Before you foster – ask yourself these questions!

Are you able to separate the foster animals from your own pets?

Foster animals should be isolated from your own companion animals. A bathroom or small separate room with NO carpet will work best.

Are you aware that there is a great deal of clean-up and even possible damage to your home when you take a foster animal(s) home?

Foster animals have ruined drapes, carpeting, clothing, and other valuable items. Preparing your home and the area the animals will stay in can prevent most accidents, but not all of them!

Are you able to monitor the health of the foster animals?

You will need to pay attention to signs of illness or worsening of symptoms and call HHS if you are concerned. Foster home training will cover what to look for and the HHS Operations Manager will help you decide if you should bring the animal in for treatment.

Can you get the animal to the vet quickly in case of an emergency?

If the animal(s) you are fostering needs medical attention, you will need to contact HHS for permission to transport the animal(s) to the hospital of their choice.

Are you emotionally prepared to return the animal to HHS after the foster period is up?

It can be very difficult to let go once you have become emotionally attached to the animals! Be prepared for tears and heartache when the day comes you must bring your first foster animal(s) back to HHS (all all others that follow!).

Can you place your trust in the HHS staff to decide what is the best for the animal(s)?

Sometimes adoption is not an option even after the animal(s) has been fostered. Knowing that the animal(s) you have fostered may need to be euthanized can be very hard to deal with.

Do you feel comfortable explaining to friends and family that these animals are not yours to adopt out and that they must go through the regular adoption process at HHS?

If you are interested in helping to find homes for your foster animal(s), refer your friends and family to HHS shelter staff to go through the adoption application process.