



## **FACA Policy Statement**

### **Foster and Volunteer Programs**

The Florida Animal Control Association supports community-based animal sheltering and encourages the development and expansion of foster and volunteer programs. Foster care programs contribute to increased live release rates by providing personalized care for pets entering the shelter that may not be suitable candidates for immediate adoption. A successful foster program plays a vital role in increasing the availability of healthy, sociable, and adoptable pets while also alleviating constraints for space. It is recommended that all organizations accept and train volunteers and foster parents.

Volunteers are an important community resource that all organizations should utilize to help fill gaps in animal care, assist with adoption events, provide enrichment and training to shelter pets, and much more. A robust, well managed volunteer program engages the community and improves the quality of care for shelter pets.