

Mid-Atlantic Great Dane Rescue League, Inc.

## Foster Contract

<b>PA/DE:</b> 484-578-9126 304 Hartz Road, Fleetwood PA 19522	<b>NY:</b> 845-475-8377 238 W. Washington Ave, Pearl River NY 10965
<b>MD/DC:</b> 443-773-2639 PO Box 15246, Washington, DC 20003	<b>NJ:</b> 973-476-4081 2 Nottingham Lane, Manchester, NJ 08759
<b>VA:</b> 571-310-1380 PO Box 283, Garrisonville VA 22463	<b>WV:</b> 304-579-5156 12161 Apple Harvest Dr., Martinsburg, WV 25403

This agreement is made and hereby entered into, on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, by and between **Mid-Atlantic Great Dane Rescue League, Inc. (MAGDRL)**, and \_\_\_\_\_, hereafter referred to as the Foster Home. A Foster Home is defined as a temporary home for the dane to live in while it awaits a permanent adoption through **MAGDRL**. The purpose of this contract is to ensure that the dane receives the best possible care and treatment throughout its stay in our program.

The Foster Home understands and agrees to abide by the following terms:

1. The Foster Home agrees to temporarily house and care for danes(s) belonging to MAGDRL. The Foster Home understands and agrees that **MAGDRL** is the sole and rightful owner of the foster dog(s).
2. The Foster Home fully agrees and understands that all decisions regarding the dane will be made by MAGDRL.
3. The Foster Home agrees that the care of the dane is not transferable. The Foster Home agrees that if for any reason he/she is unable to continue to house and care for the dane, they will notify the Coordinator or Foster Team Lead and return the dane to the designated MAGDRL representative.

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**Initials**

4. The Foster Home grants permission for a representative of MAGDRL to visit the home at any time to check on the wellbeing of this dog.
5. Foster Home agrees to return this dog to a representative of MAGDRL within 24 hours of being asked to return the dog. If Foster home is unavailable at the time the dog is needed, Foster Home agrees to make the dog available for pick up within the 24-hour period.
6. No foster dane is to be removed or transported from the Foster Home without verbal or written approval by the Foster team Lead or the Coordinator.
7. Should the Foster Home request removal of the dane from their home for any reason other than bodily harm to a member of the Foster Home, the Foster Home must be prepared to keep the dane until suitable lodging can be arranged. It may not be possible for MAGDRL to arrange lodgings for the dane for several days.

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**Initials**

8. The Foster Home agrees to provide the dane (and all other animals he/she owns) with proper veterinary care as is recommended by MAGDRL. Routine vet care covered by MAGDRL includes such services as vaccinations, heartworm testing and preventative, spay, neuters, fecal exam and any prescription medications necessary for the dane. All vet appointments must be pre-approved by the Foster Team Lead or the Coordinator for your area. Expenditures incurred by the Foster Home without prior approval by MAGDRL (other than emergency care) are the sole responsibility of the foster family. All bills for reimbursement, together with a completed expense report and original veterinary paperwork, should be mailed to the State Coordinator for approval. The Coordinator will then forward to the MAGDRL treasurer.

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**Initials**

9. The Foster Home agrees to treat the dane in a humane and loving way at all times, and to make sure that anyone temporarily caring for the dane will do the same.
10. Crate training is strongly recommended for MAGDRL foster danes. If a dane is not crate trained when inducted into the foster care system, the Foster Home should work with the dane to acclimatize them to the crate using positive training methods. MAGDRL will try to provide crates to any foster home that needs one.
11. The Foster Home agrees to keep the dane clean and well groomed at all times.
12. The Foster Home agrees that the dane will reside in the home of the Foster Home, not outside. This dog may NOT be left outdoors if you are not at home or chained in any circumstances.
13. The Foster Home agrees that this dog will **never** be allowed off a leash when it is outdoors, unless it is in a fenced area or fenced yard. The dane may never be left outdoors if the Foster parent is not directly supervising the dane.
14. While the MAGDRL foster dane is in the Foster Home's care, the Foster Home agrees to humanely work with the dane on basic obedience, house training, and house manners. No shock collars are to be used at any time on a MAGDRL dane in foster care.
15. The Foster Home agrees to make certain the dane wears a MAGDRL ID tag on its collar at all times. If dog licenses are required for the area in which the foster resides, these tags must also be present on the dog at all times. The collar must be checked regularly for proper fit.
16. The Foster Home agrees to feed a wholesome, premium dog food, and have fresh water available at all times. Generic dog food, store brand dog foods, or no-name dog foods are not considered premium food.
17. All foster families are encouraged to join the extMAGDRL email list as well as any local list that may exist.

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**Initials**

18. The Foster Home agrees to refrain from taking a new foster dog on public outings for a period of one week, and to check with the Foster Team Lead or Coordinator before scheduling at least the first outing with a foster dog. The Foster Home understands that the dog will be stressed from changes and, whether or not they display outward signs of stress, should be allowed to settle into their new environment. If the Coordinator or Foster Team Lead determines that the dog should not be allowed to attend public events, for whatever reason, the Foster Home agrees to abide by that decision.

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**Initials**

19. The Foster Home understands that MAGDRL is not responsible for any damage caused by the dane while in foster care. The Foster Home accepts liability for any and all incidents that occur in connection with the fostering of a MAGDRL dane. The Foster Home agrees to release MAGDRL from any and all claims, known or unknown, now or hereafter, arising in connection with the animal(s) while under the direct care of the Foster Home. Therefore, Foster Home agrees to confine the dane to a crate or gate the dane in an appropriate space when it cannot be directly supervised.

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**Initials**

20. The Foster Home understands that it is often their job to determine or learn the temperament of the dog they are fostering. The Foster Home understands that MAGDRL cannot guarantee the temperament or health of any dane admitted to MAGDRL; it relies on a brief evaluation and the information provided by the owner or shelter. Therefore, the Foster Home agrees to use due caution when handling the foster dog.

21. Further, the Foster Home is fully aware that any dog may bite. Foster Home also agrees to never allow any stranger or child to be near this dog until this dog is trusted, and will never allow any child to threaten, squeeze, poke, step on, or otherwise pose a perceived threat to this dog. If Foster home determines the dog to be a biter, or a bite risk, they are to contact MAGDRL immediately for further instructions.

22. The foster family will continually evaluate the foster dane(s) and prepare follow-up forms as required. The foster will be responsible for writing bios and providing photos of the foster dog within 5 days of its arrival for the MAGDRL website and monthly thereafter. The monthly update should include any new information obtained about the foster as well as an updated picture. All of these items should be sent directly to the Coordinator or designated Team Lead upon request.

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**Initials**

23. The Foster Home understands that if it decides it wants to adopt the dane permanently, it must notify MAGDRL before a potential adopter makes plans to meet this dog. We will not cancel an adoption in progress.
24. The dane will be adopted to a permanent home only with the approval of the Coordinator for your area. Only applicants pre-approved by MAGDRL may visit the dane in the Foster Home, and the Coordinator for your area must be aware of and agree to the meeting. Either the Coordinator or the Foster team Lead will provide information about approved adopters interested in the dane. If the Foster Home is contacted by anyone else, even another Coordinator, the Foster Home agrees to check with the Coordinator in their area before proceeding.
25. The Foster Home agrees to handle all phone calls and emails to prospective adopters promptly and professionally at all times. The Foster Home shall make themselves available for visits.
26. The Foster Home agrees to abide by the guidelines set forth by MAGDRL regarding adoption procedures, including the signing of adoption contract at the time of the adoption and collecting the appropriate donation fee at that time. Paperwork should be mailed within 1 week of the adoption to the Foster Home's coordinator.

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**Initials**

27. Should MAGDRL need to seek legal action against the Foster Home for any violations of this Agreement, the Foster Home hereby agrees it will assume any and all attorney costs, court fees, and any other legal fees incurred in the process of enforcing this contract, or reclaiming the dog.

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**Initials**



**\*\*Each item in this agreement stands alone**

## What MAGDRL Will Supply

- ID tags
- Support
- Routine vet care
- Possibly a crate

## Expectations of Foster Homes

- Do expect to provide a level of commitment. This is not a try-before-you-buy scenario. These danes deserve a committed foster home.
- Do introduce other dogs and people SLOWLY. Successful introductions are key ingredients to peaceful living.
- Do expect the first week to be the most stressful. Not every dane fits in smoothly with your lifestyle and in your home.
- Do not expect everything you've been told about a dane to be true. Owners often leave out information that is not flattering to the dane to improve their chances of adoption.

- Do expect support and help from your Coordinator and Foster Team Lead.
- Do ask questions and seek help before an issue escalates.
- Do be cautious when integrating a dane with your own dogs and with your children.
- Do not expect the dane to be immediately comfortable with children and strangers. Use caution when introducing.
- Do control encounters between the dane and all children. Do not allow inappropriate behavior from children. Set limits and enforce them.
- Do not expect MAGDRL to be able to remove a dane from your home immediately. We require 2-5 days to make suitable arrangements. This policy is in effect even under difficult circumstances (such as a dog fight). We simply do not have the facilities to immediately remove the dane.

**Foster:**

**MAGDRL Representative:**

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

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

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

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Work Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_



**Contact Info**

**Coordinator:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Foster Team Lead:** \_\_\_\_\_