

Outline of Planned Operations and Evaluation Criteria For Verifying and Rating Rescues to the Benefit of The Animals We Serve

PLEASE REVIEW AND RETURN COMMENTS TO US BY FEBRUARY 20, 2013 SO WE MAY PROCEED WITH CONSTRUCTION OF THE VERIFIED DOCUMENTS. You May Reply at www.VerifiedRescues.org



**Supported and Effected Organizations and Key Partner Groups RESCUES SHELTERS FOSTERS VOLUNTEERS ADOPTERS** 

## **Advantages** & Benefits

### Rescues

- Manuals for all rescue protocol, checklists and standards
- Resources & Partnerships
- Support
- Financials
- Reviews of rating system for shelter and outside rescue partnership verifications
- Transport & home check volunteer databases
- Do Not Adopt auto notification service/database

### Volunteers/Fosters

- Manual for all rescue protocol, checklists and standards
- Resources & Partnerships
- Support
- Internal (by rescue volunteers and shelter staff) and external (by adopters, partners, etc) rating system of rescues for continuous checks & balances

### **Shelters**

- Objective rescue evaluation procedures
- Verified Rescues are pre-vetted for you
- Protection for pulled animals
- Resources & Partnerships
- Support
- Internal (by rescue volunteers and shelter staff) and external (by adopters, partners, etc) rating system of rescues for continuous checks &
- County by County rescue registry
- Do Not Adopt auto notification service/database

### **Adopters**

- Trust in background of rescue
- Objective rating system criteria
- After adoption resources and assistance

### **Planned** Resources

### Manuals & **Procedures**

### Customizable Manual & Procedure Templates

- Home Checks
- Foster Parents
- Adoptions - Checklists
- Rescue Procedures
- Adoption Books

# **Rating System** (Angie's List)

- Rating & Feedback by Fosters
- Rating & Feedback by Volunteers Rating & Feedback by Shelters
- Rating & Feedback by Adopters

## **Partnerships & Key Networks**

- Veterinarian
- Legal
- Financial
- Training & Behavior
- Post-Adoption Success

### **Home Check Database**

- National database of approved volunteers available to complete home visits for both foster parent and adoption applicants.
- VR provides a checklist home check volunteers must complete.

### **Transport Database**

- National network of transporters. and transport service partners.
- Available transport days, times, distances and itinerary builder.

# **National Do-Not-Adopt Registry**

- Email alerts when someone is added. Searchable database for background checks during pre-adoption procedures.
- Complete with geographic areas, summaries, notes, pictures and aliases of offenders.

### **News & Notices**

# Proposed

### **Verified Rescue Tiers**

### Tier 1: 501c3 Non-Profit, PLUS Fully Verified, Adheres to all Requirements & Guidelines

### Tier 2: Pending 501c3, PLUS Fully Verified, Adheres to all Requirements & Guidelines

### Tier 3: Qualified With Exemptions Takes No Outside Donations

Fully Verified, Small Rescue, High Feedback Ratings,

# **OUR MISSION**

Verified Rescues' Mission is ONLY about creating a happy experience for the rescue animal - from pull to foster to adoption and post-adoption followup.

The magic of Verified Rescues is to find agreeable balance of rules and flexibility that gets the most animals out of high kill shelters and into happy homes - whether rescue, foster or forever.

Some wish to make VR about rescue, but VR is NOT about rescue - it is about animals. As a rescue you may not like everything VR initiates but you will never be able to say that what we do is detrimental to the happiness and safety of a rescue animal.

We have big plans to assist rescues in their goal of saving animals. Those plans include:

- 1. Home visit volunteer database they will do home visits for busy rescues
- 2. Rescue rating system like Angie's list including volunteer, foster and forever family feedback
- 3. County Animal Control's adoption of VR's quality rescue criteria
- 4. Marketing programs to adopting familities to look on VRs site to find quality rescues based on their ratings and other criteria, such as their 501c3 standing, feedback and comments on the site and other evaluation tools.
- 5. VR marketing materials to promote the fact that you are Verifed

Please join us in making the most of this new program to increase the quality experience for the animals by reading the outline and particiating by providing feeedback and even helping write the document.

Thank you in advance for your help!

Art Fyvolent and Alison Walter Founders Verified Rescues (in organization)

# ORGANIZATIONAL OUTLINE

- 1 Our Mission about the animals happy, healthy and balanced
- 2. What is a "Rescue" and how do you qualify?
- 3. Verified Rescue Criteria
  - a. Verified Rescue Classifications:

Tier 1 (501);

Tier 2 (pending 501)

Tier 3 Qualified Exemptions

- 4. Rescue Organization and Operations
  - A. Suggested Rescue staffing and volunteers
    - a. Medical coordinator
    - b. Foster coordinator
    - c. Pull coordinator
    - d. Adoption coordinator
    - e. Home visit coordinator
    - f. Marketing Coordinator
  - B. Pulling of Animals
    - a. Spay Neuter
    - b. Shots and Vaccines
    - c. Vet Visit Requirements
    - d. Medical Records
    - e. Microchips
    - f. Set up Charting/Book
  - C. Evaluation and Vetting of Animal
  - D. Animal Care Procedures
    - a. Quantity limitations and Management
    - b. Crating
    - c. Human bonding
    - d. Exercise, Play and Walks
    - e. Socialization
    - f. Food and Nutrition
    - g. Vet Care
  - E. Foster Program
    - a. Staff Liaison
    - b. Vetting, Intake, Acceptance and Management
    - c. Evaluate foster for ability and knowledge
    - d. Know their limitation

Limitation chart - size of house; size of yard; size of dog; fenced and/or walked daily; job out of home time; weekend requirements; size of family; size of current pack.

- f. Budget for Care Cost /animal(s) per week
- g. Foster training in animal care
- h. Daily human interaction

- i. Meeting strangers
- i. Socialization
- k. Basic training
- l. Record Keeping
- m. Prepare foster home for a pet
- n. Preparing their yard fencing, objects, neighbors
- o. Managing foster health issues
- p. Foster home follow up and follow through

Return home visits & phone calls

Record Keeping

# F. Marketing Your Rescue Animals

- a. Facebook page, posting, gaining friends
- b. Use of other social media
- c. Rescue Website
- d. Petfinder and other pet portals
- e. Craigslist how to post/what to say and not say
- f. Marketing or graphic designer partner
- g. Photographer partner

# Pet Adoption Events

- a. Volunteer and foster coordination
- b. Planning before, during and after
- c. Clean up and wrap up
- d. Potential adopters or foster handouts be memorable

# G. Veterinarian Relationships

- a. Community Medical Liaison
- b. Foster parents' vet relationship requirements and maintenance

# E. Adoptions Criteria

- a. Evaluating the home for your rescue animal
- b. Education and training
- c. Home visits
- d. Foster-to-Adopt option
- e. Applications
- f. Select or Reject for the Animal

# Rescue Book - folder

- a. Daily log for food, exercise, training and crating
- b. Photo of progress for adopting family (marketing)
- c. Medical records

# H. Adoption

- a. Home Visit Requirements & Checklist
- b. Adoption Book

- 1. Pictures
- 2. Characteristics
- 3. Likes & dislikes
- 4. Daily checklist of activities
- 5. Food
- 6. Medical History & Future Needs
- c. Post adoption follow up
- d. Procedures if an animal gets returned?
- I. Establishing Your Network
  - 1. Rescue to Rescue
  - 2. Pull shelter staff, volunteers and management
  - 3. Volunteer network
  - 4. Foster network
  - 5. Medical and veterinarian relationships
  - 6. Transport
- J. Annual Evaluation by Verified Rescue
  - 1. Annual updates on service quality and issues
  - 2. Peer review statistics
  - 3. Foster, Adopters reviews
  - 4. Grading system for perceived quality ranking