



Dear Friend,

We know that sometimes, life can throw us a few curveballs. If you're faced with challenge of having to balance your companion animal's needs with changes in your life, we're here to help. We can offer resources support and to help you make the best decisions for your pet.

Enclosed in this **No Place Like Home** packet is information to help you in this process, including:

**Alternatives to Re-Homing**

Our ultimate goal is to help you keep your beloved animal companion. We can assist with behavior or medical problems that may be making it difficult to keep your companion at home.

**Rehoming Service**

If you're unable to keep your pet and must find an alternative home for him or her, our placement service offers tools to help you without having to surrender him or her to a shelter.

**Marin Humane Admissions**

We realize that sometimes re-homing your animal yourself is not an option. Because of this, we've included information about surrendering your animal.

We're here to help you and your beloved animal during this process, just ask.

Sincerely,

Marin Humane

### **Behavior Resources**

Does your pet have behavior issues which are making it difficult for you to keep him or her? We want to help.

We can offer you a **free consultation** with one of behavior consultants. They'll meet with you and your pet and discuss your options. Let their expertise help you with your decision. We're also able to address many behavior issues with a phone consultation.

**Cat Behavior Advice line: 415.506.6284**

**Dog Behavior Advice line 415.506.6281**

**Small Companion Behavior Advice line: 415.506.6225**

(rabbits, guinea pigs, hamsters, rats, reptiles, birds)

### **Veterinary Care Resources**

Are you unable to keep your pet because of a veterinary expense you can't afford? We want to help. Marin Humane has a Pet Care Assistance program that can provide you with financial assistance for veterinary care. One time grants are available and ongoing pet care support are available for anyone in need.

**Community Engagement: 415.506.6255**

**We also recommend these additional resources for veterinary assistance:**

Speaking for Spot at [www.speakingforspot.com](http://www.speakingforspot.com)

Care Credit at [www.carecredit.com](http://www.carecredit.com)

The Pet Fund at [www.thepetfund.com](http://www.thepetfund.com)

Red Rover Relief Grants at [www.redrover.org](http://www.redrover.org)

## **Rehoming Service**

Finding a new home for your companion animal without having to bring him or her into the shelter is almost always best for your pet. As we like to say, there's no place like home. Our rehoming program provides tools for you to find a responsible and loving family for your pet without causing him or her stress by entering the shelter system. We can even showcase your pet on our website. There are also many rescue organizations that can help in find a home for your pet and we've included a list of possible options.

### **Before you start looking for a new home for your pet, consider the following:**

Always make sure your pet is spayed or neutered and is up-to-date on all of his or her vaccinations. This will make it easier for you to find a new home for your pet. If your animal is not spayed or neutered, we can help with getting this done at low or no cost. For more information, on spay and neuter services please call 415.506.6268. Next, follow these guidelines. Be thorough and patient – finding the right home takes time, but it's worth it for your sake and the sake of your pet.

- **Take several color photos of your pet.** Show off your pet's cutest and most endearing qualities.
- **Write a story about your pet.** Include the reason your pet needs a new home, the kind of home he or she needs and would do well in, and some "human interest" information – for example, your pet's funniest behaviors, his/her favorite things to do, or the thing you love most about your pet. Many people write the story from the animals perspective, for example, "Hi, my name is Midnight..."
- **Network.** Give your photos, story and e-mail to everyone you know asking for their help. Search the internet for additional resources, such as breed-specific rescues. Use your Facebook profile or Twitter account to ask your network to share your pet and assist in the search for a new home. Advertise through your workplace email or your community bulletin board. Post your animal on Nextdoor.com. Placing your pet with someone you know will ease the transition for you, the new guardian and your pet.
- **Make a re-homing poster.** Simple templates can be found online, and free graphic design websites like canva.com and picmonkey.com can help you create a more eye-catching poster to print or share online. Place the re-homing posters in veterinary offices and pet supply stores near and far, where people who take good care of their animals visit often.

### **Helpful hints on evaluating potential adopters:**

- **Interview potential adopters carefully.** Use the adoption application, also called the Pets and People Profile we have provided as a guide.

- **Review the “Pets and People Profile”.** Go over this document with each applicant to see if the applicant’s lifestyle is compatible with your pet. Does your pet fight with cats? Is your pet high or low energy? Make sure he/she fits into the lifestyle of the applicant’s family, and your pet is what they’re really looking for.

- **Take the time to consider applicants.** Don’t allow yourself to be pressured into making a decision that you do not feel right about. Your judgment is your best guide.

- **Follow up.** Call to see how your pet is doing in his/her new home. A responsible owner will welcome your concern for the animal.

### **Rehoming your pet through our website:**

Marin Humane provides this free service for owners needing to find a new home for their pet. Animals can be posted on our website and potential adopters can contact you directly. These animals are not located at Marin Humane, but are in your home. Marin Humane provides this service, but we are not responsible for the animals posted on this page.

To use this service we ask that you provide a photo (or a few), a description of your pet including age, breed, and if they have been spayed or neutered. In order to have your post listed you must provide contact information (phone number and email). We will be unable to post your pet if there is not contact information provided. This service is designed to help people whose pets are already spayed or neutered.

Your posting will not appear immediately, but will be reviewed within 48 hours. Your posting will remain on our site for 60 days. Please contact us if your pet has been rehomed so we can remove it from our website.

## ANIMALS SURRENDERED BY THEIR OWNER/GUARDIAN

### Making the decision

Thank you for entrusting us with the future of your animal. We understand that surrendering your animal can be a difficult and painful decision and we hope you've explored all alternatives. If you need resources for placement, would like to utilize our animal behavior consultants, or would like a listing of rental properties that accept companion animals, please ask!

### Policy and procedure

Marin Humane is an open admissions animal shelter, meaning we accept all animals regardless of their behavior, health or age. Although we cannot guarantee a new home for your companion animal, we consider each case individually. In cases of severe behavioral or medical issues, humane euthanasia may be the most appropriate option however **we never euthanize based on the length of time an animal was been awaiting adoption or to make space.**

If you decide to surrender your companion animal, please understand you are surrendering all rights and responsibility of this animal to Marin Humane.

The surrender process involves:

- a) Completing our questionnaire about the animal. **The more information you can provide, the better our chances of finding a new home for him or her.**
- b) Signing the surrender form
- c) Paying the surrender fee

In County dogs/cats, sterilized	\$50 each
In County dogs/cats, unsterilized	\$75 each
In County litters	\$75
Out of County dogs/cats	\$175 each
Out of County litters	
1-4	\$150
5-8	\$300
9-12	\$450
Birds and small mammals	\$10 each
Amphibians/reptiles	TDB
Livestock	TBD
Horses	TBD
- d) Bringing the animal to the shelter

**Please also make sure to bring any medical records you have for your animal.**

All animals are evaluated for health and temperament. If placed in our adoption program, animals will remain available for adoption until a suitable home is found and as long as she/he remains in good health and temperament. Our adoption rate is consistently above national average. If we're unable to place an animal in our adoption program, we may find a foster home, or contact other rescue and placement organizations.

Thank you in advance for helping us help your companion animal.