

## Love Bouviers? Want to Help? FOSTER!

ABRL has a number of coordinators as well as a group of volunteers willing to help with various tasks such as identifying dogs, doing transports and other jobs critical to rescue success. But since we are a national organization without coordinators in every state, often our single biggest challenge when we are asked to take in a dog is what to do with him/her! Sometimes there is a struggle or delay in finding a foster home. We believe that every dog deserves to have a loving foster home ready and waiting. This is where you come in!

Our goal is to fully assess each rescue dog prior to placement in order to identify the most suitable home for him/her. For this job, fosters are so very important. Often we are asked to take in a dog that is too far from a coordinator, and therefore one that we really know nothing about. A foster home can help assess a dog's personality and better allow the ABRL coordinator to write an accurate bio and answer potential adopter's questions about the dog.

Sometimes there are some training issues that can be worked out with a foster home so that the dog is more easily transitioned to a new home. And in cases where a dog needs some extra TLC, a foster home goes a long way to reassure the dog that we humans are patient, loving, and supportive.

A foster home provides the bridge between a dog's former life and a new one. Sometimes folks become 'foster failures' and end up adopting and that's fine, though certainly not expected. For those who don't keep their foster, there is a tremendous satisfaction in knowing that your care helped transition a needy pooch to a new life.

Foster families are linked to the ABRL coordinator responsible for placing a dog. The coordinator, as well as others in ABRL, are very willing to offer whatever support is required to make fostering a seamless job. If you want to help rescue in the BEST possible way, consider being a foster home. You can make all the difference in the world to a Bouv in need this way!

To help, or to learn more, email [natlcoord@abrl.org](mailto:natlcoord@abrl.org) or [lkim@abrl.org](mailto:lkim@abrl.org). And change a Bouvier's life.