

# Foster Parent Spotlight

## July 2022 — Rebecca Abram

Rebecca Abram has been an amazing foster parent since 2020, but she really proved her mettle back in May. That's when Seattle Humane took in more than three dozen puppies that had been exposed to parvovirus during their transfer from Oklahoma. Rebecca fostered four of them, which meant juggling numerous vet appointments, dropping off and picking up puppies as needed. Not to mention cleaning, cleaning and more cleaning! When two of the pups tested positive for the virus, Rebecca remained undeterred and set up separate foster stations in her home so she could continue to care for all four. The sick pups ended up beating the virus, thanks to Rebecca's expert care, and all four found loving homes.

"I like fostering because I feel that it is a really tangible way to make a difference in a dog's life. I get to meet some sweet dogs and help set them up for success with their forever homes! I also like that it is a flexible way to volunteer -- I travel quite a bit for work and it's nice being able to take in pups between trips!"

When asked about a favorite foster pet, Rebecca admits she's biased. "Winston stole my heart the second he came with me. Being old, blind, hairless, with a laundry list of medical issues... my dad took one look at him and said 'Awe, he's just a little rusty!' So his name became Rusty and he's been with me for a little over a year now. And I'm happy to say all of his hair has grown back!"

Rebecca says she's had a dog pretty much her entire life, experience she feels set a strong foundation for fostering. "I've had to go through some wonderful, scary, gross, funny, and sad moments with pets throughout the years. I take those experiences and apply them to the pups staying with me. Since Rusty is blind, I have experience with visually impaired dogs and was able to help 16-month-old Ace after he had his eyes surgically removed. Or knowing that some dogs are a little scared of big people like 3-year-old Chico the chihuahua. I needed to lay on my back with treats in my hand for a while before he felt comfortable with me. I think the biggest thing I've learned is to meet them at their level, and they'll tell you what they need!"

As for pets of her own, Rebecca's pack includes Rusty, and a seven-year-old pineapple green cheek conure named Mellie.

Outside of fostering, Rebecca loves spending time outdoors and has recently picked up birding. She also enjoys concerts, brunches and is a VR gamer.

When it comes to caring, compassionate fosters, you rock, Rebecca! Thank you for all you do supporting our furry friends at Seattle Humane!



Hairless Winston (Rusty) when Rebecca first started fostering him last year.



Rebecca with Rusty today.



Blind Golden Retriever Ace, another of Rebecca's fosters.

