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Foster Parent Agreement

I hereby agree that receipt of a bird (or birds) from Mickaboo Companion Bird Rescue ("MCBR") is on a foster parent basis, and is contingent upon my adherence to all the policies, rules, and regulations established by the Directors. In addition, failure to adhere to any of the following policies or procedures will this contract null and void and may result in MCBR removing said birds from my care.

1. I have been advised as to the procedures regarding quarantine of these birds and that this quarantine shall last a minimum of six weeks from the day of placement with me to minimize the risk of disease. Failure to comply with MCBR's quarantine guidelines will result in all necessary veterinary care being charged to me.
2. I have read and understand the Foster Parent Guidelines.
3. MCBR strongly discourages breeding. I will not under any circumstances breed foster birds in my care.
4. I agree to allow a home visit by a Mickaboo volunteer for evaluation purposes at any time without prior notice.
5. I agree that the Bird shall remain the property of MCBR. Upon request by MCBR, I will return the Bird immediately and peaceably; I will voluntarily deliver the Bird to MCBR or a designated agent; and I will make no claim of ownership, title, right or interest in and to the Bird.
6. I agree to give the Bird all the attention, affection, interaction, and mental stimulation appropriate to a highly intelligent social creature. I agree to treat the Bird like a treasured member of my family. I will feed the Bird a varied and healthy diet. I will provide the Bird with fresh water, a clean and roomy cage, and plenty of safe toys.
7. Placement of any birds rescued by MCBR cannot be guaranteed, as there are many factors that are considered in these decisions. Decisions regarding the care and placement of these birds will be made **solely** by MCBR. I understand that if a bird is placed with me, such placement may be temporary.
8. I agree to contact MCBR in the event that a bird placed with me requires medical treatment. Except in emergency situations, failure to obtain the proper prior approval from an MCBR representative could result in all associated medical costs being assumed by me.
9. If for any reason, I am unable to keep the Bird, I will immediately notify MCBR and arrange for the return of the Bird to MCBR. I will not give the Bird to anyone else without the approval of MCBR. In addition, I will be responsible for any charges for shipping or any other expenses incurred while returning the Bird to MCBR.
10. I understand that birds can be destructive and I fully release MCBR, its employees, agents, officers, volunteers, and directors from any and all liability for destruction of property occurring during my fostering of the bird.
11. I understand that birds can carry diseases including psittacosis and avian tuberculosis that can be transmitted to humans or other animals, that some infections can be serious and, in rare cases, fatal. I understand that infected birds may not exhibit symptoms and that it is not always possible to recognize disease-carrying birds. I understand that immune compromised individuals are at higher risk for infection from disease carrying birds and that for this reason, MCBR recommends that such individuals not provide home for birds. Compromised immune systems can result from SKIDS, AIDS, ARC, latent HIV infection, cancer, treatment with Cortisone, medication for organ transplant rejection, and chemotherapy treatment. I fully release MCBR, its employees, agents, volunteers, officers, and directors from any and all liability for exposure to animal transmitted diseases in the case that a transmission occurs from the Bird from MCBR.

Foster Parent Signature _____ Date _____

Please Print Name _____



IMPORTANT FOSTER HOME INFORMATION

PLEASE KEEP HANDY

QUARANTINE PROCEDURE FOR FOSTER AND NEWLY ADOPTED BIRDS

Whether fostering or adopting, all new birds must complete a quarantine period in a new home before being introduced to your flock. Why quarantine? Moving to a new home is stressful, and this stress may make the bird susceptible to preexisting or new illnesses. If you do not quarantine, your flock will be exposed to this new bird and its illness. The results can be expensive, time consuming, and even deadly. If foster bird(s) and/or personal bird(s) become sick due to quarantine violations, the foster/adoptive parent is responsible.

TIME PERIOD

Minimum of 6 weeks:

1. During this time, observe your bird closely for any signs of illness, including, but not limited to severe loss of energy or vitality; blood; diarrhea; watery droppings; discharge from the nose, eyes, or mouth; respiratory distress; and seizures. Make sure the bird is eating. A sudden change in environment can be traumatic for a bird and cockatiels, in particular, may stop eating. Even if they appear to be toying with the food, be sure that they continue to poop regularly and to drink water. If you don't see the bird eating from the regular food dish, offer treats such as millet or wheat toast. It is more important that the bird eat, especially during a transition period, even if their diet isn't as healthy as it might be.
2. Weigh the bird regularly, with a gram scale, if possible. If you don't have a scale, ask the Species Coordinator about getting one. Keep a record of the bird's weight. Watch for sudden or significant weight loss.

VET VISITS

1. If the bird is in immediate danger, take it directly to the emergency vet. Contact the Species Coordinator if you have any questions. The care of the bird must always come first. Contact the Director and/or the Operations Manager as soon as possible. *If you cannot reach any of these people, take the bird to the vet as soon as possible.*
2. If the bird is stable, contact the Director or Operations Manager to get authorization for a vet visit.
3. A sick bird should remain quarantined until it tests negative for illness and has completed any medications. Foster birds should complete any medications before being released to an adopter.

QUARANTINE ENVIRONMENT

1. Quarantined birds must be kept in a secure room, away from the rest of your flock. The room should have a door that can secure this space and prevent any of your flock from accidentally entering this room.
2. Ideally, this room should have a separate source of fresh air. At the very least, the home's air-intake for furnace and A/C should not originate in the quarantine room. HEPA or other good quality air filters (without ionizers) are a good idea for any quarantine space to limit the stress on the quarantine bird's immune system.
3. New quarantined birds mean a new quarantine room. Unless they came to your home on the same day, keep new bird additions in a separate room from older additions.
4. Even if your new bird looks healthy, your bird may be carrying bacteria or viruses that could easily be spread to the rest of your flock. Remember, birds hide illness!



5. If may be advantageous to keep an apron or over-shirt in the quarantine room to wear while handling the quarantine bird(s) and while cleaning their cages. **Wash your hands after removing the protective garment.** Remember that your clothes can transport dander, fecal matter, and bacteria. If there is any possibility that your quarantine bird may have a contagious condition, or if other bird(s) in the house is/are vulnerable to infection, it is best to change your outer clothes after handling quarantine birds.*
6. If you are medicating a quarantine bird, keep the medication, syringe, etc. away from dishes, food, and medicine being used for other birds. Wash your hands before and after handling the medication and syringe.*
7. Provide your new bird with a sterilized cage, perches, dishes, and new toys.
8. After your bird has settled in, and before quarantine is completed, throw away any old toys and perches that cannot be sterilized.
9. Change cage liners daily and consider the use of a grate. Lightly misting the cage liner with water before clean-up will help reduce the amount of dander and fecal matter that gets kicked up during cleaning.
10. If possible, use a HEPA or other good quality air filter (without ionizer) to help reduce airborne antigens, fecal matter, and dander.
11. Wash quarantine crocks and dishes in a different sink than your flock's, or at least use a different dish scrubbing brush. Sterilize the scrub brush and dishes frequently in the dishwasher.
12. No sharing between quarantine flocks! No sharing used food, water, dishes, toys, hands, shoulders, humans etc.
13. Quarantine your home, avoid external exposure. If you walk through areas outside your home with duck, goose, and other bird droppings **do not** take these shoes into the home. If you visit zoos, aviaries, pet stores, other friend's homes and handle the birds and/or reptiles, wash your hands and change your clothes before or as soon as you get home.

* **Note:** Wash your hands! **Wash your hands! Wash your hands!** We can't stress this enough! Wash your hands and forearms with soap and water **BEFORE and AFTER** handling quarantined birds.





FOSTER PARENT GUIDELINES

HEALTH

Quarantine:

Birds new to a home must be quarantined for a minimum of six weeks (*please read the Quarantine Procedure thoroughly*). If foster bird(s) and/or personal bird(s) become sick due to quarantine violations, the foster parent is responsible for the costs associated with that illness.

In the event that a foster bird(s) is/are sick or showing signs of illness:

If the bird is in immediate danger (*i.e.*, bleeding, seizing, on the bottom of the cage, unresponsive, having difficulty breathing, etc.), the foster parent needs to get the bird to emergency care with an avian vet or an emergency hospital immediately. Then, contact the Director, the Operations Manager, or your Species Coordinator as soon as possible.

If the bird is stable, please contact the Director or the Operations Manager beforehand to get authorization for a vet visit. If you do not reach someone and feel the bird needs veterinary attention, take the bird(s) to a vet immediately. Mickaboo pays the veterinary costs for all foster birds. The care of the bird must always come first.

If the bird is apparently healthy and the foster parent wants to get a well-bird check up, that is their financial responsibility. Foster parents are responsible for knowing the location of an avian vet and an emergency veterinarian (that has experience with bird emergencies). Please always have a list of Mickaboo Companion Bird Rescue ("MCBR") approved vet hospitals and local emergency hospitals accessible.

Negligence:

In the event that a foster bird(s) is injured due to negligence, the foster parent is responsible for costs associated with the injury (*i.e.*, veterinarian visit, emergency veterinarian visit, etc.).

HOUSING

Mickaboo will provide a cage for your foster bird. However, the foster parent is responsible for cage furnishings, toys, and food. Foster birds are to be kept indoors in safe conditions pursuant to the foster parent application and agreement. Foster birds are only allowed outdoors under supervision and only under safe conditions (*i.e.*, in aviaries, suitable cages, and/or carriers that are safe from predation, the elements, toxicity and escape proof). A foster bird is never to be taken outside on shoulders.

If these conditions are not being met, MCBR reserves the right to remove the birds from your home and into alternative foster care.

MOVING A FOSTER BIRD

If circumstances no longer allow for proper care of foster bird(s):

In the event that a foster parent can no longer or is unable to care for a foster bird(s) and needs to have them placed in a new foster home, he/she should contact the Species Coordinator and/or the Operations Manager immediately. Foster parent should be willing to allow two weeks for a new foster home to be found (especially if it is a hard-to-place species).

Foster bird(s) must be returned to MCBR in the event you can no longer foster. Under no circumstances is the foster bird(s) to be given, sold, or surrendered to any other parties.





BREEDING POLICY

Foster bird(s) are not to be bred and steps should be taken to avoid accidental breeding.

PAPERWORK

Foster parents are responsible for submitting foster parent paperwork. Make sure your paperwork is in before or at the time you begin to foster a bird for MCBR (both the Zoonotic Disease Waiver and the Foster Parent Agreement).

COMMUNICATION WITH MCBR REPRESENTATIVES

We ask for a phone call or e-mail after the first 24 hours of fostering to be sure that your foster birds is eating. Your Species Coordinator may ask you for status reports on a regular basis that include information about the foster bird's eating habits, general behavior, and health. Questions or concerns about your bird's care can be addressed to the Species Coordinator at any time.

If your foster bird escapes, YOU MUST NOTIFY AN MCBR REPRESENTATIVE IMMEDIATELY. E-mail or, preferably, call the person you worked with to obtain the bird and let them know what happened. Notifying us allows us to get volunteers in your area who can help you get the bird back and give you advice as to what to do.

INTERACTION WITH POTENTIAL ADOPTERS

Foster parents should be willing to talk to potential adopters about their foster bird(s) either by email or phone, when requested as well as allowing potential adopters to visit the foster bird(s). Final adoptions must be approved by the Species Coordinator and MCBR staff before foster bird(s) can be transferred to a potential adoptive parent.

Foster parents should never allow foster birds to go home with potential adoptive parent until authorized by the Species Coordinator or MCBR staff. It is the foster parent's responsibility to ensure the adoptive parent receives (or already has) the "Welcoming Your New Bird" brochure and to remind him/her to contact the Species Coordinator within 24 hours to give MCBR a status update on the bird's health.

Once an adoption is approved, the foster parent is responsible for getting adoption paperwork signed and collecting any adoption fee and sending it to MCBR. All adoption paperwork will be provided to the adoptive parents by the Species Coordinator or MCBR staff.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Mickaboo Staff

Tammy Azzaro, Director – email tammy@mickaboo.org, cell: (650) 291-5504
Michelle Yesney, Operations Manager - email msyesney@gmail.com

Species Coordinators

- coordinator-NonParrot@mickaboo.org
- coordinator-Lovebird@mickaboo.org
- coordinator-Parakeet@mickaboo.org
- coordinator-Cockatiel@mickaboo.org
- coordinator-Ringneck@mickaboo.org
- coordinator-Caique@mickaboo.org
- coordinator-Pionus@mickaboo.org
- coordinator-Conure@mickaboo.org
- coordinator-Poicephalus@mickaboo.org
- coordinator-HawkHeaded@mickaboo.org





- coordinator-Eclectus@mickaboo.org
- coordinator-Amazon@mickaboo.org
- coordinator-AfricanGrey@mickaboo.org
- coordinator-Cockatoo@mickaboo.org
- coordinator-Macaw@mickaboo.org
- coordinator-Parrotlet@mickaboo.org
- coordinator-Lorikeet@mickaboo.org

