



SAYV ANIMAL ORGANIZATION

EVENT GUIDELINES

FOR FOSTERS AND VOLUNTEERS

These instructions are for people bringing their foster animal(s) to events on behalf of SAYv Animal Organization.

Thank you so much for supporting SAYv and attending as a volunteer or bringing your foster(s) to an event. This is great exposure for us, and great exposure for our available animals. We are extremely grateful!

Remember, fosters are also volunteers <3

Update date: 8.14.24

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VOLUNTEERS

SAYV STATS AND INFO

- We launched rescue operations in July of 2021
- We are foster-based (meaning we do not have a facility) - we rely on foster homes to save animals!
- We are volunteer-run, meaning nobody is paid to work at SAYv
- We have a small team
- We are woman owned and ran
- Check the main page on the website (sayvanimals.org) to see the latest count on the number of animals that we have SAYvd! It's always very impactful!
- Right now we rescue dogs and cats but someday hope to have a farm sanctuary
- We don't focus on any specific breeds or types of animals, we SAYv animals of all shapes and sizes, including medical cases



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GENERAL

- SAYv Animal Organization - SAYv is pronounced "save," sometimes you may have to correct people :). "SAYv" is the phonetic spelling of the word "save."
- Please remember at all times that you are representing SAYv - be friendly, kind, welcoming, and non-judgmental.
- Refrain from talking about your personal thoughts about animal care - people should be expected to follow guidelines outlined by SAYv.
 - Example: if you don't believe in vaccinating cats, or you let your cats outside... do not discuss this with people. These are not policies that we allow.
- If you need something to be comfortable, like chairs or snacks for example, please be prepared to bring this for yourself. What is provided differs from event to event and we can't always bring accommodations. You can always ask ahead of time what you need to bring, but to be safe, assume that anything you need to be comfortable, you need to bring.
- You do not need to wear SAYv clothes for the event, but if you have it that would be great! (shop for swag here: sayvanimals.org/swag).
- Answer questions as best as you can, but do not make up or guess about answers that you do not know. Do not be afraid to tell people that you will get back to them or that they can email us at info@sayvanimals.org.
- Try to know some basic info about the animals attending or pull up their profile on our website (sayvanimals.org/adopt). It is okay to say that you don't know or to look it up on the spot!
- If you intend to bring your friends or family members to help as you volunteer for an event, please notify the SAYv team ahead of time so we are aware of who is coming.
- Please arrive on time, or notify the team ahead of time if you can only come for a specific amount of time or time slot.
- Take as many photos as you can and send them to us after the event! (send in the event chat or through another method, if you aren't in a chat, please email the photos to events@sayvanimals.org)

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ADOPTION QUESTIONS

- To see more information about medical coverage and the adoption process (including prices on the “adoption + foster to adopt” document) check out [this link \(sayvanimals.org/fosterresources\)](https://sayvanimals.org/fosterresources). Do not share this link publicly, this is only for fosters and adopters, but it will give you an overview of the process.
- IN GENERAL (please check the [foster resources page](#) for updates) the adoption process is:
- Fill out an application > we will call/text if we think it’s a good fit (within 7-14 days) > we will call references including vet and personal references > we will approve and set up a chat to do a hand off
- Animals that need vetting completed still will be “foster to adopt” where adopters work with us on scheduling with our vets until medical is complete. They do not go to their own vets or handle any scheduling. If medical is completed, we will process the adoption as quickly as possible.
- Aside from meeting animals at events, we do not allow people to meet animals until they have an approved application on file - we cannot bother fosters to arrange meetings with strangers that won’t be approved.
- We do not do same day adoptions a MAJORITY of the time at events. There have been rare exceptions for Petsmart events when directors are present, SO, if people ask, we do not do same day adoptions.
- We review applications in the order that they are received.
- Adoption fees are paid in full within 24 hours of receiving an animal (see the [adoption info page](#) for pricing).

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FOSTERS OR "HANDLERS"

Note: A "handler" is someone who has volunteer to handle an animal(s) at an event if the foster cannot come or if extra support is needed. The foster should be responsible for supplying you with the supplies listed below, but the information about handling and management is applicable for what is expected of you day-of.

CATS AND DOGS (INCLUDING PUPPIES AND KITTENS)

- Notify the SAYv team about any behavioral concerns before the event. If an animal won't do well around strangers, in situations with loud noises, etc. you need to notify the team ahead of time.
- Ideally we would prefer that animals have been microchipped before attending events. If you are unsure if your foster animal(s) have been chipped, ask the SAYv team in your respective chat.
- If you committed to coming to an event and then cannot attend please notify the SAYv team asap so we are not expecting you at the event and marketing your foster animal(s).
- When explaining your foster animal(s) to potential adopters, try to focus on the highlights. If there are negatives, that is completely okay to disclose, but please focus on the positives first.
- If you're just a handler and you don't know details about an animal that's totally fine! Just let the person asking know and try to find someone from the SAYv team that can answer their questions.

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DOGS ONLY

- Dogs should have a well-fitting harness as well as a collar and TWO dog leashes (one attached to the collar and one attached the harness).
- If you do not have these materials, please request them at least five days ahead of time by using the supplies request form on the [foster resources page](#)
- NO choke collars, NO prong collars, NO retractable leashes.
- Bring treats if possible to help manage them if needed.
- Bring poop bags to pick up poop.
- Do not allow foster dog(s)/puppies to jump on people - try to keep them close to you.
- Be careful around children. Don't let children tug or pull on the dogs, etc.
- Ideally for puppies and dogs please bring a water bowl and water if possible

FOR PUPPIES SPECIFICALLY

- They shouldn't be attending events if they haven't had two rounds of vaccines (and ideally at least two weeks have passed after the second vaccine).
- If they are small enough to be in a pen, they still need to have collars and leashes (and ideally harnesses if possible). If you do not have a pen to bring them in, please notify the SAYv team! Do not allow people to hold puppies in a pen without confirming that it is acceptable by the SAYv managers.
- Bring puppy pads and cleaning supplies to help clean up messes.

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CATS ONLY

- Cats should never be removed from their carriers or crates (unless they are in the Petsmart Geneva Adoption Center and the door is closed). It is too risky that animals will run away. This applies even for indoor events (for example, at Petsmart Geneva with animals outside of the Adoption Center). Unfortunately this means that people cannot hold the adoptable cats.
- Please bring a disposable litter box, litter and a litter scooper so your foster cat can use the bathroom.
- Please bring a water bowl and water.

REMINDER: If you have any questions, please notify the SAYv team! Thank you so much.