

# Surry County Animal Control Placement Partner Policies and Agreement

Our vision is to promote animals' quality of life and thus enrich our own. SCAC is aware that some animals who come to our agency may need medical or behavior rehabilitation that we are unable to provide based on our resources and animal care policies. By working with Placement Partners, SCAC can provide some of these animals with a second chance at recovery and the opportunity to find a new and appropriate home. SCAC is dedicated to helping animals and invites other animal welfare organizations to apply as a SCAC Placement Partner so that together we can improve the lives of companion animals in our community.

## SCAC Placement Partner Policies

- 1) SCAC is concerned for the welfare of all animals in our care, and we reserve the right to retain control over the transfer process for all such animals. Placement shall be deemed complete upon completion of all SCAC required paperwork and the animal's departure from the SCAC facility.
- 2) Any animal released to a Placement Partner must be surgically spayed or neutered, unless a veterinarian determines that it would jeopardize the animal's health to do so.
- 3) Placement Partners must agree to place animals with guardians who will respect them as companions.
- 4) Placement Partners must agree to never allow an animal to be used for medical experimentation or research.
- 5) Placement Partners must abide by any local, state or national laws and cannot knowingly place an animal with a person or group that is in non-compliant.
- 6) In order to minimize SCAC's legal liability and maintain our reputation for providing safe and adoptable companion animals, SCAC reserves the right to make the final decision regarding the suitability of any particular animal for release to a partner organization. SCAC will not knowingly release an animal that poses a threat to public safety. In situations where an animal has a history of behavior that causes concern or is showing behavior that is questionable, SCAC will attempt to disclose any and all of the information within its control to the Placement Partner and will only make the animal available to individuals or organizations with expertise in appropriate behavior modification.
  - a) Unless arranged in advance with SCAC, the animal's behavior must be assessed at SCAC and not taken to another facility. Once the animal has been transferred and before being taken to another facility, said Placement Partner assumes full responsibility for the animal including all medical care, and any behavioral incidents that may happen in the care of the Placement Partner.
  - b) In the event that an animal SCAC has placed with a Placement Partner shows signs of inappropriate aggression toward humans or fails to respond to rehabilitation for aggression toward other animals, SCAC will expect that animal to be humanely euthanized.
- 7) When approved by SCAC, the Placement Partner can take animals diagnosed with a medical condition to another veterinarian for a second opinion before agreeing to accept the animal. After the transfer takes place, SCAC will not be responsible for any medical conditions the animal may have, either diagnosed or undiagnosed, once they have been transferred. The Placement Partner will assume full responsibility for the animal's medical needs and associated costs until such time that the animal is placed into a permanent home.



(Continued on reverse)

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- 8) SCAC requires all Placement Partners to meet the minimum standards of animal care according to the Association of Shelter Veterinarians Guidelines for Standards of Care in Animal Shelters for housing, nutrition, exercise, medical care and socialization appropriate to the species. Animals should be maintained in a healthy and safe environment with appropriate human interaction and suitable interactions with other animals (when appropriate).
- 9) The Placement Partner and/or the trainers it employs agrees that the behavior modification techniques and methods used are not physically or mentally stressful or damaging to the animal.
- 10) Medical care shall only be provided by a licensed veterinarian, or a qualified veterinary technician.
- 11) Daily care, grooming and routine medical treatment prescribed by a veterinarian shall be consistently provided by the assigned Placement Partner representative throughout the animal’s stay.

SCAC’s Commitment to our Placement Partners:

Once the applying organization is accepted as a Placement Partner, SCAC agrees to do the following:

- 1) Accept the services of the Placement Partner
- 2) Provide the information that we have about an animal (which include copies of veterinary records, behavior assessments, and daily animal care notes) to enable the Placement Partner to make an informed decision about the animal.
- 3) Provide instructions on SCAC’s procedures that impact the Placement Partner.
- 4) Provide support to the Placement Partner in our routine interactions on the job, including responding to calls and e-mails in a timely manner.
- 5) Respect the skills and individual expertise of the Placement Partner and use our knowledge to understand their resource limitations.
- 6) Provide feedback on program interactions, and provide an opportunity for the Placement Partner to give us feedback so we might mutually better accomplish our respective tasks.
- 7) Be available to the Placement Partner and willing to discuss issues of concern to the Placement Partner, either in an impromptu discussion or by arranging a specific meeting time.

I agree that I have the authorization to enter into this agreement on behalf of the organization listed below, and that I have read and agree to all of SCAC’s policies outlined in this agreement.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of SCAC representative \_\_\_\_\_