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Contact: Allison Barrows, shelter manager, (503) 566-6984 or

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Marion County Dog Shelter Schedules New Foster Program Orientation

Marion County Dog Shelter will hold an orientation for people with an interest in volunteering with the shelter's foster care program. Foster program volunteers care for puppies that are too young to be adopted, dogs that need socialization or training, and dogs recovering from an injury or surgery. The next foster care program orientation is scheduled to be held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 26th, if there is sufficient interest from the public.

According to Allison Barrows, dog shelter operations manager, foster care volunteers feed, groom, socialize, train, and medicate the animal during its stay in the foster home. Marion County Dog Shelter's Medical Fund pays for all veterinary care and medicine the animal needs during its stay in foster care. "Foster parents are responsible for providing food, time, and tender loving care," she said.

When the animal is healthy and ready to be adopted, the shelter will post the dog's story and photographs on its website and actively seek to find a loving home for it.

Foster parents must be able to provide a safe, loving and stable environment for the foster animal. Experience with animal behavioral or medical issues is a plus, but is not necessary. Foster parents must be able to transport their foster animal to and from the Marion County Dog Shelter during business hours, and to and from veterinarian providers, should the need arise.

Participation in a foster care program orientation is required for prospective foster care volunteers. Orientations are free and attending an orientation session does not obligate you to foster an animal. Foster care volunteer orientations are held at the Marion County Dog Shelter located at 3550 Aumsville Hwy. SE, Salem, Oregon.

To RSVP for this orientation or to request an application, contact Felicia Pederson at 503-566-6966 or email mcdsfosterdogs@co.marion.or.us. To learn more about the Marion County Dog Shelter foster care program, call 503-566-6966.

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