



Free Spirit Siberian Rescue  
P.O. Box 626  
Harvard IL 60033  
815-245-2972  
Fax 815-943-5738  
[www.huskyrescue.org](http://www.huskyrescue.org)

Thank you for your interest in providing a foster home for a Siberian Husky from Free Spirit Siberian Rescue. This is a not-for-profit organization located in northern Illinois, dedicated to placing Siberian Huskies in permanent loving homes. These dogs, through no fault of their own, find themselves “orphans,” displaced from families who gave them up for many reasons, or strays that were saved from the streets by caring shelter workers.

Enclosed you will find a detailed fact sheet regarding our foster program. Please read it carefully, because it contains valuable information about both fostering and adoption procedures.

Keep in mind that, should you decide to become a foster family, you must provide the food, treats, love and training for the Siberian Husky placed in your care. The organization will reimburse you for the veterinary bills incurred by the foster dog, as well as provide a collar, rabies tag and micro chip tag (this collar and rabies and micro chip tags are NEVER to be removed from the dog)!

We are excited to get to know you and, with your help, to provide another Siberian Husky the chance for a new life. Thank you for your interest in Free Spirit Siberian Rescue. We look forward to your reply.

Karen Ferreri-Miller  
Free Spirit Siberian Rescue

We reserve the right to refuse or deny any application.



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**FOSTER  
APPLICATION**

*Hello,*

*We are glad that you are interested in fostering a Siberian Husky! A successful rescue becomes one of the most rewarding things you may ever experience. Please take some time to read through the enclosed materials, provide us with the information requested below, and mail the application to the above address.*

1.	NAME:	
2.	ADDRESS:	
3.	CITY/STATE/ZIP:	
4.	DAYTIME PHONE NUMBER:	
5.	EVENING PHONE NUMBER:	
6.	Best time to contact you?	
7.	EMAIL ADDRESS (if available):	
8.	Do you live in an apartment, condo, townhouse, or house?	
9.	How long at present address?	DO YOU RENT? <input type="checkbox"/> or OWN? <input type="checkbox"/>
10.	If renting, please provide landlord's contact information.	
11.	Occupation of household members?	
12.	EMPLOYER (s):	
13.	Please list names and ages of all people who will be living with the dog.	
14.	How did you hear of F*S*S*R ?	
15.	Have you fostered other dogs before?	LIST BREED (s)
16.	Will this be your first Siberian Husky?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
17.	Do you fully understand that a Siberian must never be allowed off leash unless within a fully fenced, secure area, and then never left unattended (circle one)? YES NO	Do you also understand that no amount of training can ever ensure that a Siberian can safely be off leash or unconfined, and that not strictly adhering to this restriction will place your foster Siberian at risk of serious injury or even death (circle one)? YES NO
18.	Are you aware that Siberian Huskies shed, are known diggers and escape artists, and love to run (circle one)?	YES NO
19.	LIST OTHER PETS YOU CURRENTLY OWN : (please include breed, age, sex, and whether they are spayed/neutered)	
20.	Have your current dogs been tested for heartworm, and are they on preventative?	

21.	Do you have cats or any other small pets?			
22.	Do any of your current pets have characteristics F*S*S*R should be aware of?			
23.	NAME / ADDRESS / PHONE NUMBER of current vet:			
24.	Is someone home during the day (circle one)?      YES NO	Work hours?		
25.	Who will be the primary caretaker of this dog?			
26.	What is your opinion regarding the use of a proper dog crate?			
27.	How many hours a day will the dog be unsupervised?	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>During this time, how will the dog be kept? (check one only)</td> <td> <input type="checkbox"/> Have the "run of the house"  <input type="checkbox"/> Be inside, in a crate  <input type="checkbox"/> Be outside, in a kennel run (describe below)  <input type="checkbox"/> Be outside, in a fenced yard (describe below) </td> </tr> </table>	During this time, how will the dog be kept? (check one only)	<input type="checkbox"/> Have the "run of the house" <input type="checkbox"/> Be inside, in a crate <input type="checkbox"/> Be outside, in a kennel run (describe below) <input type="checkbox"/> Be outside, in a fenced yard (describe below)
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28.	Please describe kennel run (height, length, type of fencing, type of base)			
29.	Do you have a fenced yard?	Please describe (size, type of fencing, height of fence):		
30.	Where will the dog be kept during the night?			
31.	Are you aware that Siberian Huskies shed, are known diggers and escape artists, and love to run (circle one)?      YES NO			
32.	Do you have the time to housetrain the dog, if necessary?	If no, why?		
33.	Do you have the time to take the dog to obedience training, if necessary?	If no, why?		
34.	Are you willing to have a F*S*S*R representative visit your home by appointment?			
35.	Would you consider a Husky mix?			
36.	<p>REFERENCES: (please provide the names, addresses, and phone numbers for two people who are not relatives and do not reside in your household)</p>	<p>(1)</p> <p>(2)</p>		

*Please feel free to use additional sheets if necessary to provide any further information you feel will help us in evaluating your application.*

Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**We reserves the right to refuse or deny any application**



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## Foster Agreement

### IT IS AGREED:

*The foster individual(s) acknowledge(s) the purposes and aims of Free Spirit Siberian Rescue and recognizes the reasonable interest in assuring the proper and humane treatment of rescue Siberian Huskies during temporary placement with the foster home. The foster individual(s) represent(s) that no member of the family has been charged with cruelty to animals and agree(s) to accept the following conditions and restrictions in order to be eligible to provide a foster home for rescue Siberian Huskies.*

- i. The foster home will keep the rescue Siberian Husky indoors or in a kennel run. It will not be tied to a doghouse or to a chain, nor left unsupervised in a yard where the dog can dig or climb out.
- ii. The foster home will provide the rescue Siberian Husky with an adequately fenced yard and/or will walk the dog on a leash daily. At no time will any Siberian Husky be allowed to run loose while unattended, or be allowed off-leash at any time.
- iii. The foster individual(s), when away from home for over a 24-hour period, will advise the rescue coordinator, so that alternative arrangements can be made for the Siberian Husky.
- iv. The foster home acknowledges that their residence, if rented, permits pets pursuant to the lease, or by special permission of the landlord or resident manager.
- v. The rescue Siberian Husky will never be attack- or guard-trained or used as a property guard dog. Further, this dog will not be used in any aspect of dog/animal fighting.
- vi. The foster family will provide said rescue Siberian Husky with all the care and attention necessary to ensure its health and well being. This will include providing sufficient food, water, exercise, competent veterinary care, including transportation to and from veterinary clinic, annual vaccinations, deworming, prompt veterinary care in the event of illness or injury, and heartworm preventative. The foster home will maintain a medical expense log for any rescue dogs in its care and will give the rescue coordinator receipts for all medical expenses, in order to be reimbursed for said expenses.
- vii. The rescue Siberian Husky will not be abused in any manner. The rescue Siberian Husky will not be beaten or otherwise treated cruelly, and will not be the subject of, or subjected to, any biological, chemical, psychological, or other experiment.
- viii. In the event the rescue Siberian Husky is lost or stolen, the foster individual(s) will contact the rescue coordinator immediately, advertise in major newspapers and make all reasonable attempts to locate the animal.
- ix. The foster individual(s) shall not give, lease, or otherwise transfer custody of the rescue Siberian Husky to any other person, or to any business or organization, except to return the dog to Free Spirit Siberian Rescue.
- x. The foster individual(s) will notify the rescue coordinator immediately of all and any changes in residence, mailing address, and/or telephone number.
- xi. The foster individual(s) will notify the rescue coordinator immediately of the rescue Siberian Husky's serious illness and/or death.
- xii. The foster individual(s) must notify the rescue coordinator within twelve (12) hours of any bite by the rescue Siberian Husky inflicted in a human or another animal not owned by the foster individual(s).
- xiii. The foster individual(s) recognize(s) the need to ensure that the rescue Siberian Husky is receiving proper and humane care, and agrees to allow inspection of the foster home and the conditions in which the rescue Siberian Husky is living, at any reasonable time by a Free Spirit Siberian Rescue representative.

- xiv. The foster individual(s) agree(s) to immediately surrender custody of the rescue Siberian Husky to a Free Spirit Siberian Rescue representative upon demand. The foster individual(s) agree(s) that the foster individual(s) has/have no legal ownership and will not obtain any legal rights to the rescue Siberian Husky in their care.
- xv. Should it be necessary to litigate in connection with any dispute concerning the care, treatment, and/or custody of a rescue animal directly under the care of the foster home, the foster individual(s) agree(s) to pay all court costs and reasonable attorney fees.
- xvi. The foster individual(s) recognize(s) that, although the Free Spirit Siberian Rescue Program has made reasonable efforts to provide a rescue Siberian Husky which is compatible with the environment of the foster individual(s), the foster home agrees that Free Spirit Siberian Rescue does not warrant the temperament or behavior of the rescue Siberian Husky, and that Free Spirit Siberian Rescue is not to be held liable for any acts of the rescue Siberian Husky while living with the foster individual(s). The foster family agrees to notify the rescue coordinator immediately if it believes the temperament or behavior of the rescue Siberian Husky is incompatible with the foster home environment.
- xvii. The foster individual(s) state(s) that they have reasonable knowledge about the proper care of dogs and more specifically, Siberian Huskies. The foster home agrees to be responsible for the proper supervision of the rescue Siberian Husky in its possession. Should Free Spirit Siberian Rescue suffer any damages or legal costs as a result of the negligent supervision of the rescue Siberian Husky in the foster home's care, the foster individual(s) agree(s) to indemnify Free Spirit Siberian Rescue for all such damages and costs.
- xviii. The foster individual(s) acknowledge(s) that the purpose of the Free Spirit Siberian Rescue Program in establishing the conditions in this agreement is to safeguard the health and well-being of the rescue Siberian Husky, to protect the rescue Siberian Husky against neglect, abuse, and cruelty, and to temporarily house a rescue Siberian Husky until a permanent home is found. The foster individual(s) enter(s) into this Agreement freely and with knowledge.
- xix. In consideration of the Free Spirit Siberian Rescue Program, I/we agree to assume full responsibility for the conduct of the rescue Siberian Husky during its foster care stay with me/us. I/we further agree to hold harmless Free Spirit Siberian Rescue or any individuals associated with the Free Spirit Siberian Rescue Program, and to indemnify such organizations or individuals for any damages or costs resulting from liability, known or unknown, anticipated or unanticipated, as a result of the rescue Siberian Husky's conduct during its foster care stay with me/us.

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_

Signature	Signature
Print Name	Print Name
Street Address	
City/State/Zip plus 4	
Business Phone	Business Phone
Home Phone	
F*S*S*R Representative	



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## **FOSTERING A SIBERIAN HUSKY**

Thank you for your interest in becoming a foster family for FREE SPIRIT SIBERIAN RESCUE. Foster families represent FREE SPIRIT SIBERIAN RESCUE in general, and a rescued Siberian Husky in particular, to the public. FREE SPIRIT SIBERIAN RESCUE relies heavily on a foster family's assistance and judgment from the moment a dog is placed in their home. If you decide to help, it will be a commitment that provides many rewards. There's a lot to know, and we learn more with each dog we rescue. In fact, we encourage you to share your experiences and insights with us, so that we can pass them along to future volunteers. The following information should give you a good idea of what is involved in fostering for rescue.

**ADOPTION...AN OVERVIEW.** People interested in adopting a rescue Siberian Husky from FREE SPIRIT SIBERIAN RESCUE are asked to complete an application and have a home visit from a volunteer. Once the application is approved by the FREE SPIRIT SIBERIAN RESCUE Adoption Committee, and assuming there is a Siberian Husky in rescue that might be a good match, the applicant is referred directly to the family fostering that particular dog. Arrangements are made between the foster family and the applicant to meet the dog, usually at the foster family's home. It is preferable to have all members of the applicant's family available to meet and interact with the Siberian Husky. If all are in agreement that the home for the Siberian is suitable, a "hold" is placed on that dog. Normally, the new family is asked to wait 24 hours to make the decision, but this is flexible. Occasionally an adoptive family will be given the chance to have the Siberian in their home for a short trial period before being asked to make a final decision. Upon adoption, the new owner signs an adoption contract, and FREE SPIRIT SIBERIAN RESCUE accepts an adoption donation. The FREE SPIRIT SIBERIAN RESCUE representative also gives the adopters copies of all vaccination and medical records.

**FOSTERING...THE BASICS.** Should you decide to become a foster family, you'll take a rescued Siberian Husky into your home and care for him or her as you would your own pet, providing food, shelter, companionship, basic training and exercise, arranging for any required veterinary care, and supplying generous amounts of patience and love. The fostering period can last anywhere from a few days to several weeks. Some Siberians may not get along well with other dogs, cats, or children, and take longer to place. Your evaluation of the Siberian's character, temperament, and training level is invaluable; the more we know about a dog's habits and behavior (positive and negative), the easier it is to match him or her to the perfect owner.

**BEFORE FOSTERING BEGINS.** A FREE SPIRIT SIBERIAN RESCUE representative will visit your home to help evaluate your situation and determine what type of Siberian would fit into your lifestyle most easily. We also ask that you complete one of our Foster Applications. If you have other pets, it is very important they be current on all vaccinations before you begin fostering. This includes vaccinations against rabies, parvovirus, and kennel cough (Bordetella). Your dog(s) should also be on preventative heartworm medicine. If you have dogs that have not been spayed or neutered, please be sure we know this.

The first priority for a Siberian Husky coming in to rescue is to see that all vaccinations are current; a heartworm test is done, and the dog is placed on preventive heartworm medicine. The next step is to arrange for the Siberian to be spayed or neutered. FREE SPIRIT SIBERIAN RESCUE has established favorable pricing with area veterinary clinics, and you might be asked to help with transport for these visits. If you are not able to transport a dog, other volunteers will be called upon to help.

**THE SIBERIAN'S BACKGROUND.** A rescued Siberian Husky may have come from a shelter, been a stray, or had a very secure home. Surprisingly, the dog coming from a previous home may show the most stress, as he or she has been accustomed to a particular environment and routine, and may suffer a loss of security when thrust into a new situation. A stray dog, or one coming from a shelter, often adapts to new situations more readily.

**EASING THE STRESS.** Almost every Siberian Husky has been through some ordeal before being rescued. The dog may have been in a shelter, housed under less-than-ideal conditions in the original home, been tied outside, neglected, abused mentally or physically, reprimanded too much or not at all, or have been homeless and subject to many stray dog experiences. Whatever the history, the Siberian may be unsettled both physically and emotionally upon arriving at your home. Quite often, dogs will mirror their environment; it helps to initially limit distractions around the house such as television, loud noises or music, and children's activity levels. Rescued Siberians need large amounts of reassurance, attention, and affection every step of the way. Patience is a key attribute of our best foster families.

Signs of temporary stress include shedding, panting, pacing, general restlessness, increased water consumption, and a more frequent need to urinate. Sometimes the excitement of a new home and surroundings can cause the rescued Siberian to forget it was previously housebroken. Monitor water intake and give frequent opportunities for potty breaks for the first several days. Until you are sure the dog is housebroken, leave a short leash attached to the collar for quick exits, and confine the dog to one or two rooms initially, so you can more easily monitor any accidents.

**SAFETY AND SEPARATION.** One of your most important tasks is to provide a safe environment for the rescued Siberian Husky. This means always

FREE SPIRIT SIBERIAN RESCUE encourages the short-term use of crating for many rescue dogs; it helps dogs adapt to their new environment more quickly, can help in monitoring the level of housebreaking, protect furniture from younger or more “chewy” dogs, and also give the Siberian a small ‘place of his own’ where he knows he is safe.

For health reasons, some Siberian Huskies may need to be separated from other animals for several days when they first come into rescue. This can also mean you must carefully monitor and immediately remove feces from your yard, to avoid contamination or spreading disease (such as worms) to your own pets.

**TRAINING.** As a foster family, you help “socialize” the Siberian and make him or her more adoptable. This can include helping the Siberian learn to trust people again, as many dogs may have been abandoned or abused. You may also teach or reinforce basics like housebreaking, commands such as Sit, Come, or Stay. Some Siberians may have been through an obedience course, and some may come with absolutely no clue about what is expected. FREE SPIRIT SIBERIAN RESCUE places these Siberian Huskies to be indoor dogs, but some of them have lived outside all of their lives. Some, coming from the worst possible environment -- a puppy mill -- may have been subjected to living in an unclean kennel with multiple other dogs. You must acclimate the dog to indoor living and teach appropriate “house manners.” Never use physical punishment; if you’re having trouble correcting a behavioral problem, contact FREE SPIRIT SIBERIAN RESCUE to discuss alternatives. Avoid shouting, which can also cause great emotional stress to the rescue Siberian. Keep in mind that some adult rescue dogs need more care and attention than a puppy.

**HEALTH CARE.** You are responsible for monitoring and maintaining the health of the Siberian in your care. This includes feeding a quality dry food such as NutroMax, Iams, or Eukanuba, sometimes bringing a “skinny” Siberian back up to proper weight, providing monthly heartworm medication (the cost of which is reimbursed by FREE SPIRIT SIBERIAN RESCUE), and watching for any sign of illness or other condition that would require veterinary care (such as vomiting, worms in the stool, coughing, ear infections, diarrhea, etc.).

**EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENTS.** FREE SPIRIT SIBERIAN RESCUE reimburses all medical expenses; however, veterinary care should first be discussed with a FREE SPIRIT SIBERIAN RESCUE representative. This is our biggest expense, and we have established favorable pricing with several reputable clinics. As a general rule, we are not able to reimburse other expenses such as mileage, phone calls, dog food, toys, etc.

**RECORD-KEEPING.** You will need to keep accurate records of veterinary care. The original medical records will be given to the new adoptive family; copies will be kept by FREE SPIRIT SIBERIAN RESCUE.

**SUPPLIES YOU'LL NEED.** Some things you will need on hand include a long leash, dog grooming brush and comb, chew and play toys appropriate for large dogs, quality dog food, water and food dishes, and a method of confining and/or separating the dog (either crating, closing doors, or putting up gates to certain rooms). FREE SPIRIT SIBERIAN RESCUE also provides a collar and ID tag which must stay on the dog at all times.

**IF THINGS DON'T WORK OUT.** Support or advice from other experienced foster families is always available. If a Siberian Husky cannot adapt to a particular situation, FREE SPIRIT SIBERIAN RESCUE will place the dog in a new foster home.