



**Action Alert:** Rocco A49020757

Hello Seattle Humane friends and supporters:

We are reaching out today to find an adoptive home, foster home(s) and/or creative solutions for our dear boy, Rocco. We recently sent out a foster request for Rocco and have been able to find part-time foster where he has done well. While this has been incredibly beneficial for Rocco, we are hoping to find a way to get Rocco off campus full time as his stress levels when on campus are extremely high. We are open to solutions, such as a two-family shared foster home set-up or, in a perfect world, Rocco finds an adopter.



**About Rocco:**

Rocco is a 1-year-old Boston Terrier/ Australian Shepherd mix who was surrendered at the beginning of November due to his owner's loss of housing. Due to the COVID pandemic, Rocco was not exposed to visitors, so he struggles with strangers and visitors and can be reactive out on walks when in close proximity to other dogs or strangers. This has been an especially hard struggle for Rocco while on campus.

Rocco has bonded with several staff members while on campus, so we know that he is open to accepting new friends in his life. These introductions have often been slow, so any new friends should be ready for a couple of visits before he accepts you. He can be quite intimidating during those first few visits, but a Behavior staff member will be with you to walk you through Rocco's body language and comfort level.

Rocco is a special boy who would thrive in the right home. In his recent foster, he was with another dog who he now likes to play with, but he was quite fearful of the other dog at first so will need a slow and managed introduction.

If you fit the following requirements, please consider reaching out to the Foster or Adoption Team today!

**What Rocco needs to be successful:**

- Adult-only household
- A slow introduction to new friends—you'd need to be able to devote some time for at least a couple of walks and fetch sessions with Rocco to give him time to get comfortable with you before taking him home

- No frequent visitors and a secure place (room) to put Rocco in should someone new enter the house
- The ability to let Rocco have space and respect his personal boundaries
- A house with a secured yard
- No other dogs, or a well- socialized, tolerant dog (intros will be required and may need to be long and/or repeated)
- We have no history of Rocco's behavior towards cats
- Solid knowledge of canine body language
- Good at following directions. To prepare, we'll send you Rocco's "In-Home Management" plan and supporting handouts, then you'll talk through the plan with the Behavior Team.
- Someone who loves to play fetch as much as Rocco does! This is one of the best ways to bond with Rocco!

### **Think you might be a good fit to foster Rocco?**

If you are interested in fostering Rocco, the next step is to contact our Foster Team at **Foster@seattlehumane.org**, who will schedule a consult call with our behavioral team so you can learn more about his behavior needs. From there, you will be able to meet Rocco and see if he is a good fit.

If you are interested in adopting Rocco, please complete our pre-adoption questionnaire, which you can find on our website at [seattlehumane.org/adoption-process/](https://seattlehumane.org/adoption-process/). From there, you will have the option to foster-to-adopt and our Behavior Team will work with you to develop an "In-Home Management" plan that works for you both. We will also offer Behavior Helpline calls every 3 days at minimum to ensure a harmonious household. Additionally, since he will need continued support from a behavior professional to manage fear of new people, Seattle Humane can provide a referral and assist with costs for a dog trainer.

### **How can I help, even if I'm not the right fit?**

If you have any other creative ideas for Rocco, please consider reaching out to [Action@seattlehumane.org](mailto:Action@seattlehumane.org). Please note that it will take several business days to explore all suggestions. Additionally, because of the number of responses we may receive, we do not anticipate being able to personally respond to each individual suggestion.

Also, be sure to share our social media posts about Rocco! The bigger the reach, the better!

- <https://youtu.be/EDRbQbF15hg>
- <https://fb.watch/aIRYP-jEhN/>

### **Transfer options**

Since Rocco struggles with meeting new people, finding a transfer option may be challenging, but we have reached out to the following partners to see if they would consider transferring or cross-posting Rocco: Dog Gone Seattle, Resilient Hearts Animal Sanctuary, Tails-A-Waggin Rescue, Rescue4All, Ribsey's Refugees, Herd U Needed A Home, PNWCDR, Saving Great Animals, Motley Zoo, Second Chance Dogs, Oregon Dog Rescue, Family Dogs New Life, The Pixie Project, Misunderstood Mutts, Happy Tails Happy Homes, The Big Dog Project, Forgotten Dogs Rescue, Homeward Pet, Lady's Hope, Dogs Deserve Better, Rescued Hearts Northwest, and Oregon Humane.

**Thank you for your willingness to assist us as we work to find Rocco a path to a full- time foster or adoptive home.** We appreciate all the efforts already made on his behalf.

Sincerely,

Seattle Humane