

# San Antonio Feral Cat Coalition

## Community Cat Adoption Program (CCAP)

### Introduction

The San Antonio Feral Cat Coalition is an all volunteer, non-profit organization with a working Board of Directors. This means that every Board Member oversees one or more of our programs in a hands-on manner.

We currently have a number of programs including TNR classes, a trapper team, a trap loan program, the Community Cat Adoption Program, a Cat Crisis Fund for sick or injured community cats, a feral food program, and helpline volunteers who respond to phone calls and emails from the public requesting help. We also have board members who oversee social media and our website, which we are currently working to revise.

*If you have not already done so, please **go to [www.sanantioferalcats.org](http://www.sanantioferalcats.org) and sign up for our monthly Newsletter by entering your email.** This will help you see some of the great work being done and keep you updated on what is taking place. Ideally, all of our fosters should also take the TNR class, which is free and about an hour long. This can be done via in-person classes or online via video.*

If you are planning to foster neonatal/bottle-baby kittens, we also have a training class video for that as well.

### Protocols

It is in the best interest of the community cats, our fosters, and our organization, if we work together as a team and adhere to the following basic guidelines. There will always be exceptions to the rules, however, so if you need an exception please email the CCAP Foster Coordinator for approval: [foster-coordinator@sanantioferalcats.org](mailto:foster-coordinator@sanantioferalcats.org).

**INTAKES:** All intakes must have approval from the Foster Coordinator or your Team Leader. If you do not have approval, your fosters may not be considered part of our program and we will not cover veterinary bills, etc.

In general, we intake through the calls we receive on our helpline and from the trapper team. We typically do not intake cats from social media, and there are a number of reasons for this. However, you are welcome to respond to social media requests by referring people to contact SAFCC through our helpline at [info@sanantioferalcats.org](mailto:info@sanantioferalcats.org). This will allow our trained helpline volunteers to gather needed information and direct the caller to the organizations/resources that are best suited to assist them, which may be ours or another organization.

**CAPACITY:** In general, we prefer to limit the number of foster cats in a home to no more than 10 at a time. Again, there are exceptions and approval can be given to go over that number if a) it keeps a litter of kittens together, b) you have sufficient time and space for proper quarantining and care. We are also operating under the constraints of a limited budget, which limits the overall number of cats that we can afford to sponsor within our program at any one time. That is why it is very important to get approval before agreeing to intake any new foster cat.

**QUARANTINE:** New intakes should be quarantined away from other fosters and animals in your home for

at least 7 - 10 days. Sometimes a sick cat will not show symptoms until after they have been in your home for a period of time, so the quarantine period lessens the risk of transferring any potential contagions to other animals in the home. If a cat is sick, it should be kept in quarantine until it is well and deemed to no longer be contagious to other pets. Other cats in the home should be kept up-to-date on vaccines for this reason, too.

**VETERINARY CARE:** All vet visits must have prior approval from the CCAP Director ([ccap@sanantonioperalcats.org](mailto:ccap@sanantonioperalcats.org)) and your Team Leader. We work with a number of veterinary clinics that give us a rescue discount. So once we know what kind of symptoms and care your fosters need we can direct you to the appropriate place.

Typically, we can vaccinate, chip, deflea, and deworm your fosters in-house, and we hold clinics for this purpose every 3-4 weeks. We also can treat upper respiratory infections, diarrhea, ringworm, and other common feline ailments without a trip to the vet.

Fosters should have had at least one FVRCP vaccination within the past 30 days prior to going in for their spay or neuter surgery. Once your foster reaches 2 lbs, you will need to email your Team Lead and/or the Foster Coordinator to schedule surgery appointments.

**ADOPTION:** Once (preferably before) your foster is adoption-ready (altered, vaccinated, chipped, dewormed, etc.), we will need good pictures and a bio to advertise the foster online. Kitten rescue is very competitive in San Antonio due to the large stray population. Your Team Lead will forward you applications and the potential adopters need to be contacted ASAP. Keep your Team Lead informed of meet-n-greets you schedule with applicants and do not ignore applications that you feel are not good fits. Let your Team-Lead know so they can follow up with applicants and direct them to other cats in our program, as needed.

Additionally, once your foster is available for adoption, it can be placed into an adoption center as space allows. Our adoption centers offer our cats more exposure to potential adopters and help us receive grants as well. It also opens your home to more cats or kittens.

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** As a foster/volunteer with our organization, people will have a tendency to think you speak on behalf of our organization, whether that is true or not. As a result, what you say and how you say it matters. We rely on good reviews and partnerships with other organizations and veterinary clinics. These relationships help us provide care to the cats and kittens in our program and help us get funding via donations and grants. Please be circumspect in what you post. Obviously, we are not going to be monitoring the social media pages of all of our volunteers, but from time to time we do get called by our partner businesses and organizations due to something someone has posted on social media and this can become quite problematic.

By signing below you acknowledge acceptance of these guidelines and protocols. These protocols may be updated at any time. Updates will be sent to you as they occur.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_