



P.E.T.S. Network Information Sheet

Humane Society of West Michigan (HSWM) takes pride in the ability to assist our community in keeping families together through times of hardship. At HSWM, we recognize that individuals of all walks of life may find themselves making life changing decisions on their pet's behalf while seeking a stable home environment. Whether it is a house fire, natural disaster, eviction, or domestic violence, we strive to be a network of resources for our pet community in *providing emergency temporary shelter* (P.E.T.S. Network). Once accepted into P.E.T.S. Network, HSWM assumes temporary physical custody of the animal(s) with the intention of owner redemption. The P.E.T.S. Network is for pet families that have exhausted all other pathways and need one-time assistance with an expected date of animal(s) return within 30 days. We highly encourage that all required medical costs are paid by the owner when the animal(s) are redeemed at HSWM, but we will work through financial constraints on an individual basis. Below is important information regarding P.E.T.S.

Weekly Check-In: Once admitted into P.E.T.S. Network, you will be required to check in with our Director of Community Programs on a weekly basis via email or phone. Failure to complete weekly check-ins may forfeit your use of P.E.T.S. Network. Our goal is to reunite you with your animal(s), which is why weekly updates are crucial.

Animal Health: Once admitted into P.E.T.S. Network, your animal(s) will receive a wellness check from a HSWM licensed veterinarian to ensure that your pet is physically sound. If the required vaccinations are needed, these will be updated at the time of exam. Please provide any medical information and medications you have to our Director of Community Programs prior to admitting your animal(s) to HSWM. If your animal(s) are not microchipped, **spayed/neutered**, and heartworm tested within the last year, **these services must be completed prior to redemption**. We will make all attempts to notify you if your animal(s) should become ill, injured, or needs a life saving procedure while in P.E.T.S.

Animal Behavior: All dogs must be behaviorally assessed by a Canine Behavior Coordinator

before being placed into foster. It is common for animals to become stressed within the confines of a shelter environment or in a new home environment, which is why having behavioral information about your pet is vital. In the event that your animal(s) behavior deteriorates to the point of becoming hazardous to their well-being, or becomes a safety concern with staff or foster parents, we reserve the right to terminate the program contract ahead of schedule. If your animal(s) behavior becomes problematic at any time we will reach out to you immediately.

Visitation: When your animal(s) are participating in the P.E.T.S. Network, you will not be granted or allowed to make visitations. All information on your animal(s) whereabouts will remain confidential. During weekly check-ins, the Director of Community Programs will work with you and the Foster Coordinator to provide updates and share photos.

Scheduling Pick-Up: Our shelter staff or Director of Community Programs will be in contact with you the week of your contract's expiration date to arrange a day and time for pick-up. It is vital that you remain in touch with us during this time, especially in the final 48 hours of signed contract expiration, to ensure your animal(s) redemption. Proper arrangements must be made by the final day of contract or your animal(s) will be subject to relinquishment to HSWM and potentially placed for adoption.

Confidentiality:

Your confidentiality and our foster parent's confidentiality is extremely important to us and we will do everything in our power to keep both parties' information private. Foster parents will sign special agreements noting they are not to post photos of the pet on social media or do anything to the animal that may be detrimental to its safety or comfort.

If you have questions regarding this P.E.T.S. Network, please contact the Director of Community Programs for more information.

Director of Community Programs

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