



CUTEODYSSEY Small Dog Rescue

San Diego, California

FOSTER APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home: () _____ Cell: () _____ Other: () _____

Fax: () _____ Personal Email: _____

Best time to call you: _____ Occupation: _____ (optional)

Have you read Cuteodyssey's Code of Ethics, Policies, and Rescue & Adoption Program? Yes ___ or No ___

Do you have any questions regarding any of them? Yes ___ or No ___

What type of home do you live in? _____ (house, trailer, apartment, duplex, etc.)

Own ___ or Rent ___ If you rent, does your landlord allow pets and is pet deposit paid? Yes ___ or No ___

Does your landlord or homeowner's insurance band certain breeds or mixes? Yes ___ or No ___
If so, please list them: _____

Do you have a safe, enclosed fenced yard? Yes ___ or No ___

If yes, please describe the type of fence you have: (height, size & style: chain link, privacy, invisible, dog pen, etc.)

If no fence, what arrangements will you have for the foster dog's exercise and toilet duties?

How many dogs/puppies are you willing to foster at one time?

Are you willing to foster a sick or special needs pet? Yes ___ or No ___

What age range are you willing to foster? _____

Are you able to potty train or will your foster need to come already trained? Yes ___ or No ___

What breeds or mixes are you willing to foster? _____

What sizes are you willing to foster? _____

Approximately how many hours will your foster dog be alone each day? _____

If you take on too much, are you able to say so and allow us time to fix the situation? Yes ___ or No ___

Are you willing to have a Cuteodyssey’s representative visit you in your home prior to fostering? Yes ___ or No ___

Are there children living in the home (or visit often)? Yes ___ or No ___ Ages _____

Do you have other pets? Yes ___ or No ___ How many animals do you have? _____

If yes, please describe them below:

1) Name _____ Age _____ Sex _____ Neutered? Yes ___ or No ___

Species _____ Breed _____ Personality _____

2) Name _____ Age _____ Sex _____ Neutered? Yes ___ or No ___

Species _____ Breed _____ Personality _____

3) Name _____ Age _____ Sex _____ Neutered? Yes ___ or No ___

Species _____ Breed _____ Personality _____

4) Name _____ Age _____ Sex _____ Neutered? Yes ___ or No ___

Species _____ Breed _____ Personality _____

Do you understand heartworm prevention for dogs? Yes ___ or No ___

Are your pets current on vaccines, heartworm and flea/tick prevention (if it applies)? Yes ___ or No ___

If you listed cats, are they indoor or outdoor? _____ Lived w/dogs before? Yes ___ or No ___

What other animals have you had in the past? Please give the animal’s name, breed, length of time you had them, and the reason you no longer have them: _____

Is there someone home during the day? Yes ___ or No ___ At night? Yes ___ or No ___

Where will the foster dog stay during the day? _____ At night? _____

How do you intend to keep them safe while you are away from home?

How do you intend to adjust them into your home? _____

Are you prepared for the 1-3 month adjustment period that a rescued dog may need? Yes ___ or No ___

Have you ever obedience trained a dog before? Yes ___ or No _____

If so, what method of training do you or have you used? _____

Do you breed or sell? _____ If so, average number of litters bred per year: _____

Have you worked (formally or informally) in animal rescue before? If so, please describe your experience here: _____

For which organization did you volunteer & where? _____
How long? _____

Do you currently work with them? If not, why not? _____

Have you ever fostered any animals before? _____

How long and for who? _____

Were you able to foster the dog/puppy until a permanent home was found?
Yes ___ or No _____

If not, why not? _____

Required references we may contact: **(if possible, please list one relative and one non-relative)**

Name: _____ Home Phone (_____) _____

Relationship to you: _____ Best time to call: _____

Name: _____ Home Phone (_____) _____

Relationship to you: _____ Best time to call: _____

I agree to abide by the Program and Policies set forth by the Cuteodyssey Rescue (CUTEODYSSEY) Board of Directors. I understand that any foster animal in my care may be removed from my home at any time with or without reason by or on the authority of Cuteodyssey’s Board. I understand that Cuteodyssey foster animals do not belong to me or my family. I understand that should I want to adopt a Cuteodyssey foster animal, it will be at the sole discretion of the Board. I understand that I will have a strong influence in who shall adopt any foster animal in my care, but the Board has the final word in the foster pet’s adoption. I understand that I am expected to follow up on all of my adoptions as needed and assist adopters through the adjustment period, but I am not to force the adopters to remain connected to me or Cuteodyssey beyond that (“no strings” policy).

I am aware there is no guarantee, warranty or full knowledge of any rescued pet’s health and temperament. I volunteer to accept the rescued animal in my charge as a humanitarian act and agree to release and hold harmless Cuteodyssey Rescue along with Cuteodyssey volunteers and Board members, from any and all liability or responsibility in connection with any pet(s) I agree to foster.

I hereby agree that any money (adoption or general donations) that I collect or receive on behalf of Cuteodyssey will be turned over to Cuteodyssey’s President, Maria Angela Brunetto. Additionally, I hereby certify that I am in good standing with the local rescue groups and veterinarians. I agree to uphold a professional relationship with every contact I have through Cuteodyssey, including, but not limited to vet clinics, distributors, potential adopters, other volunteers of Cuteodyssey, and other rescues. Furthermore, I promise that I will not conduct myself in any manner which could reflect badly on Cuteodyssey or any of Cuteodyssey’s volunteers. Last, I certify that I am at least 18 years of age and a legal US citizen. I agree to include a photocopy of my current driver’s license for verification purposes. I understand that this will be kept confidential and not given out to any other parties.

Applicant’s Signature

Submission Date

Cuteodyssey Rep Signature

Approval Date

Thank you for your interest in fostering for Cuteodyssey. The Board of Directors will consider your application and contact you shortly to set up a home visit. Please return a signed copy of this application and a copy of your driver’s license to the following address for final review. Thank you!

Cuteodyssey Rescue, Inc. (CUTEODYSSEY)
4200 Massachusetts Avenue
La Mesa, CA, 91941

Email: contact@cuteodyssey.org

- Enc: CUTEODYSSEY Code of Ethics
- CUTEODYSSEY Policies
- CUTEODYSSEY Rescue and Adoption Program

CUTEODYSSEY CODE OF ETHICS

GOAL

The Code of Ethics was established and approved by the Board Members of Cuteodyssey Rescue, Inc. (CUTEODYSSEY) as a standard for volunteers, also known as CUTEODYSSEY Reps. The goal of this code of ethics is to protect and preserve CUTEODYSSEY, animal rescue, volunteers, and individual animals. All CUTEODYSSEY Reps have an obligation to put the welfare of the animals above personal gain and refrain from activities that would be detrimental to the best interests of these animals or CUTEODYSSEY. These guidelines are presented with the realization that ethics are difficult to regulate and that most individuals desire and intend to do what is right. Education and communication are the preferred methods of obtaining compliance to these practices.

GENERAL CONDUCT

CUTEODYSSEY Reps shall provide all animals (or fosters) in their care with the highest possible standards of nutrition, shelter, cleanliness, exercise, training, socialization and individual attention so that these animals may become well-adjusted companions.

CUTEODYSSEY Reps shall NOT engage in false or misleading advertising or other misrepresentation of his/her rescues. CUTEODYSSEY Reps shall NOT malign other CUTEODYSSEY Reps, veterinarians, or rescue organizations. CUTEODYSSEY Reps are encouraged to provide pertinent information about their own rescues or those of others, providing such information is accurate and verifiable.

Cuteodyssey Reps should seek the best possible environment for each foster. NO Cuteodyssey Rep shall sell, consign, or donate animals to such places as commercial/USDA breeders, pet stores, pet brokers, or catalog houses. Animals may not be offered to events such as raffles, auctions, drawings, lotteries, contests, or laboratories. Cuteodyssey Reps should not knowingly deal with unethical persons. All rescues must be kept for at least 10 days prior to placement for quarantine.

Cuteodyssey Reps must comply with all record keeping requirements as set forth by Cuteodyssey's Board Members.

HEALTH ISSUES

ANY and ALL health issues, concerns, and/or obvious veterinary needs MUST be reported to Maria Angela Brunetto immediately. I will then decide what steps to take. DO NOT take any of these issues into your own hands unless it is a life or death emergency. Keep in mind funds are limited at ALL times. If an emergency arises, go to nearest emergency clinic or vet and call Maria Angela Brunetto immediately. Before calling – ALWAYS get an estimate, what that estimate includes, diagnosis and prognosis. If you do not get an answer, leave a message stating how to contact you, which animal is having the emergency, what that emergency is, where you have taken the animal, and what is being done by the vet to handle the emergency.

Information CUTEODYSSEY MUST provide Adopters:

CUTEODYSSEY Rep should always provide the new Guardian (owner/adopters) with the following:

1. Any registration papers or other identification available for the adopted animal.
2. Immunization schedule and veterinary health records.
3. Written info concerning care, disposition, feeding, training, socialization and accident prevention.

CUTEODYSSEY RESCUE POLICIES

The purpose of CUTEODYSSEY is to find loving homes for animals that have ended up in our local streets or kill shelters. Rescue is not intended to help breeders place their excess animals or individuals rehome their animals due to moving or other circumstances, except in extreme situations deemed necessary by the CUTEODYSSEY Board Members (i.e. mills). Should a breeder or individual contact you for help, please do your best to advise them of other/better options available to them. Many times, they simply want you/us to “take care of their problem” in order to avoid the time and expense of placing their own animals themselves.

ALL rescued animals MUST be spayed or neutered BEFORE placement (unless special circumstances are approved by Maria Angela Brunetto, in advance).

1. Expenses are not authorized by anyone in Cuteodyssey except Maria Angela Brunetto and Paul Avery. You must communicate with one of them to fulfill the animal's medical needs.
1. Should a bill arise for various reasons - Itemized bills must be submitted to the Treasurer, Paul Avery, for reimbursement. Bills must include the animal's name, ID number and be printed on veterinary letterhead. **Please submit a written confirmation of approval by the Treasurer for any expenses with the itemized bill.** Electronic confirmation is acceptable.
2. A check from the Treasurer is to go directly to the veterinarian supplying the services, not to any individual, unless submitted with a detailed bill from a veterinarian.
3. Expenses that have not received proper approval may be considered to be the responsibility of the rescue representative or foster home.
4. A signed Adoption Agreement and adoption fee (see animal's profile for fee) payable to Cute Odyssey Rescue, Inc. or *CUTE ODYSSEY* must be sent to the Treasurer within one (1) week of the adoption. Forms can be obtained from Cuteodyssey's Yahoo Group.
5. Rescued animals remain the property of Cuteodyssey at all times prior to adoption and upon return should the adoption fall through. Cuteodyssey's Board has the authority to place the animal in any home they deem acceptable. Foster homes are encouraged to have input on potential adopters and their opinion will be considered. In most cases, once trained, the foster parent will decide who is qualified to adopt their own foster animal unless they are not comfortable doing so.
6. Cuteodyssey's President and/or Vice President shall have final determination on the disposition of an animal should expenses be over \$300 or quality of life is determined to be severely and negatively affected. **Euthanasia will only be authorized by Maria Angela Brunetto, President/Director.**

CUTEODYSSEY RESCUE AND ADOPTION PROGRAM

Cuteodyssey's goal is to help as many needy animals as possible while limiting ourselves enough to provide and maintain a high level of care to each animal we have committed to. We **MUST ALWAYS** keep an eye on ourselves and guide each other to prevent us from becoming "hoarders" or simply "stretched too thin" and "burned out". Always keep in mind what you can truly handle and keep yourself within your limits.

ACQUISITION OF ANIMALS

Animals brought into Cuteodyssey will **ONLY** be decided upon by the Intake Coordinator or the Board of Directors. Cuteodyssey's main focus is to pull animals from kill shelters, puppy mills and local streets, owner turn ins are limited but do occur. If you would like to get an animal approved to come into Cuteodyssey, submit the animal's info, records and picture (if available) to Maria Angela Brunetto for review and possible approval.

HOUSING OF ANIMALS

ALL animals must be held at least 10 days for quarantine prior to placement. Cuteodyssey mainly utilizes one type of "housing" method, which is fostering in approved private foster homes. It is our desire to keep all foster animals indoors, but at times, it may be necessary for some of them to be kept in large pens outside. As soon as an indoor foster home can be arranged, the outdoor fosters will be moved indoors. **THESE OUTDOOR FOSTERS TAKE PRIORITY OVER ANY NEW ANIMALS COMING IN.** Indoor foster homes are best suited for creating a well-rounded, highly adoptable pet and will, therefore, remain Cuteodyssey's housing method of choice.

ADOPTIONS

The first step in finding a new home for any animal is listing them with a picture on Cuteodyssey's website. This site automatically posts each animal on PetFinder, Pets911, 1-800-SAVE-A-PET as well. The second step is networking through people we know. The third is Adoption Days. At times Cuteodyssey will advertise in The State classified ad section or Craig's List

Once you have found some prospective new owners, screen them well (see next section) and send all of the information to a Board member for final approval. Once you are comfortable with screening and adoptions, you will be able to conduct your own adoptions. **It is MANDATORY that all animals be spayed/neutered and current on vaccines prior to placement.**

A monetary adoption fee is requested of the new owners, which will be set on an individual basis according to the animal's breed, disposition, age, medical bills, etc. We accept personal checks with proper ID, Cashier's Checks, Money Orders, and PayPal. Adoption fees should be made payable to **Cute Odyssey Rescue, Inc. or CUTE ODYSSEY** and should go directly to Maria Angela Brunetto for deposit. **DO NOT** pay their fee for them! A reduced adoption fee may be allowed on an individual basis, depending upon the reason why. If a situation arises like this and you are not sure what to do, refer to Maria Angela Brunetto or Paul Avery. Adoption fees are **NOT** tax deductible, only donations are.

Original **SIGNED** Adoption contracts and all records need to be uploaded to the animal's profile and sent to Maria Angela Brunetto at Cuteodyssey's Address within 2 weeks of medical care and adoption. If you cannot upload, let Paul Avery know and mail them on to the Director. Be sure to keep an adopter's copy of medical records in your foster file box.

With proper evaluation and placement, the chance of an adoption not working out is lessened considerably. But should an animal not work out for any reason, you must impress on the new owners that the animal must be returned to Cuteodyssey ONLY. This eliminates the problem of having to bail the animal out of a shelter or having him/her end up in an unsuitable home. If a return is necessary, go pick up the animal IMMEDIATELY! This should be done within days - the adopter will become impatient very quickly. IF YOU CANNOT GET THERE WITHIN TWO DAYS, CALL ANOTHER VOLUNTEER FOR HELP! The application says one week, but rarely will they be that patient.

SCREENING POTENTIAL ADOPTERS

Screening potential adopters is an integral part of the rescue process. A successful adoption begins with the initial contact. It is the foster parent's responsibility to conduct all interviews rationally and fairly. Use the adoption process to help educate the public not only on the particular animal they wish to adopt, but also on responsible pet care and training. Rescuers have to be careful – be able to say “no” politely to a prospective adopter if the home is not suitable for an animal.

Some questions are useful for uncovering the true attitude of a prospective adopter:

Do you have children? What are their ages and interests? Will the children be expected to be responsible for the care of the animal? _____

Have you had this breed before? What attracted you to it? Why do you want this animal?

Do you currently have any pets? What are they (species/breed/age/sex)? Are they altered?

How many animals have you had in the last 10 years? What happened to them?

Do you have a fenced yard? Where will your animal stay during the day? At night? How many hours will it routinely stay alone? _____

Who is your veterinarian? _____

If the animal makes a mistake, what kind of correction will you make? What is your definition of disciplining an animal? _____

An adoption contract finalizes the qualifications previously discussed with the adopter. In addition, it absolves Cuteodyssey and its volunteers of liability for further actions of the animal. The contract spells out the rights and responsibilities of all sides and must be taken seriously as part of the final placement.

An important part of the adoption contract is the adopter's signature. Be sure they understand what they are agreeing to. They will receive a copy of the contract with their adoption kit. It is a good idea to schedule follow-up calls or visits to see how things are working out and head off problems quickly.

Sometimes, everything seems right for an adoption, yet you just do not feel right about it. As long as you are being realistic – GO WITH YOUR GUT!!! The final decision to place an animal often comes down to instinct. Your gut is rarely wrong. Adoptions should be a solid operation to ensure that the animal will be a part of the adopter's life forever.

Sometimes, no matter what potential problems you try to head off in the adoption process, it simply does not work out. Adoption returns can happen for various reasons. Do not blame yourself or feel guilty. As much as we want to keep returns to a minimum, we do not want an animal to be in a home where he/she does not fit in or is no longer wanted. Many foster parents worry that the return or “bouncing” is detrimental to the animal's

For one, we learn more about what that particular animal needs in a permanent home or in preparation for a permanent home. Some issues will not come up until an actual adoption occurs because each home environment is different. Second, an insecure animal will sometimes become more confident after being moved around a little (it forces them to be more outgoing). The same is true for animals with behavior problems because many of these problems can be attributed to insecurity as well. This is not to say that this is true in EVERY situation, but sometimes we simply do not give animals the credit they deserve for their superior resilience.

Note: Even for the animals that seem to be hurt by “bouncing”, it will open up areas that need work and strengthen them. This is not to say that returns are desirable because sometimes bouncing will cause damage that cannot easily be reversed. This is simply to say, if it cannot be avoided, look for the positive and help the animal to benefit from the situation.

THE LEGAL ANGLE OF RESCUE

When a private person or rescue operation takes possession of an animal and is intending to keep it or place it in a home, that rescuer and organization becomes legally responsible for the animal. The organization and rescuers are viewed as having the same responsibility as any other animal owner in terms of liability. By keeping the animal, the rescuer voluntarily assumes the duty to ensure that the animal does not violate any laws or cause any harm.

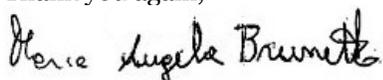
To avoid legal problems, we MUST:

1. Avoid negligence. To defend against a claim of negligence, it must be shown that the caretaker exercised reasonable care under the circumstances.
2. Inspect the potential home. What is necessary for this animal and is it there? The requirements for animals are very different for each depending upon many factors (i.e. disposition, breed, species, size, history, medical/special needs, etc.).
3. Learn about an animal's history. Find out as much as you can about the animal before you get it. Evaluate and learn about the animal while you have it and share everything you know with the prospective new owner.
4. **Adoption Contract** - The most important item (legally) included in the contract is an agreement by the new owners to indemnify and hold the rescuer and Cuteodyssey harmless from responsibility or liability for the acts of the animal while in the new owner/guardian's possession.

Unfortunately, sometimes the only safe thing to do is euthanize the animal. If an animal is overly aggressive or displays violent tendencies while in your care, you can be charged with actual knowledge of the animal's vicious propensity and you can be held legally responsible should that animal injure someone at a later date.

Rescue can be extremely gratifying, but do not forget to protect yourself and Cuteodyssey while protecting the animals. Give yourself time when needed and be forthcoming with us when/if you need a break. We look forward to many successful years of working together!

Thank you again,



Maria Angela Brunetto
Founder/President
<http://Cuteodyssey.org>

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