@yahoo.com.