

Purpose: To secure Foster Caregivers with the specific responsibility of rehabilitating post-surgical patients or patients in need of medical recovery.

*Examples include: Fx Repair, MPL/LPL Repair, HW+, ACL Repair, Amputation Recovery, Dental Issues, etc.*

**There will be a maximum of 3 orthopedic/physical therapy cases @ a time.**

- Any new arrivals (in addition to the 3 current cases) will be medically waived and be made available for Adoption.
  - *Exceptions to the maximum case load can be made only by the CVO.*
- Once a pet in this category is medically cleared and status is changed to Available for Adoption or pet is Adopted, a new case may be started.

**Involved Departments: Adoption, Foster Care, Clinic**

**Departmental Responsibilities:**

- **Clinic**
  - Attending Shelter Veterinarian will add medical notes with diagnosis, availability for MRF program & notation of request for Behavior Eval.
  - Data entry for medical records as needed and *\*creating homecare plans for all new cases\**
  - Perform surgical procedure/s and arrange for follow up care.
    - Assistant Clinic Manager (ACM) will be point of contact for the Foster Care dept.
    - ACM will schedule surgery and any follow up appointments; ACM will communicate with Foster Care dept. regarding said appointments.
- **Adoption** (Management only)
  - Make pet available on website *once necessary Behavior Eval is completed*:
    - Shelter Buddy Status: *Available for Adoption*.
      - Sub-status: *Available for Foster*.
    - Pet has 30 days with this status/sub-status; if no interested party emerges/qualifies, then the condition will be medically waived and the pet will be made Available for Adoption or placed in regular Foster Care accordingly- please see CVO for exceptions.
  - Vet interested parties:
    - Interested party will apply to be a MRF through Adoption dept. via normal Adoption protocol + interested party will be directed to fill out Foster Care app. online.
    - Adoptions, or Foster Care (if available), will counsel the prospective MRF and present surgery/physical therapy/special care informational packet.
    - The MRF should be notified that MRFs are held to the same standards as a regular foster caregiver: this means that MRFs who no call/no show for appointments will be asked to return the pet and be precluded from participating in the Foster Care program.
      - If a MRF has a valid reason for no call/ no show, determination will be made a case-by-case basis by Foster Care, Adoption, & Clinic staff management only.
    - MRF may take pet home same day.
      - MRF may also elect to leave the pet on campus if unable to undergo counselling/preparation for the pet's specific needs on the day of inquiry/Foster Care application.
  - MRF will have the option to adopt after patient is medically released:
    - Pet will NOT be eligible for any special promotional pricing via Adoption events. Adopter is to pay the full Adoption fee associated with the pet once medically cleared. *There are no exceptions.*
    - Pet will be made Available for Adoption publically, once medically released and returned to campus, if the MRF is not interested in finalizing the Adoption.
- **Foster Care**
  - Point of contact for MRF.
    - Foster Care staff will send a "Welcome" email within 72 hours of MRF taking the pet home. (Foster Care staff will also send a "Goodbye" email once the pet has been Adopted.)
    - Communicate with MRF regarding all Clinic appointments.
    - Communicate with MRF regarding all shelter protocol needs, eg. Boosters, refills, etc.
  - Compile yearly stats of completed MRFs.
  - Communicate with ACM regarding all Clinic appointments.
  - Train/arrange training for the MRF regarding post-op care and physical therapy needs of the pet:
    - Create/compile information packets regarding surgical procedures and associated physical therapy and/or any special treatment, housing, and/or care requirements.