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## **SPCA Florida Need Emergency Foster Families Amid COVID-19 Pandemic**

Lakeland, FL— SPCA Florida is one of the many animal shelters working to continue to care for dogs and cats as more and more people are staying home to stop the spread of COVID-19.

COVID-19 could mean shelters, like SPCA Florida, might close to the public and operate with reduced staff. If so, here's how you can help a shelter cat or dog in need.

SPCA Florida plans to move as many animals as possible off premises and into foster homes. This will help while we have staffing shortages as employees and volunteers are requesting to self-quarantine. The virus is unpredictable and could change at any given time, therefore, we are not sure how long these animals will need to be in foster homes.

We are asking potential fosters to go online today and apply to take a dog, cat, kittens or mom and kittens. Who better to ride out the coronavirus crisis with, but a shelter animal! Fostering is a great opportunity for those practicing social distancing or being told to work from home.

Our cats will start leaving this Saturday, March 28. A drive-up system is being implemented so you will not need to get out of your car or go into the building. We will have your cat or kittens ready, along with supplies. This arrangement will be discussed with you prior to Saturday. The same process will take place Sunday, March 29 for the pickup of dogs.

If you are interested and able to foster an animal from the shelter, please fill out the application at the link below.

<https://cutt.ly/BtbVICT>

An SPCA Florida representative will reach out to you with information about how you can help. Thank you for supporting our local homeless dogs and cats and helping them safely live through this pandemic.

SPCA Florida is asking for financial, foster, and adoption support. To help, go online at [www.spcaflorida.org](http://www.spcaflorida.org) and donate, foster or check out our adoptable dogs and cats.

### **About SPCA Florida**

*Founded in 1979, SPCA Florida is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization headquartered in Lakeland, serving all of Polk County and the surrounding communities. Dedicated to improving the lives of pets and people, SPCA Florida provides caring, compassion and hope to more than 4,300 homeless animals entering our doors each year.*

*Open to the public, our Reva McClurg Animal Medical Center is a state-of-the-art veterinary facility that heals and helps 50,000 patients annually. Thousands more pets and people are served through our community outreach and education programs.*

*Simplistically, every \$100 donated to SPCA Florida, or essentially the cost of an average adoption, equates to \$3,000 worth of positive economic impact throughout Polk County, Central Florida, and the state. Additionally, we are proud of the fact that 92% of every dollar goes to program resources and helping homeless animals.*

