

Foster Care On-Deck:  
Strategies to get kittens into foster homes quickly



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Today's presenter



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What we'll cover

- Why is it important to expedite getting kittens into foster care?
- What is a foster on-deck system?
- What are some real world strategies?



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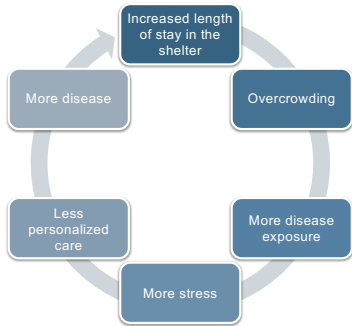
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## Why is this important?



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All cats have value

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## A foster on-deck system is a proactive approach to expediting foster placement

- Carefully maintained and up-to-date foster caregiver database
- Clear communication system with foster caregivers
- Clear expectations for foster pick-up
- Plan ahead for intakes when possible
- Not just for kittens!



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## General tips

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Organize    | Organize your foster network in advance                                     |
| Calculate   | Calculate your capacity based on data                                       |
| Categorize  | Consider categorization of foster caregivers based on skill set             |
| Communicate | Proactively communicate with foster caregivers about availability           |
| Personalize | Use the system for communication that works for you and your foster network |

ASPCA  
All cats have value




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### Use technology

**Shelter Software**

- Chimeleon
- PetPost
- ShelterLuv

**Online Forms**

- Smartsheet
- Airtable
- Google Forms

**Spreadsheets**

**Social Media forums**



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### Foster on-deck in action...

**Submit an Online Foster Application and RSVP for an Online Orientation**

**Attend an Online Foster Orientation**

**Complete the On-Deck Survey**

**Complete the On-Deck Survey Again when Foster is Ready for Another Litter of Kittens**

**Foster Kittens at Home until Ready for Adoption**





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### Foster on-deck in action...





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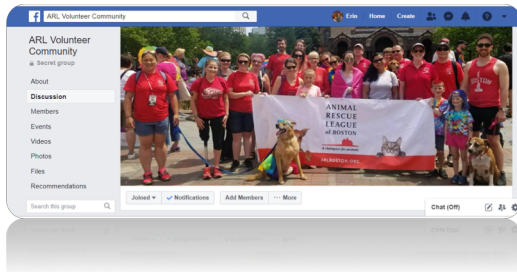
## Foster on-deck in action...

<b>Animal Information</b>			
Animal ID:	140424287	Name:	KITSA
DOB:	12/20/2013	Species:	Cat
Gender:	Female	Sex:	Altered
Chip #:	9851102182001	Current Age:	4w 3d
Type:	Home Again	Age Group:	Kitten
Color:	White	Size:	Small
Weight:	340.00 gms		
<b>Exam Information</b>			
Exam #:	140424287	Type:	Exam
Exam Date:	12/20/2013	Exam Time:	10:00 AM
Exam Location:	140424287	Exam Room:	140424287
Exam Status:	Completed	Exam Result:	Good
Exam Notes:	Kittens are for your evaluation. See instructions for your kitten.		
<b>Medical Instructions and Information About Your Kitten</b>			
There are four important things to remember about your kitten:			
1. Kittens are for your evaluation. See instructions for your kitten.			
2. Kittens are for your evaluation. See instructions for your kitten.			
3. Kittens are for your evaluation. See instructions for your kitten.			
4. Kittens are for your evaluation. See instructions for your kitten.			

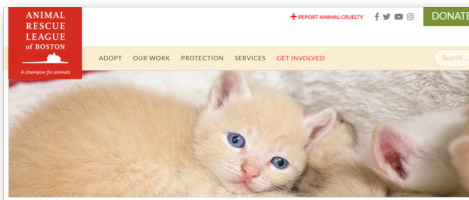
Templates in shelter software can be used to create foster instructions



## Foster on-deck in action...



## Foster on-deck in action...



Average LOS  
for kittens in  
2008 = 11  
days

Average LOS  
for kittens in  
2013 = 4  
days

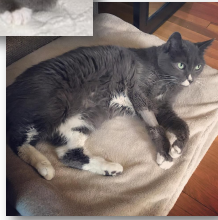


Questions?



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[sheltermedicine@aspcapro.org](mailto:sheltermedicine@aspcapro.org)



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