

## IS YOUR DOG A CANDIDATE FOR START RESCUE TRANSPORT?

First, please note, that while we would love to be able to positively respond to all the requests we receive, funds are limited and some dogs do not meet the criteria specified by our receiving rescue partners.

The way transports work is we send a plea to our receiving groups letting them know which shelter we are pulling the dogs from. They select from that shelter and we send those dogs up North. We are happy to help with add-ons from outside of the selected shelter for transport when we can, but they require a great deal of expense and leg work, and this expense and leg work is something that the person requesting the dog to go needs to be responsible for.

**On a new e-mail please provide the following information** (All 6 of these points must be answered in the body of this new e-mail, or we will resend this instruction form back to you without forwarding your plea to our receiving groups. **Please do not copy the body of any of this info into an e-mail and respond that way.** We need a clean, easy to read bio that we can forward to the groups that would include the below info; please see below sample. Please understand this is what we are forwarding to our groups, so make sure there is a reason for them to want this dog if it is a great dog and tell about its personality. The groups need to know why they should say yes to this kid.):

**A.** Can you get this dog pulled from the shelter and to one of our load up locations on transport day with proof of vaccinations and a health certificate? If so, please state in your plea "I will make all arrangements to get the dog pulled and to the load up with all necessary vaccinations and health certificate at my expense".

**B.** Is this dog good with other dogs and people? Many of our groups are foster based. **THE DOGS THEY RECEIVE MUST BE DOG AND PEOPLE FRIENDLY. If your dog is not good with other dogs and people, he/she is not a transport candidate.** If the dog doesn't have a verified history with other dogs, please arrange for the dog to be temp tested properly (Dog to dog interaction by someone with experience), and please shoot video so we can send it to our transport partners.

**C.** What is the dogs' story? Please provide pictures. A video uploaded to youtube is also preferable (no Facebook links, please), particularly with the dog interacting with other dogs. (Remember we need to send this information to our partner rescues to see if one of them is interested in the dog)

**D. Provide description of the dog.**

- Breed
- Gender
- Approx Age
- Size
- Spay/neutered?

**E.** Are there any issues with the dogs' health?

**F.** Who is responsible for this dog? If this dog is misrepresented and gets returned by any of our transport partners, this person would be responsible for taking the dog back and finding new placement.

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**Here is a good example of a networking plea that you would send to START and we would forward to our partners**

*"I will make all arrangements to get the dog pulled and to the load up with all necessary vaccinations and health certificate at my time and expense. If this dog ends up being aggressive and the group can't keep, then he can come back to me and I will get him training and find a good, loving, responsible home.*

*He has been around lots of other dogs and is good with everyone; all dogs and people. We don't know about cats. He is healthy other than he needs a dental, and is already neutered. I have included pictures, and a youtube link of him with other dogs.*

### **Here is his bio:**

*My name is Chuck and I am a neutered, male, spaniel mix. I took myself for a walk and landed in the Carson L.A. County Shelter. I love all the other dogs here and wag my tail with happiness whenever people come to my kennel. If they poke their fingers through I try to kiss them. ☺ I am about 5 years old, but feel like a puppy. The shelter people keep saying I was a stray, which I think means that I enjoy going for walks, which I do. ☺ My teeth are a bit dirty, but that doesn't keep me from smiling. I am in great health and am thankful for that. I just hope that someone comes for me soon because I am hearing rumors that bad things happen here. My dream is to have a family who I can love on and who will love me back."*

**\*\*If you want to offer a donation to the receiving group, please say how much in the plea.** This will sometimes help persuade a group to say yes since it helps with the care of the animal you are sending and expenses associated with rescuing animals.

**Once we receive the information, it will be forwarded to our rescue partners. If the dog is accepted into one of the rescues, then we will require the following from you:**

- 1. START** does not pay pull fees, medical, vaccinations, health certs or transport to our load ups. YOU would need to make arrangements to keep the dog safe until transport date and get them to the load up location (usually Riverside and Lancaster). This is your dog/responsibility/expense until it is loaded on the **START** truck. Transports are usually at two to three week intervals, depending on funds available. Once the transport date is set, you will be notified and your dog will have a crate reserved based on the information you provide in #5 below.
- 2.** The dog must be up to date on shots as age appropriate (nursing mamas and her babies are exempt), and accompanied by a health certificate (litters of puppies and puppies with their mamas can all be on one health cert, but they have to be listed individually). All paperwork must be faxed or emailed to our transport coordinator prior to the transport. An additional copy must accompany the dog on the day of transport. All paperwork must be in a large Ziploc bag with the impound number or name of the dog and where he/she is going written on the front in sharpie.
- 3.** You or your designated person must bring the dog to the load up site on the date of transport. (You will receive a detailed email with transport information.) If the dog gets adopted, becomes sick, or is exposed to distemper or parvo prior to the transport, YOU MUST LET US KNOW IMMEDIATELY. Spots on transport are precious. If a dog does not make it on transport and we are not notified ahead of time, you will lose your privilege to get another dog on transport. We must be able to fill all crates. A wasted spot costs another dog his life.
- 4. START IS A MEANS OF TRANSPORT, NOT A RESCUE. If the dog you put on transport is returned because of aggression, then you agree to take responsibility for the dog and he/she will be RETURNED TO YOU.**
- 5. To reserve a crate for transport, we need information from you. Please keep it simple when you e-mail your reservation by using this format:**
  - Subject line: RESERVATION Delilah Going to Puget Sound;**
  - In the body of an email (for Example)
  - Group: PUGET SOUND**
  - Dog: DELILAH - PIT BULL**
  - Shelter from: E. VALLEY**
  - Person bringing dog to load up (please include email and phone number): WENDY xxx-xxx-xxxx**
  - Crate size: LARGE SHEPHERD**
  - Can share?: TOO BIG TO SHARE**
  - Weight: 100LBS**
  - ID# A1383973**
  - Load up location: SANDY's**

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**Please DO NOT copy/paste any of the below into the body of the email. The above format is all I need to get the crate reserved.**

**This is the info you need to provide the following information (preferably in this order):**

\*What group has agreed to take the dog (we will tell you)

\*Breed of dog

\*Shelter the dog is coming/came from

\*Contact information for the person bringing the dog to the load up

\*Size crate needed. **We added weights just as an approximation, but dogs come in so many different sizes and shapes that it's hard to tell.** The sizes are mostly referring to height. A short, stocky dog who weighs 60 pounds may not need something as big as a small shepherd size crate, and a 6 lb. emaciated chi who is tall may need a terrier size crate. We don't know, so **we count on you to have someone who has actually seen the dog to let us know what size crate the dog really needs.**

The crate measurements below are length, width, height, but are not exact because different companies have different size crates and our crates are a hodge podge. So do not hold us to these sizes as they are estimates.

**Please let us know using the crate sizes described as follows (sizes go by Length x Width x Height):**

-Small Chihuahua (up to 6 lb stocky, filled out chi)

-Chi/terrier (up to 10 lbs)

-Terrier (up to 15 lbs regular filled out dog)

-Terrier/Cocker (up to 25 lbs regular filled out dog) - approx. 22x14x12

-Cocker (up to 30 lbs regular filled out dog) - approx. 22x16x16

-Cocker/Pit (up to 40 lbs regular filled out dog) - approx. 32x22x24

-Pit (up to 50 lbs regular filled out pit type dog) - approx. 35x23x26

-Small Shepherd (up to 60 lbs of filled out shepherd shaped dog) -approx. 36x34x26

-German Shepherd (up to 75 pounds of filled out german shepherd shaped dog)

- Large Shepherd (up to 100 lbs of filled out shep shape dog) – limited availability

-Great Dane - limited availability

\*If they can share with another dog they already know and get along with (make sure you calculate the size crate based on the sharing)

\*Weight, if you can get that info.

\*Impound number

\*Where loading (usually Riverside, Lancaster, or Gorman)

**A crate will not be reserved without that info, so please make sure you get this info before contacting us for a reservation.**

**START** wants to help as many animals as possible journey to new lives. We can only do that with cooperation from you **START** transported over 1600 dogs this past year and as long as protocols are followed we will continue to do this important work for the animals in shelters.

Thank you, **THE START TEAM**