

## **Foster Support Team**

The Rural Dog Rescue Foster Support Team and Mentor program consists of experienced fosters acting as mentors for new foster families. Our Mentors are matched with newly rescued dogs as they transition from the shelter to their foster home. The mission of our Support Team is to serve as the main point of contact for any issues that may arise throughout the duration of the dog's stay in a foster home. All new foster families should expect to hear from their Mentor within the first few hours of bringing home a new foster. Our support team is available to answer questions and provide guidance to their assigned foster families.

*If you have not heard from a Foster Mentor within 24 hours of bringing home a dog and are looking for assistance, please contact our Foster Team Lead (Angela) via text message at **703-505-1341** or email [Angelizneis@gmail.com](mailto:Angelizneis@gmail.com) for less urgent issues.*

### **Reasons to contact your Foster Mentor:**

- Have questions that are not answered in the Foster Handbook.
- Concerns about potty training, crate training, or vocalization in the home.
- Questions about feeding your dog or irregular bowel movements.
- Questions about proper gear, toys, treats, and other items you want to use with your pup.
- Initial medical questions/concerns around diarrhea, coughing, itchy skin, or superficial injuries.

### **When to escalate to the Foster Coordinator:**

- Serious medical injury that includes open wounds, broken bones, or vomiting.
- Dog has gotten away from you and you cannot find/catch them.
- You or someone you know wants to adopt your foster dog.
- Dog is showing signs of aggression or has bitten someone.
- You need to move the dog to a new foster home or are looking for temp coverage.