



[www.mollysmuttsandmeows.org](http://www.mollysmuttsandmeows.org)  
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Thank you for taking the first step to help save a life of an animal in need.

The purpose of this document is to provide background on the Molly's Mutts & Meows organization and provide guidance to help your foster animal find a forever home.

#### Background

Molly's Mutts & Meows was founded in 2005 with one important mission: to help animals from the Los Angeles area shelters find loving, new forever homes. We work independently, but also partner, pull and place animals with other reputable 501c3 rescue groups. We are in the business of rescuing animals, both dogs and cats. We are breed agnostic and believe all animals have the right to a safe and loving home. **Molly's Mutts & Meows does NOT have a facility.** We rely solely on foster homes for the dogs and cats we rescue. It is fair to say that 99% of the time our foster homes are *overflowing* with foster animals. Most of us have more than one foster dog or cat in our homes.

MM&M ONLY rescues animals from city/county shelters as our size and financial situation allows. However, we are willing to help share resources with individuals who are willing to foster a found/surrendered animal. We are also willing to help those who do "independent rescue" on their own and just need a place to show your dog or cat. We applaud those who "walk the walk" and independently rescue a cat or dog in need.

#### What YOU Can Do to Help

If you have FOUND a dog or cat, check to see if the dog/cat is micro-chipped (shelters and vets can check for micro-chip). If the dog/cat is not micro-chipped but looks well cared for, it may be someone's pet. Contact the LA Times (or your local paper) and they will likely run a "found dog" ad in the classifieds for free. Post ads and flyers in your neighborhood and in local coffee shops, stores, etc. Post the animal on Face Book. Do NOT be fooled by "crazies" out there who may want to take the dog or cat to sell for laboratory testing, dog fights, etc. A responsible owner will be able to provide photos and very specific details about his/her pet if it is indeed lost and their animal. We are not big fans of posting on Craig's List, but if you do post a "found animal" on Craig's List, do NOT include a photo. Only use a brief description. Make the possible owner provide a photo.

If neither of these options pan-out, we encourage you to take responsibility by fostering the animal or find a friend that can take responsibility to foster the animal until a home can be found. Fostering an animal is such a noble act. It is one of the most compassionate things you can do in the animal rescue world. It is the best way to get to know the animal and tell potential adopters all about the dog or cat's personality traits. If there is one thing that scares potential adopters from adopting it is the unknown. Fostering helps remove that element. If you cannot foster the animal, we suggest you look into CAGE FREE boarding. We can recommend some fantastic facilities that offer rescue-friendly rates.

*Please note:* If you do opt to take the animal to the nearest shelter, the chances of he/she making it out alive are very slim. Los Angeles has a very large homeless animal population and we are the highest kill city in the United States. All shelters euthanize. Repeat: **All shelters euthanize.** There is no such thing as a no-kill shelter in Los Angeles or its surrounding areas. We feel it is important that you understand this before you surrender the animal to a city, county or private shelter. If you do opt to turn in the animal, please photograph it prior to surrendering it and be sure to get the impound number from the shelter. This way you can at least try to network the animal with a photo and the impound number to various rescue groups, on Face Book, to friends, etc.

## What WE Can Do To Help You-

MM&M can help provide guidance and assets to help you find a forever home for the animal as an independent rescue. Here are some of the things we can do to help:

- Post the animal on Adopt-A-Pet, Petfinder, Pets911, Petsmart and also the San Diego area websites (if you don't mind going to San Diego for a home check/delivery). These websites are well trafficked for prospective homes.
- Social network the animal
- Provide access for you to show the animal at our mobile adoptions in West Hollywood. At many of our events we have volunteers who can help get great photos of your animal and sometimes we can help with video footage too.
- Potentially provide access to low cost vaccine and spay clinics
- We can help you with vet discounts at select clinics.

## Next Steps

If you would like to show your animals with MM&M, please review/sign/fax the attached "Independent Agreement" and forward four really good photos of each dog/cat (we can't stress enough the importance of a great picture and an awesome name) and a little bio telling us what you know about them regarding their personality, general temperament, what do they enjoy, are they good with kids/dogs/cats/people, is there anything they need to work on, etc.), and we will go ahead and get them up on the websites.

We've have also attached a couple of information sheets that will tell you what to expect at the adoption events. A few things you should know about our adoption events:

- You may want to bring a comfy chair and a blanket for you and your dog to hang out on during the adoption.
- If you are bringing a cat, we may need you to bring your own crate to show the cat. We might be able to provide a crate, it just depends on how many cats we have at that event. You also may want to bring a chair to hang with your cat in our adoption tent.
- **If you are bringing a dog, absolutely NO FLEXI LEASHES.** The dog must be on a 4 to 6 foot leash. If you have a big dog that pulls a lot and/or shows some leash anxiety/aggression, you may need (and should strongly consider) a pinch collar.

Take a look at everything and let me know if you would like us to help. Again, thank you for helping rescue the homeless animals of Los Angeles!

Sincerely,

Billy Criswell,  
Greg Wootton &  
Tony Runfolo

Volunteer Independent Rescue Directors  
Molly's Mutts & Meows