



Alachua County Animal Resources

Pathway Steps – Dogs

Day 1:

- Obtain out of shelter information:
 - Reason for surrender
 - Behavior Profile from foster/owner
 - Bite history (circumstances, pictures)
- Observe behavior upon intake:
 - How the dog behaved in the front lobby / in the field (reactive, friendly, fearful)
 - How the dog tolerated initial intake (could vaccinations/ dewormer/ microchip be administered)

By Day 5:

- Initial behavioral evaluation should be performed (all staff are encouraged to enter behavior observations as they interact with the animals)
- Dog should have an appropriate picture uploaded to the website
- Dogs with potential for longer Length of Stay (LOS) should be identified. This may include:
 - Difficult to place breeds that require specialized homes (Belgian Malinois, Husky, Livestock Guardian Dog(LGD))
 - Dogs displaying signs of high fear/ anxiety/ stress (FAS) in kennel
 - Dogs that entered the shelter with reported behavioral concerns (animal aggression, reactivity, bite history, anxiety)
 - Dogs that performed poorly during initial behavioral evaluation
 - Dogs that are barrier reactive
 - Black, red/brown, brindle bully mixes
- Dogs with potential for longer LOS due to behavior → rescue plea



By Day 14:

- Perform initial dog-dog test
- Include all dogs with potential for longer LOS in rescue plea
- Discuss potential for out-of-shelter behavior notes (Doggy Day Out, sleepover, short or long-term foster)
- Another round of behavioral evaluations for dogs with potential for longer LOS (these dogs should have daily check-ins with note entries at least twice/week)

By Day 30:

- Build adopter interest
 - Update pictures Web bio
 - Review behavior notes
- Routine behavioral note entries begin (Twice per month at minimum)

By Day 90:

- Gage adopter interest, consider:
 - Adding to web bio
 - Adopter-focused kennel card
 - Additional pictures
 - Name change/profile refresh
- Consider long-term, add to rescue pleas/ send follow-up pleas