



THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES

The Humane Society of the United States *Emergency Services Placement Partners Policies and Agreement*

The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) responds to animals in need many times a year. These actions may be the result of a legal seizure from a puppy mill or animal hoarder, or they may be from disasters where pets could not be reunited with their owners. During these emergencies, animals are evaluated by a veterinarian for immediate health issues, but routine or complex medical treatment or behavioral assessment cannot be provided in a temporary environment. While The HSUS can provide emergency animal sheltering to the animals we rescue, we rely upon our relationships with other organizations to provide ongoing care and/or find life-long loving homes for them.

Emergency Services Placement Partners (ESPP)

The HSUS recognizes the benefits of collaborating with other animal welfare organizations in the placement of companion animals. We look forward to building a cooperative relationship with qualifying *Placement Partners*.

Non-profit Placement Partners are established, 501(c)3 animal welfare organizations incorporated for the purpose of sheltering and placing homeless animals. Such organizations either have animal sheltering facilities or use foster homes to house animals awaiting permanent homes.

Municipal Agency Placement Partners are typically operated by local government and may also assist in the rescue of animals from seizures or disasters.

Policies

The HSUS and the *Placement Partners* will adhere to the following policies:

1. Every *Placement Partner* must have submitted a completed application with the requested supporting documents and received written notice of approval from The HSUS to participate in the program. Application alone does not qualify as approval.
2. The HSUS is concerned for the welfare of all animals in our care and reserves the right to manage the transference of custody for all such animals to *Placement Partners*.
3. The HSUS expects *Placement Partners* to make responsible decisions and to uphold the care of animals. In the case that an animal is reported to be in an abusive situation and/or in violation of local or state laws, The HSUS reserves the right to reclaim said animal from a *Placement Partner*.
4. The HSUS reserves the right to observe the premises upon which any released animal will be (or is being) housed, including foster homes.

5. The HSUS and the *Placement Partners* will strive to best meet the needs of the animals by working together in an honest and collegial manner.
6. Any dog, cat or rabbit released to a *Placement Partner* must be spayed or neutered, when medically acceptable, prior to final placement.
7. *Placement Partners* must abide by all local, state or national laws with regard to their operations and may not knowingly place an animal with a person or group that is in non-compliance with local animal control and licensing codes.
8. Animals released to a *Placement Partner* may not be transferred to non-approved animal welfare organizations, rescue groups, or sanctuaries without the prior written consent of The HSUS.
9. Acceptance into the *Placement Partner* program does not imply endorsement of the *Placement Partner* by The HSUS. The terminology used to describe participating organizations does not infer any legal partnership or joint venture. Neither The HSUS nor the *Placement Partner* shall suggest or indicate that one exists or hold itself out in that fashion.
10. *Placement Partners* agree to provide updated organizational information if requested by The HSUS. The HSUS also reserves the right to require current, approved *Placement Partners* to reapply if warranted.
11. The HSUS reserves the right to refuse to release any animal or to terminate immediately its relationship with any *Placement Partner* that has not abided by these policies.
12. *The Placement Partner* acknowledges that it may be required to execute an additional, separate agreement with The HSUS prior to animals from a specific situation being placed with it and that such separate agreement may impose additional or different obligations on the *Placement Partner*. Upon execution by both parties, the terms of any such separate agreement shall control in the event of any conflict between its terms and those of this ***Emergency Services Placement Partners Policies and Agreement***.
13. The individual signing on behalf of the *Placement Partner* is authorized to do so.

THE “PLACEMENT PARTNER” IDENTIFIED BELOW ACKNOWLEDGES RECEIPT OF THE ABOVE POLICIES AND AGREES TO BE BOUND BY THEM.

Name of Organization: _____

Signature _____

Printed Name _____

Title _____

Dated _____

Signature of HSUS _____

Printed Name _____

Dated _____

This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall constitute an original and which together shall constitute one and the same instrument. Signatures transmitted by facsimile or electronically shall constitute original signatures.