MIAMI ANIMAL RESCUE

# Rehoming + Resource Guide

Strays, surrender, rehoming, and help keeping your pet in South Florida

Whether you found a stray, you're struggling to keep your pet, or you need to find them a new home, **you're not alone, and there are safe options**. This guide was created by Miami Animal Rescue to help pet owners, finders, fosters, and community members figure out what to do next. Rescue space changes constantly, so always contact each organization directly, explain your situation honestly, and ask whether they have space *before* showing up with an animal.

THE MOST IMPORTANT RULE

## Never abandon an animal.

Not outside a rescue, shelter, vet, park, school, business, or someone's home. If an animal is sick, injured, or in danger, or you can't safely hold a stray, contact your **county animal services** or take them to an **emergency vet** right away.

## What's your situation?

**1 I found a stray**
Start with section 1. The animal may have a family looking for them.

**2 I'm worried about someone else's pet**
Neglect or abuse? Here's how to report it: section 2.

**3 I need help keeping my pet**
Food, vet care, housing, and behavior help: section 3.

**4-5 I need to rehome my pet**
Sections 4 and 5: contacting rescues and safe private rehoming.

**6 I'm in an unsafe situation**
Your safety comes first. Confidential help in section 6.

**7-8 I need a shelter or rescue**
County resources and our rescue directory: sections 7 and 8.

## 1 Found a Stray? Start Here

THEY MAY HAVE A FAMILY

**Many animals found outside are not abandoned.** They may be lost, scared, or injured, and their family may be searching for them right now. Before you think about rehoming or surrendering a found animal, your first job is to **try to get them home**.

> **IMPORTANT**
>
> **Safety first.** Don't approach an animal that seems aggressive, sick, or is acting strangely. If an animal is injured or sick, take them to any vet or emergency clinic right away, or contact Miami-Dade Animal Services.

### Step by step: what to do with a found stray

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 | **Check for a collar or ID tag**<br>If there's a tag with a phone number, call the owner. That's the fastest way home! |
| 2 | **Get a free microchip scan at any vet**<br>Take the animal to **any vet clinic, including emergency clinics**, or to Animal Services. Vets scan for microchips for free, so if you find an animal in the middle of the night, an emergency clinic can scan them right away. **In Miami-Dade, if you find a dog or cat with no tag or ID, you're legally required to have it scanned and notify Animal Services within 72 hours.** If the chip is registered, you must contact the owner within 24 hours. |
| 3 | **Report it to Animal Services**<br>Submit a found pet report with Miami-Dade Animal Services, the official lost and found database for the area. You can also **go to the shelter in person**: Animal Services has a **lost and found team** that can take your report and help match the animal with a family searching for them. Other counties have their own process, so check yours. |
| 4 | **Post it everywhere**<br>Share clear photos and the general area where you found them on the **Ring app (Neighbors)**, **Nextdoor**, PawBoost, and local lost and found Facebook groups. Neighbors in the area are often the first to recognize a lost pet! |
| 5 | **Search in person**<br>Put up "Found" flyers nearby and at vet offices. If it's a dog, walk them around the neighborhood where you found them: someone may recognize them. |
| 6 | **Protect against scammers**<br>Keep one identifying detail private (like a marking or collar color). Ask anyone claiming the pet to describe that detail and show proof of ownership, like photos or vet records. |

## What's a stray hold?

When a stray is found, the law gives the owner time to come forward before anyone else can take ownership. This waiting period is called a **stray hold**. In Miami-Dade, after you notify Animal Services and make efforts to find the owner, there's a **three-day holding period** to give a possible owner time to claim the pet. You're allowed to keep the animal safely in your home while you look for the owner.

### Rescues cannot take in a stray without a stray hold

- **The animal may have an owner.** A found stray may legally belong to a family who is searching for them right now.
- **We can't treat or change someone else's pet.** A rescue can't sterilize, vaccinate, microchip, or provide medical care for an animal that may belong to someone else.
- **We can't rehome someone else's pet.** Placing a lost pet with a new family could mean their original family never finds them.
- **It's the law.** The stray hold gives owners their legal chance to reclaim their pet, and rescues must respect it.

When you contact a rescue about a stray, be ready to share **when and where you found them**, the **microchip scan result**, and **proof that you reported them** to Animal Services and completed the hold.

### If you want to keep the animal

Report them to Animal Services and complete the hold period. If no owner comes forward, you may be able to adopt them. Then vaccinate, microchip, sterilize, and license your new pet!

### If you can't keep the animal

Contact Miami-Dade Animal Services and local rescues about intake for a stray or found animal. Animal Services' Pet Adoption and Protection Center is at 3599 NW 79th Avenue, Doral, and you can go in person.

miamidade.gov (open link)

### Miami-Dade Lost + Found Pets

Official lost and found reporting for Miami-Dade County. You can also report in person with the shelter's lost and found team.

miamidade.gov (open link)

### Ring (Neighbors) + Nextdoor

Post found pets in your neighborhood. Local neighbors are often the first to recognize a lost pet and know their family.

**GOOD TO KNOW**

**Please don't give a found animal away right away**, especially to a stranger online, without first trying to find the owner and properly screening any new home.

## 2 Worried About Someone Else's Animal?

NEGLECT OR ABUSE

Seeing an animal being neglected or abused is heartbreaking, and it's natural to want to step in. But it's important to know what rescues can and can't legally do.

### Rescues can't take or rehome someone else's animal

- **The animal legally belongs to its owner**, even if they aren't caring for it well.
- A rescue can only take in an owned animal if **the owner chooses to surrender it** and signs it over.
- Taking an animal without the owner's permission can be considered **theft**, for you and for the rescue.
- That's why the right path is to **report it**, so the authorities can step in legally.

### What you can do

**In immediate danger? Call 911**

If an animal is in immediate danger or a crime is happening right now (like an animal being beaten or left in a hot car), call **911**.

**File a report with Animal Services**

In Miami-Dade, submit an animal cruelty or neglect report to Miami-Dade Animal Services through their website, or call their office at **305-468-5900**. Outside Miami-Dade, contact your county's animal services (see section 7).

**Document what you see**

Safely take photos or videos, and write down dates, times, and the address. Never trespass or put yourself in danger to get evidence.

**If the owner wants to give the animal up**

Encourage the owner to contact a rescue or animal services themselves. An owner surrender is the only way a rescue can take in an owned animal.

## 3 Need Help Keeping Your Pet?

SURRENDER SHOULD BE A LAST RESORT

Many surrenders happen because of a problem that can actually be solved. Before giving up your pet, check whether help with **food, vet care, housing, temporary foster care, or behavior** could keep your family together.

**Pet Help Finder**

Search by ZIP code for affordable vet care, spay/neuter, vaccines, pet food, supplies, temporary housing, grooming, behavior support, and transportation.

pethelpfinder.org

**findhelp**

Search local social services and animal welfare help by ZIP code.

findhelp.org

**Humane Society of Greater Miami: Community Pet Support**

Pet pantry and community support for Miami-area pet owners and community cat caretakers.

humanesocietymiami.org/community-pet-support

**ASPCA Miami Community Veterinary Clinic**

Low-cost basic veterinary care for Miami-Dade County residents, by appointment.

aspca.org (open link)

**Miami-Dade Animal Services: Wellness on Wheels**

Free mobile vet clinic for owned dogs and cats in selected underserved areas.

miamidade.gov (open link)

**Pets of the Homeless**

Pet food, emergency vet care, wellness care, and support for pets of people experiencing homelessness.

petsofthehomeless.org/get-help

**My Pit Bull Is Family**

Dog-friendly rental database and housing resources, especially for bully breeds and large dogs facing housing restrictions.

mypitbullisfamily.org/housing

**911fosterpets**

Temporary foster matching and foster support platform, for when you need short-term help.

911fosterpets.com

**Behavior struggles?**

Many behavior issues improve with the right training. For dogs, we highly recommend Applause Your Paws, a Miami positive-reinforcement trainer.

applauseyourpaws.com

## 4 Before You Contact a Rescue

SET YOURSELF UP FOR A YES

### 1. Confirm the situation

- Is this your pet, a found stray, a medical emergency, a behavior case, a housing issue, or a temporary crisis?
- The answer changes which resource is best

### 2. Gather the details

- Age, sex, breed (or best guess), weight
- Spay/neuter, vaccines, microchip, medical records
- Behavior with dogs, cats, kids, men, strangers, and any bite history

### 3. Take great photos + videos

- Clear daylight photos of the face and full body
- Dogs: a short leash-walk video, and a handling video if safe
- Cats: relaxed photos indoors

### 4. Be completely honest

- Never hide medical issues, aggression, anxiety, house-training problems, bite history, or pregnancy
- A rescue can only place an animal safely if the information is accurate

### 5. Contact the right rescue first

- Cats to cat rescues, rabbits to rabbit rescues
- Bully breeds to bully-friendly rescues
- Seniors and special needs to groups that handle medical or hospice cases

### 6. Keep trying, and plan ahead

- Most rescues are full. One no doesn't mean there's no help
- Keep a list of who you contacted, when, and their response
- Reach out early: rescues need time to line up fosters

**IMPORTANT**

**Please don't expect a rescue to just take an animal.** Most rescues, including ours, are **full or at capacity** almost all the time. We're limited by how many foster homes, volunteers, funds, and medical resources we have, and we receive far more requests than we can possibly help. A rescue saying no doesn't mean they don't care. It means they truly don't have the space. Reach out early, be patient with response times, contact several rescues, and keep exploring the other resources in this guide.

### Copy, paste + customize this message

Hello, I'm reaching out because I need help with an animal. The animal is a [dog/cat/rabbit/etc.]. Age: [age]. Sex: [male/female]. Weight: [weight]. Spayed/neutered: [yes/no/unknown]. Vaccines: [yes/no/unknown]. Microchipped: [yes/no/unknown]. Medical concerns: [explain]. Behavior with dogs/cats/kids: [explain]. Bite history: [yes/no and explain]. How I got this animal: [my pet / found stray on (date) at (location), scanned and reported on (date)]. Reason I need help: [explain honestly]. I can hold the animal until [date], and I can help with transport if needed. I can send photos, videos, and medical records. Please let me know if you're able to help, or if you recommend another resource. Thank you!

## 5 Safe Private Rehoming

DO IT CAREFULLY

Private rehoming can be a great option when your pet is safe, healthy enough to stay with you a little longer, and there's time to **screen adopters carefully**. These platforms can help:

**Rehome by Adopt-a-Pet**

Private rehoming for dogs and cats. Create a profile, review applications, meet adopters, and finalize with transfer paperwork.

rehome.adoptapet.com

**Home To Home**

Peer-to-peer platform to find permanent or temporary placement directly with adopters or fosters.

home-home.org

**Petfinder Rehoming Resources**

Guides for deciding whether to rehome and how to rehome dogs, cats, birds, rabbits, and more responsibly.

petfinder.com (open link)

**Best Friends: Rehoming a Pet**

Guides for rehoming, screening adopters, special-needs pets, and financial hardship resources.

bestfriends.org (open link)

### Screen every adopter

- **Never post "free to a good home."** Use a careful screening process and ask a reasonable rehoming fee or donation to discourage bad-faith interest.
- Ask for a **vet reference** if they already have pets.
- Ask if they **rent or own**, and whether pets are allowed (including breed and weight limits).
- Ask **who lives in the home**: kids, roommates, seniors, and other pets.
- Ask where the pet will sleep, how long they'll be alone, and how they'll handle training, vet care, and emergencies.

### Make the handoff safe

- Meet in a **safe place**, and bring another person with you.
- Use a **written adoption or transfer agreement** that covers microchip and medical record transfer.
- Include a clause that the pet must be **returned to you or a rescue** if it doesn't work out.
- **Sterilize your pet first**, or make sure they won't be used for breeding.
- Don't hand off your pet until you feel confident.

### Red flags: don't proceed if someone...

- Pressures you or wants the animal immediately
- Refuses to answer questions
- Avoids giving a vet reference
- Won't answer housing questions
- Only wants the pet if it's free
- Seems more interested in breeding than the pet

**Trust your instincts.** If something feels off, it probably is.

## 6 Experiencing Abuse, Violence, or Unsafe Housing?

YOUR SAFETY COMES FIRST

**IMPORTANT**

If you're experiencing abuse, violence, stalking, threats, or unsafe housing and you're worried about your pet, **prioritize your own safety first**. Don't alert an unsafe person that you're planning to leave. **Call 911 if you're in immediate danger.** Contact a domestic violence advocate and ask about pet-safe options: many programs can help keep your pet safe too.

### National Domestic Violence Hotline

Confidential support, 24/7.

Call **1-800-799-7233** or text **START** to **88788**

thehotline.org

### Florida Domestic Violence Hotline

Support across Florida.

Call **1-800-500-1119**. TTY 711 or 1-800-955-8771, TDD 1-800-621-4202

fpedv.org/get-help

### RedRover Relief Safe Escape Grants

Helps survivors and pets find safety. May help with temporary boarding while a survivor is in shelter.

redrover.org/relief-dv/dv-safe-escape-grants

### RedRover Domestic Violence Resources

Domestic violence assistance resources for survivors and their pets.

redrover.org/relief-dv

### Safe Havens for Pets

Searchable directory of pet sheltering resources for people experiencing domestic violence or homelessness.

safehavensforpets.org

### Animal Welfare Institute: Safe Havens

State-by-state directory of safe sheltering services for pets of domestic violence survivors.

awionline.org/content/safe-havens-pets

### Don't Forget the Pets

Resources for organizations helping people and pets in domestic violence or homelessness situations.

dontforgetthepets.org

## 7 County + Shelter Resources

OFFICIAL RESOURCES

### Miami-Dade Pet Surrender Information

Miami-Dade considers surrender a last resort and offers rehoming support options.

miamidade.gov (open link)

### Humane Society of Greater Miami: Admissions

Limited admissions for dogs and cats. Proof of ownership and an evaluation are required. Medical and behavior cases are reviewed individually.

humanesocietymiami.org (open link)

### Broward County Animal Care

County animal care, surrender prevention, lost and found, and pet resources.

Phone: 954-359-1313

broward.org/animal

### Broward Surrender Prevention

Behavior support, low-cost spay/neuter, rabies and license info, and pet food pantry referrals.

Email: animalcare@broward.org

broward.org (open link)

### Palm Beach County Animal Care + Control

County animal care, surrender by appointment, rehoming alternatives, low-cost services, and lost and found support.

Phone: 561-233-1200

discover.pbc.gov (open link)

### Palm Beach County Pet Surrender Information

Surrender and rehoming guidance for Palm Beach County residents.

discover.pbc.gov (open link)

# 8 South Florida Rescue Directory

CONTACT DIRECTLY

**Please note:** the rescues listed here are **not affiliated with Miami Animal Rescue** unless specifically stated. Being listed doesn't mean we're partnered with, responsible for, or endorse any rescue's policies, practices, fees, or decisions. Contact info, intake availability, and policies can change at any time, and many rescues can't always accept new animals. Always check each rescue's official website or social media and contact them directly.

## Contact by animal type first (fastest!)

When time matters, contact rescues that match your animal. It saves you from sending cat cases to dog-only rescues, or bully breeds to groups that don't take them.

### Cats + kittens

- All About the Cats Rescue
- Little Beans' Hope Rescue
- Bella's Promise Pet Rescue
- Love for Cats Animal Rescue
- Lady Luck Animal Rescue
- Furever Saved
- Good Karma Pet Rescue
- Animal Aid Inc.
- Abandoned Pet Rescue
- Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League
- Humane Society of Greater Miami

### Dogs, general rescue

- Miami Animal Rescue
- Pooches in Pines
- I Heart Animal Rescue
- Paw Patrol Animal Rescue and Sanctuary
- Animal Lovers Rescue
- All Things Pawsible Rescue
- Big Dog Ranch Rescue
- Abandoned Pet Rescue
- Paws 4 You Rescue
- South Florida Mutt Rescue
- Wonder Paws Rescue
- Good Karma Pet Rescue
- Animal Aid Inc.
- Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League
- Humane Society of Broward County

## Bully breeds + large dogs

- Off The Streetz Bully Rescue
- Plenty of Pit Bulls
- Luv-A-Bull All Breed Rescue
- Bullies-N-Beyond Rescue
- Redland Rock Pit Abandoned Dogs Project
- 100+ Abandoned Dogs of Everglades Florida
- Everglades Angels Dog Rescue
- Big Dog Ranch Rescue
- Humans and Animals United

## Specialty rescues

- **Rabbits:** Dolly's Dream Home Rabbit Rescue
- **Senior + special needs:** Picolini's Animal Rescue; Barky Pines Animal Rescue and Sanctuary
- **Dachshunds:** Dachshund Rescue South Florida; Low Rider Dachshund Rescue of Florida
- **Huskies:** Husky Haven of Florida
- **Golden Retrievers:** Golden Rescue South Florida; Joshua's House
- **Pregnant/nursing moms + babies:** A Second Chance Puppies and Kittens Rescue

## South Florida rescues

| Rescue | Animal focus | Phone / email | Website / social |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Miami Animal Rescue** | Dogs and cats | Contact form: miamianimalrescue.org/contact-us | miamianimalrescue.org |
| **Pooches in Pines** | Dogs, Pembroke Pines area | Contact through website or social | poochesinpines.com<br>Instagram: @poochesinpines |
| **Dolly's Dream Home Rabbit Rescue** | Rabbits | DollysDreamHomeRescue@gmail.com | dollysdreamhome.org |
| **Off The Streetz Bully Rescue** | Dogs, bully breeds and large breed dogs | offthestreetbr@gmail.com | offthestreetzbullyrescue.com |
| **I Heart Animal Rescue** | Dogs, all breeds | 954-501-0636<br>cindy@iheartanimalrescue.pet | iheartanimalrescue.pet<br>Instagram: @iheartanimalrescue |
| **We Love Animals Rescue Inc.** | Dogs and cats, Hollywood and Pembroke Pines area | 954-296-8208<br>weloveanimalsrescue@gmail.com | weloveanimalsrescue.org<br>Instagram: @we_love_animals_rescue_inc |
| **Love for Cats Animal Rescue** | Cats and community cats | 954-547-3277<br>liz@loveforcats.org | loveforcats.org |
| **Paw Patrol Animal Rescue and Sanctuary** | Dogs and cats | pawpatrolanimalrescue@gmail.com | pawpatrolanimalrescue.com<br>Instagram: @pawpatrolanimalrescue |
| **Plenty of Pit Bulls** | Pit bulls and bully breeds | 352-405-1696<br>info@popb.org | popb.org<br>Instagram: @plenty_of_pitbulls |
| **Three Stooges Rescue** | Dogs | Contact through website or social | threestoogesrescue.org |
| **Animal Lovers Rescue** | Dogs and cats | 786-400-0253<br>animalloversrescueinc@gmail.com | animalloversrescue.org |
| **All About the Cats Rescue** | Cats and kittens | AATCRescue@gmail.com | allaboutthecatsrescue.org<br>Instagram: @aatcsfl |

| Rescue | Animal focus | Phone / email | Website / social |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Picolini's Animal Rescue** | Dogs, senior and special-needs dogs | 786-308-9031<br>giving@picolinisanimalrescue.org | picolinisanimalrescue.org |
| **Delilah's 2nd Chance Rescue** | Dogs | 772-800-7210 or 630-294-8484<br>info@delilahs2ndchance.org | delilahs2ndchance.org |
| **Riley's Rescue of Brevard** | Dogs | 321-291-4030<br>rileysrescueofbrevard@rileysrescueofbrevard.org | rileysrescueofbrevard.org |
| **Humans and Animals United** | Dogs, urgent and death-row dogs | 863-417-9922 | humansandanimalsunited.com<br>Instagram: @humansandanimalsunitedinc |
| **Little Beans' Hope Rescue** | Cats and kittens | 702-886-2992<br>info@littlebeanshoperescue.org | littlebeanshoperescue.org |
| **Dogtoli Dogs Rescue** | Dogs | 954-296-4922<br>dogtolidogsrescue.inc@yahoo.com | Instagram: @dogtoli_dogrescue<br>Facebook: Dogtoli Dogs Rescue Inc. |
| **All Things Pawsible Rescue** | Dogs and cats | 305-308-5053<br>allthingspawsible@yahoo.com | allthingspawsible.org<br>Instagram: @allthingspawsible |
| **100+ Abandoned Dogs of Everglades Florida** | Dogs, abandoned Redlands/Everglades dogs, some cats | 877-506-8100 | 100plusabandoneddogsrescue.weebly.com<br>Instagram: @100plusevergladesrescue |
| **Luv-A-Bull All Breed Rescue** | Dogs, bully breeds and all-breed rescue | 954-675-6450<br>luvabullrescue@comcast.net | luvabull.org |
| **Reesie's Rescue Ranch** | Dogs, Boca Raton | 561-523-3770 or 561-509-8774<br>Reesiesrescueranch@gmail.com | rrrsfl.org |
| **Big Dog Ranch Rescue** | Dogs, all sizes | 561-791-6465<br>saveadog@bdrr.org | bdrr.org<br>Instagram: @bigdogranchrescue |
| **Abandoned Pet Rescue** | Dogs and cats | 954-728-9010<br>info@abandonedpetrescue.org | abandonedpetrescue.org |
| **Paws 4 You Rescue** | Dogs, some cats/courtesy posts | 786-242-7377<br>info@paws4you.org | paws4you.org |
| **South Florida Mutt Rescue (formerly Mutty Paws)** | Dogs | 561-305-8968<br>sfmuttrescue@outlook.com | sfmuttrescue.org<br>Instagram: @southfloridamuttrescue |
| **Saving Sage Animal Rescue** | Dogs and cats, rescue and wellness support | 954-530-1508 | savingsagerescue.org<br>Instagram: @savingsageanimalrescue |
| **Bella's Promise Pet Rescue** | Cats and kittens | 561-313-7431<br>rolpk19@yahoo.com | bellaspromisepr.rescuegroups.org<br>Instagram: @bellaspromisepetrescue |
| **Wonder Paws Rescue** | Dogs and cats | 954-884-0440<br>wonderpawsrescue@gmail.com | wonderpawsrescue.com<br>Instagram: @wonderpawsrescue |

| Rescue | Animal focus | Phone / email | Website / social |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Lady Luck Animal Rescue** | Cats and dogs | 754-366-3669<br>ladyluckanimalrescue@gmail.com | ladyluckanimalrescue.com |
| **Furever Saved** | Cats and kittens | info@fureversaved.org | fureversaved.org |
| **Bullies-N-Beyond Rescue** | Dogs, bully breed focus and all breeds | 954-709-9352<br>bulliesnbeyond@gmail.com | Instagram: @bulliesnbeyondrescue<br>RescueMe: bulliesnbeyond.rescueme.org |
| **MarrVelous Pet Rescues and Adoptions** | Dogs, Florida Keys (Key Largo) | 305-453-1315<br>info@MPRescues.org | mprescues.org |
| **Redland Rock Pit Abandoned Dogs Project** | Dogs, Redland/Homestead abandoned dogs | redlandsrockpitabandoneddogs@gmail.com | redlandrockpit.org |

## More Florida rescues + shelter resources

| Rescue | Animal focus | Phone / email | Website / social |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League** | Dogs and cats, Palm Beach County | 561-686-6656 | peggyadams.org |
| **Humane Society of Broward County** | Dogs, cats, rabbits and other small pets when available | 954-989-3977<br>Admissions: 954-266-6873 | humanebroward.com<br>Instagram: @humanebroward |
| **A Second Chance Puppies and Kittens Rescue** | Pregnant/nursing dogs and cats, puppies and kittens | 561-333-1100<br>info@asecondchancerescue.org | asecondchancerescue.org<br>Instagram: @team_asc |
| **Animal Aid Inc.** | Dogs and cats | 754-223-5378<br>AnimalAidInc@aol.com | animal-aid.com |
| **Good Karma Pet Rescue of South Florida** | Dogs and cats | 754-200-1738<br>info@goodkarmapetrescue.org | goodkarmapetrescue.org |
| **Pet Rescue by Judy** | Dogs and cats | 407-302-4497<br>petrescuebyjudy@gmail.com | petrescuebyjudy.com |
| **H.A.L.O. No-Kill Rescue** | Dogs, cats and small animals | 772-589-7297<br>HaloNoKillRescue@gmail.com | halorescuefl.org |
| **Barky Pines Animal Rescue and Sanctuary** | Dogs, cats, farm animals, senior and special-needs pets | 561-402-1451<br>barkypines@gmail.com | barkypinesanimalrescue.com |
| **Dachshund Rescue South Florida** | Dachshunds | Contact through website or social | dachshundrescuesouthflorida.com |
| **Low Rider Dachshund Rescue of Florida** | Dachshunds and dachshund mixes | Contact through website or social | lowriderrescue.org |
| **Husky Haven of Florida** | Huskies | Contact through website or social | huskyhavenfl.org |
| **Golden Rescue South Florida** | Golden Retrievers | Contact through website or social | facebook.com/GoldenRescueSouthFlorida |

| Rescue | Animal focus | Phone / email | Website / social |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Joshua's House for Golden Retriever Rescue** | Golden Retrievers | Contact through website or social | jhgrr-fl.com |
| **Florida Humane Society** | Dogs and cats, Pompano Beach | Contact through website or social | floridahumanesociety.org |
| **Everglades Angels Dog Rescue** | Dogs, abandoned dogs | 1-800-511-DOGS ext. 6<br>info@evergladesangels.org | evergladesangelsdogrescue.org |
| **Dogs and Cats Forever** | Dogs and cats | 772-489-5454<br>info@dogsandcatsforever.com | dogsandcatsforever.com |
| **Bell's Promise Animal Rescue** | Dogs and cats, abandoned shelter animals | 863-272-4666<br>Bellspromiserescue@gmail.com | bellspromiserescue.org<br>Instagram: @bellspromiserescue |
| **A Forever Home Animal Rescue** | Dogs | Contact through website or social | aforeverhomeanimalrescue.org |
| **Save With Soul Pet Rescue** | Dogs and cats, Northwest Florida Panhandle | 850-343-9986 | savewithsoul.com |
| **Hillsborough County Pet Resource Center** | Dogs and cats, county shelter | 813-301-7387 | hcfl.gov (open link) |

## 9 Before Any Handoff

ASK, CHECK, AND PREPARE

### Questions to ask before surrendering to any organization

#### Intake

- Can you accept this animal right now, or is there a waitlist?
- Do you require an appointment, application, surrender form, or intake fee?
- Do you accept animals with bite history, behavior concerns, medical issues, pregnancy, or senior needs?

#### Placement

- Will the animal go to a foster home, shelter, boarding, sanctuary, or be transferred?
- What records, medications, food, crate, litter, or supplies should I bring?
- If you're not the right fit, can you recommend another rescue or resource?

## What not to do

- Abandon an animal outside a rescue, shelter, park, vet, school, business, or home
- Give the animal to the first person who messages you without screening
- Hide bite history or serious behavior concerns
- Rehome an unsterilized pet to someone who may breed them
- Rehome or surrender a found stray before trying to find the owner
- Wait until the last minute. Rescues need time for fosters, transport, quarantine, and medical care

## Final handoff checklist

### Records

- ☐ Medical and vaccine records
- ☐ Spay/neuter certificate
- ☐ Rabies certificate
- ☐ Microchip information
- ☐ Medication instructions

### Care info

- ☐ Current food and feeding schedule
- ☐ Allergies and tummy sensitivities
- ☐ Behavior notes and training cues
- ☐ Fears, triggers, and escape risks
- ☐ Bite history and handling tips

### Belongings

- ☐ Favorite toys and blanket
- ☐ Bed, crate, or carrier
- ☐ Litter (for cats)
- ☐ Leash, harness, collar, and ID tag

### Paperwork

- ☐ Signed transfer, adoption, foster, or surrender agreement
- ☐ Correct date and contact information for both sides

## 10 Disclaimer

**PLEASE READ**

This resource list was created by Miami Animal Rescue as a community guide to help pet owners, finders, fosters, and community members explore possible options when trying to rehome, surrender, or seek assistance for an animal. It's meant to be a starting point for people who may not know where to begin, especially in a difficult or urgent situation.

Miami Animal Rescue is not affiliated with, partnered with, employed by, or responsible for the outside organizations listed in this guide unless specifically stated. Inclusion does not mean Miami Animal Rescue endorses, recommends, controls, verifies, or guarantees the practices, policies, fees, intake decisions, response times, availability, outcomes, or quality of care provided by any outside rescue, shelter, organization, website, or resource.

Contact information, websites, social media pages, adoption or surrender policies, intake availability, service areas, fees, laws, and response times may change at any time. Many rescues are foster-based, volunteer-run, and limited by available foster homes, donations, space, staffing, and medical resources, so being listed does not mean an organization is currently accepting animals or able to help in every situation. Stray hold and reporting requirements vary by county and may change; always confirm current rules with your local animal services.

We strongly recommend contacting each organization directly, visiting their official website or social media, asking questions, and doing your own research before making any decision. This list is for informational purposes only. Miami Animal Rescue cannot guarantee placement, acceptance, response, medical assistance, foster availability,

transportation, or any specific result. Always make the safest, most informed, and most responsible decision for the animal in your care.

**Thank you for caring enough to find a safe option. Every animal deserves one.**