



Facts of Fostering

"I couldn't foster because I would end up keeping them all."

"I just donate money because it's just too sad to go to the shelter and to foster."

"It's just too much - I don't see how you can do that."

Anyone who fosters homeless dogs or cats for the shelter has likely heard these comments from friends, family, and coworkers more often than not.

Anyone that hasn't fostered these adorable companions before, just don't know what they're missing!

Is it sad? It can be. Is it frustrating and time consuming? It can be. But the benefits far outweigh the pitfalls. Not only is fostering one of the most fulfilling things you can do, it has far-reaching benefits as well. For each animal you foster, you are actually saving more than one life; by freeing up a cage, it opens room for one more incoming homeless animal. In some cases you're literally saving a life because the animal is sick and needs one-on-one TLC that it cannot receive in a shelter environment, or the animal is not thriving in a cage so it stops eating and thriving.

CCAS is always in need of foster parents. We can never have enough of these mission-critical people! Right now we're in the peak of "kitten season" which means there is a non-stop influx of kittens and mother cats with babies who are all in need of foster care. Kittens are especially vulnerable in a shelter environment because their little immune systems aren't fully developed yet so they tend to get sick easily. Plus, kittens need lots of attention and handling in order to ensure they're people-friendly and adoptable when the time comes for them to find their forever homes. Fostering kittens can be entertaining to say the least and the kittens always find homes quickly once they're old enough to leave our care. In addition to the babies, we often need fosters for other reasons. Some animals just don't do well in a shelter environment no matter how much you do to help them. This often happens with older animals or animals that are brought in by their owners after living in a home their entire lives. The sounds and smells of a shelter and being in a strange environment can cause them to withdraw and/or get sick. A foster home can provide some respite so the animal can relax while still being seen by potential adopters through our websites, social media outlets, and by attending adoption events. Oftentimes you're giving an animal that's more difficult to place a great chance to find the right home! Last, but certainly not least, we have our medical foster parents. This is a special group of people who have experience with sick, compromised animals and know how to administer medications and monitor animals when they're ill or after surgery. These can be some of the most gratifying foster situations of all.

A good, but extreme, example of one of our medical fosters is Meisha (see "Before" and "After" photos). Meisha came to us from the streets of Camden. When she arrived she was extremely sick on many fronts so one of our fosters stepped up

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CAMDEN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

125 County House Rd.
Blackwood, NJ 08012

Phone: 856.401.1300

Fax: 856.401.1309

Email: info@ccasnj.org

www.ccasnj.org

Mailing Address:

PO Box 475

Blackwood, NJ 08012

New Hours of Operation

Monday - Closed

Tuesday - 11 am-6 pm

Wednesday - 11 am-6 pm

Thursday - 11 am-6 pm

Friday - 11 am-4 pm

Saturday - 11 am-4 pm

Sunday - 11 am-4 pm

Low Cost Spay/Neuter Clinic Hours

Monday - Closed

Tuesday - 9 am-10:30 am

Wednesday - Closed

Thursday - 9 am-10:30 am

Friday - 9 am-10:30 am

Saturday - Closed

Sunday - Closed



Facts of Fostering

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and took her home. Though a large, big-boned cat, at the time she weighed just 6 pounds. The foster nursed her to health by administering subcutaneous fluids and by giving her countless medications. As Meisha got stronger the foster discovered she preferred to be an only cat so she relied on our adoption sites, Facebook page, and adoption days at one of our PetSmart locations to find her a home. The right adopter came along and healthy, happy, 15-pound Meisha found her forever home! Meisha's life was most certainly saved, a cage was freed up for another homeless cat that came into the shelter, and a lucky adopter found the purrfect cat companion.

You can make a huge difference in the lives of animals by becoming a foster for us at the Camden County Animal Shelter! To find out more call us at 856.401.1300 extension 101 or email info@ccasnj.org.



Cooper and Chicken Soup for the Soul

In July of 2010 Jessica A. Walsh found an abandoned dog suffering from heat stroke and close to death in Cooper River Park. She took him home and called Animal Control and the dog was taken to Camden County Animal Shelter, where he spent the mandatory 7 day hold to be evaluated and cared for before he was available to be adopted. He was renamed Sweetums and Jessica visited the shelter often to check on his progress.

Although she knew she did the right thing by handing the dog over to the authorities she knew that she was meant to have that dog as her pet companion, so Jessica came back after the 7 days and adopted the dog. Sweetums was given a new name, Cooper, after the place he was rescued from. Jessica is extremely grateful to the Camden County Animal Shelter for bringing Cooper back to life and allowing her to visit him while he was healing.

Jessica gave us a hint that there is more to the story. Jessica has written about Cooper, the Camden County Animal Shelter, and the successful outcome which will be published and released in the new volume of *Chicken Soup for the Soul*, called *My Very Good, Very Bad Dog*.

Register Today!

3rd Annual Pledge-a-Paw Dog Walk & Event

Registration is now open for our 3rd Annual Pledge-a-Paw Dog Walk & Event; presented by the Camden County Board of Freeholders. This event is on Saturday, October 15th, 2016 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm at the Camden County College in Blackwood, NJ. Over 200 walkers and many local vendors, animal welfare groups and rescues will be attending to raise pledges to benefit the animals of Camden County Animal Shelter.

This doggy friendly event will include yummy treats and snacks from the Doggy Snack Bar, one-mile dog walk, raffle drawing and prizes, music and entertainment, and a variety of local food vendors to taste from. There will also be an exclusive police canine demonstration. Camden County Animal Shelter will be showcasing their pets available for adoption in the CCAS Pet Parade.

Pre-registration fee is \$10.00 per person. You will receive an event t-shirt, walker pledge packet, prizes and more! If you have a team of 10 or more, registration is free, please call Melissa Meccariello at 856.401.1300 extension 112 or email outreach@ccasnj.org.



Pet Dental Day

Camden County Animal Shelter Low-Cost Spay and Neuter Clinic is now offering dental services to the public. "Pet Dental Day" began in April and will be provided on Monday mornings by appointment only. Keeping and maintaining your pet(s) health is our priority and we are very excited about adding "Pet Dental Day" to our list of services. As you maintain your dental hygiene it is just as imperative that you do the same for your furry friend. If left untreated a number of health issues can occur.

"We encourage pet owners to learn more about dental care and how vital it is to maintaining your pet's health," shares Freeholder Jeffery Nash, liaison to the Camden County Animal Shelter. "Our pet(s) are special to us and it's important we provide the services and care they need and deserve."

Below is a list of symptoms caused by dental disease and we want to help you prevent these illnesses and maintain your pet(s) health. Pet owners are diligent in keeping their pet(s) healthy so we found it vital to add this service.

- Gum Disease
- Pain
- Loss of teeth, appetite, and can cause lethargy
- Infection
- Bad breath

If gum disease is not treated it can create an infection that can travel through the bloodstream. It is recommended that an annual cleaning and polishing is done along with routine health care. Gingivitis is caused when plaque builds up around the gum line (just as it does with humans) and if not regularly cleaned it can develop into Periodontal Disease.

Therefore, we are adding low-cost routine dental services on Mondays, which will increase the list of services we provide at affordable rates. As with all our costs the prices are very reasonable; our research has shown some local veterinarians charge up to \$650 for this service.

Services will be provided to cats and dogs from 1 year to 7 years of age. Any pet over 7 years old must have blood-work prior to anesthesia as a safety precaution. We will accept bloodwork from a referred veterinarian completed within the last six months. This is for routine dental which includes

teeth scaling and polish. It is important to maintain your pet's dental hygiene to reduce and prevent and/or stop any health concerns.

Affordable price list and packages include:

- Cat and dogs up to 25 lbs: \$150.00
- Dogs 26 lbs to 50 lbs: \$175.00
- Dogs 51 lbs to 100 lbs: \$200.00
- Dogs 101 lbs to 125 lbs: \$230.00

Prices are for a level one cleaning. If your pet(s) has excessive tartar build-up, a \$30 to \$50 additional charge will be added to the cleaning. When the doctor does the dental exam you will be notified at that time of the condition of your pet's teeth. The dental fee includes pre-dental exam, anesthesia, routine dental and polish and an antibiotic injection, as well as a medical waste fee. Pain medication is available if the doctor feels it is necessary. We will provide you with the cost at that time if it is recommended. It is our goal to keep all of our furry friends happy and healthy and their owners satisfied with the services we provide.

*Dates and prices are subject to change.

For appointments and information on Camden County Animal Shelter Low-Cost Spay and Neuter Clinic visit www.ccasnj.org, call 856.401.1300 extension 100 or 109, or visit at 125 County House Road, Blackwood, NJ 08012.



Gizmo



Running an animal shelter can be a daunting experience. Thousands of homeless animals come through the doors every year and each set of beautiful eyes looks at you, pleading for help and just

another chance. As humans, these animals rely on us to help them. They may need help mending a broken bone or wound or they may just need to learn basic obedience. Some just need a second chance at a home with a family to love them. The very first cat received at the Camden County Animal Shelter more than ten years ago was a handsome white and black kitty called Gizmo.

Gizmo was a cat that was overflowing with personality and just needed another chance. He was very sweet

natured and he would put both of his paws around your neck and nuzzle you. He screamed, "PLEASE PICK ME!" to everyone he met. Unfortunately, no one was picking him. Months went by and he visited countless off-site adoption events hoping to find the right family. Gizmo and the volunteers and staff were getting discouraged, but he didn't know there was still a guardian angel looking out for him. Heather and Adam had been considering getting a pet and when they found out about him, they decided to invite him into their home and lives. Gizmo, later renamed MeMe, was so happy in his new home. He was spoiled rotten by his new owners and there wasn't a day that went by that he didn't feel loved.

On the 4th of May, 2016, Gizmo crossed the rainbow bridge. Although he is gone, his spirit and soul still live on in everything we do. We will never stop going the extra mile and being the guardian angels for every animal that comes to us, looking for that second chance.

Lyme Vaccination and Testing

Camden County Animal Shelter Low-Cost Spay and Neuter Clinic now offer pet vaccination and testing for Lyme disease for your canine companions. Lyme disease is prevalent in canines within the State of New Jersey and positive cases are increasing rapidly. It is vital to protect your canine(s) against this disease.

Within the first week of product launch, Camden County Animal Shelter already tested one Lyme-positive dog from the public. It is important to identify this disease early on so your pet can receive the appropriate treatment. Camden County Animal Shelter does not treat this disease and will recommend the pet owner to seek medical attention with their veterinarian.

"We encourage pet owners to learn more about Lyme disease and how to prevent it," shares Freeholder Jeffery Nash, liaison to the Camden County Animal Shelter. "Our pets are special to us and it's important we provide the care and love they need and deserve."

Lyme disease can be transmitted by the deer tick, although there are other ticks that can transmit the disease. Once the disease is in the bloodstream it is then carried to many parts of the body and likely to localize in joints. This is very painful and a progressive disease for our

pet companions. If left undiagnosed, the disease can travel throughout the body causing much more serious and often untreatable health issues. You can protect your canine today and avoid the very expensive, lengthy treatment and diagnostics performed at your local veterinarian.

"Our goal is to educate the community and provide an affordable solution for pet owners," says Vicki Rowland, Executive Director of Camden County Animal Shelter.

The Lyme prevention consists of a series of two vaccines given two weeks apart. Puppies start the first vaccine at twelve weeks of age and the second vaccine at two weeks after the first. Once the series is completed it becomes an annual vaccine as well as an annual test.

Affordable price list and packages include:

- Lyme Test Only: \$35.00
- Lyme Test and 1 vaccine: \$45.00
- Second Lyme Vaccine, given 2 weeks after the 1st vaccine: \$22.50
- Lyme Disease Prevention package (with test and 2 vaccines): only \$67.50

Find us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/CamdenCountyAnimalShelter

