

## **Want to Become a Kitten Foster?**

Here's what you need to know:

### **Where do I go to get started?**

Just come to the Ionia County Animal Shelter during our open hours. Tuesday – Friday between 11am and 6pm.

### **What does a foster do?**

Kittens need to weigh at least 2.5lbs before they can be spayed/neutered. We need fosters who will be willing to hold onto the kittens until they are of weight to be fixed (normally around 10-12 weeks of age).

### **How many kittens can I foster at once?**

We do not have a limit on the number of kittens you can foster. We prefer people to take full litters to help them learn good behavior from each other. It would also depend on whether the kittens are sick as well. We do not want to mix healthy kittens and sick kittens together.

### **What happens if the kittens are sick or become sick?**

We tell our fosters (especially those with children) that kittens are very hard to care for sometimes. They have low immune systems and are prone to getting ill quicker and it can spread a lot faster. Sometimes, kittens just aren't meant to make it, and we want our fosters to be prepared if that were to become the outcome. The Ionia County Animal Shelter provides any and all medical care needed during the time of fostering. We only ask that if you are a foster, you must be willing to transport the kittens either to and from our facility or to our vet. If a kitten were to pass away in your care, please call or message us (a contact number will be provided upon pick up for anything that may happen off hours). This unfortunately happens and can sometimes be quite unexpected.

### **Can we adopt a fostered kitten? Or can a friend?**

Absolutely! Anybody interested in adopting a kitten must be approved through the shelter and must wait until after they are fixed to officially adopt and take home. They can get pre-approved by filling out our online application at <https://www.icas.pet/cat-application.html>.