Great Lakes Golden Retriever Rescue Foster Handbook
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Great Lakes Golden Retriever Rescue
Introduction to the Organization

Welcome! Thank you for joining the Great Lake Golden Retriever Rescue (GLGRR) volunteer team! You are about to embark on a great adventure—an important and fulfilling volunteer job. You will join other dedicated volunteers who want only the best for Golden Retrievers. Whether you are an interviewer, foster, transporter, or board member, you will find your experience will be fun and rewarding.

Let's get started! We have established procedures and policies for foster families to follow. These guidelines outline your responsibilities as a foster. You will work with others on the GLGRR team to move the dog through the fostering and adoption process. Don't worry—you are not alone! New fosters are assigned a mentor who can be your go-to person for questions and support.

Please use this handbook as your manual and reference source. It contains all the basic information you will need to do your job. Direction offered here is considered GLGRR policy. If you ever have questions or concerns, your mentor and the GLGRR team is available to assist you.

Introduction to Great Lakes Golden Retriever Rescue

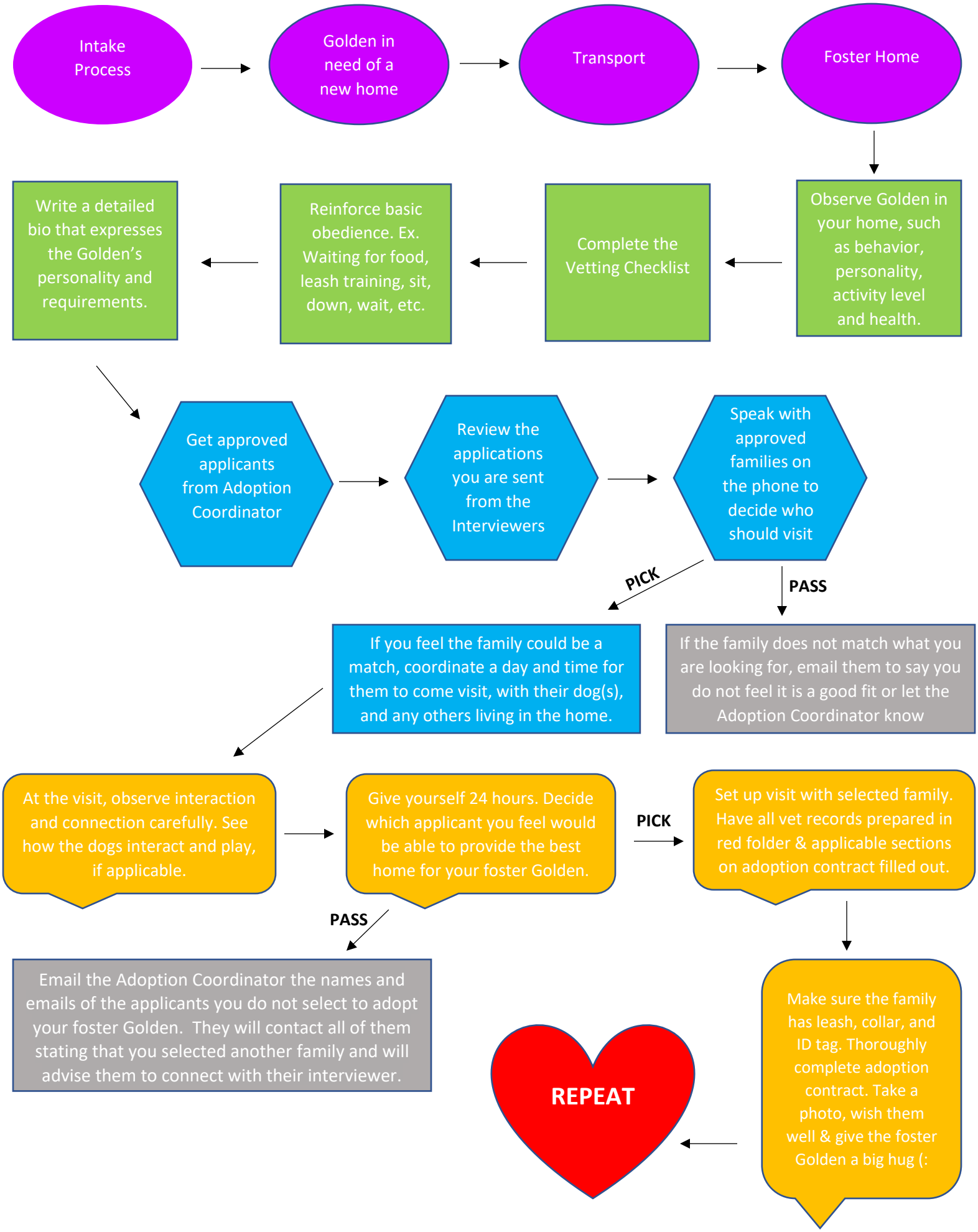
Founded in 2003, the mission of GLGRR is to rescue, rehabilitate, and re-home Goldens in need. Our organization is very passionate and dedicated to doing what's best for our Goldens and we have foster homes throughout the State of Michigan that feel the same way. We adopt dogs to families located in Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Wisconsin. We have a dedicated board and have built our nonprofit organization on passion, dedication, and love for Golden Retrievers.

GLGRR is a team and we find it important to remember that each person has a role. We would not be who we are without each volunteer. No matter what your position is, be thoughtful about what others are responsible for as well. In addition to fostering, we have two other large volunteer groups:

- **Interviewing:** After a potential adopter has applied online, the Interviewer is the first person they will have personal contact with. Interviewers check vet references and then the potential adopter to discuss the application. The interviewers make sure that the potential adopter will provide a safe and loving home for any of our foster Goldens. They will also discuss with the potential adopter the type of Golden (age, energy level, etc.) will best fit with their lifestyle. It is important that interviewers and fosters are in communication when applicants come to visit foster Goldens.

- **Transporter and Support Volunteers:** Opportunities exist for people to step up to help with transport of dogs from its intake point to a foster home. We are statewide and that means lots of miles need to be covered. We also welcome volunteers to help staff booths for special events and participate in fundraisers.

GLGRR Fostering Flowchart



Great Lakes Golden Retriever Rescue Directory

Bertinelli, Jessica (Foster, Transport)
1001 Saint Johns Drive
Charlevoix, MI 49720
435.655.1718
bertinellij@gmail.com

Blankenhagen, Sue (Interviewer)
765 Evergreen Court
Petoskey MI 49770
231.881.1567
bythebay@chartermi.net

Bloom, Jill (Foster, Transport)
2441 Yorkshire
Birmingham, MI 48009
248.229.2324
bloomj@bnpmedia.com

Carey, Eva and James (Foster)
11495 60th SE
Alto, MI 49302
616.690.7445 - Eva
616.690.2936 - James
evacarey@charter.net

Davidson, Joe (Interviewer)
1611 Maplewood
Sylvan Lake, MI 48320
248.320.1312
jdperm78@gmail.com

Duke, Marilyn
1608 Whitby
Portage, MI 49024
269.324.8332 (H)
269.808.4445 (C)
m.duke@wmich.edu

Eckhart, Cindy (Adoption Coordinator; Foster; Transport)
8810 Inverness Trail
Cheboygan, MI 49721
231.347.1897
fourpawsonly@yahoo.com

Fox, Tracey (Board Member, Transport)
3883 Wildwood Trail
517.731.1231
Gaylord, MI 49735
Traceysgoldens@gmail.com

Gorton, Cindy (Transport)
1231 Carlton Avenue NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49505
231.203.1726
cmgcmg16@gmail.com

Grantham, Jeff & Sandy (Foster, Transport)
801 Baxter Street
Petoskey, MI 49770
231.838.8777 (C)
231.347.3151 (H)
jtg231@live.com

Hand, Keith (Skip) and Val (Foster, Transport)
65423 C.R. 342
Hartford, MI 49057
269.462.1795
valskip80@gmail.com

Hentz, Ginger (Bob Randels) (Board Member, Vol. Coordinator, Foster, Transport)
15619 Budd Road
Battle Creek, MI 49017
269.721.3330 (C)
269.209.0200 (H)
gahentz@aol.com

Krueger, Bill & Ann (Foster, Transport)
4336 N Lakeshore Drive
Black River, MI 48721
734.306.2473
annbillkrueger@yahoo.com

LaLiberte, Nancy and David (Board Secretary, Foster)
8554 West RS Avenue
Schoolcraft, MI 49087
269.668.4010
lotsadoghair@comcast.net

Levy, Brandi (Board Member, Foster, Training Coordinator, Transport)
2602 DelRay Street
Kalamazoo, MI 49004
269-598-0368
brandilevy32@msn.com

Masters, Janice (Interviewer)
213 Golden Avenue
Battle Creek, MI 49015
269-965-6058
jncmst@aol.com

McDonell, Pam (Foster, Transport)
6572 Paris Avenue SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49548
616.828.9463
pamcdonell@att.net

McLean, Jan (Pet Expo)
11141 Hastings Road
Clarksville, MI 48815
616.868.0740
jmclean@voyager.net

Medendorp, Allison (Board President, Vetting Coordinator, Transport)
16559 Tyrone Avenue
Kent City, MI 49330
616.437.1610 (C)
616.675.7248 (H)
amedendorp@wnj.com

Medendorp, Jenna (Board Member, Applications, Rosters, Social Media)
16559 Tyrone Avenue
Kent City, MI 49330
616.690.0530
jmedendorp1@gmail.com

Mickle, Wendy (Board VP, Intake/Turkey Dog Coordinator)
44965 C.R. 653
Paw Paw, MI 49079
269.657.6738 (H)
269.491.2911 (C)
wmickle@comcast.net

Molter, Lynda & Tom (Transport)
1013 Azaleamum Drive
Three Rivers, MI 49093
269.273.1514 (H)
269.506.3078 (C)
lyndamolter@me.com

Murdoch, Nick & Kelli (Foster, Transport)
13511 Turner Road
DeWitt, MI 48820
517.862.4436
Schnepp_kelli@yahoo.com

Murray, Kathy (Foster)
232 Lynn Court
Imlay City, MI 48444
810.656.4908
rescue.dogs@live.com

Nauta, Carol & Dan (Foster, Transport)
751 Indian Lakes NE
Sparta, MI 49345
616.550.5372
carolnauta@aol.com

Nelson, Scott & Shae (Foster, Transport)
1413 S. Chilson Street
Bay City, MI 48706
989.233.1206
goeddeks@mail.gvsu.edu

Orean, Laura (Transport)
745 Northrup Avenue NW
Grand Rapids, MI 49504
616.308.7462
aspenlaura@gmail.com

Ortiz, Shirley (Foster)
364 Leroy Street
Ferndale, MI 48220
248.229.3449
shellymi2000@gmail.com

Podlesak, Pat (Foster, Transport)
7879 Thorne Road
Horton, MI 49246
517.563.9129 (H)
517.745.0929 (C)
hortnfrm@frontiernet.net

Ragan, Debra (Foster)
14129 Arnold
Redford Charter Township, MI 48239
510.697.3647
debcozumel@gmail.com

Ross, Dan and Jan (Foster, Transport)
2286 Bayside Avenue
Portage, MI 49002
269.217.7683
Danross2286@gmail.com

Sackett, Dan & Julie (Foster)
3128 Meadowcroft Lane
Kalamazoo, MI 49004
269.388.8711
daniel723@aol.com

Salsbury, Beth (Foster, Transport)
18641 Stonehouse Shores Road
Hersey, MI 49639
231.832.2166
bsals0926@sbcglobal.net

Schnepp, Rebecca (Foster, Transport)
1505 Gale Road
Eaton Rapids MI 48827
517.803.0024
Schnepp_becca@yahoo.com

Schultz, Susan (Interviewer)
37260 Maple Leaf Court
Clinton Twp., MI 48036
586.286.2789 (H)
586.246.2820 (C)
goldencrazee@yahoo.com

Sheely, Adrienne & Mark Montri (Foster)
1296 Sweet Grass Trail
Howell, MI 48843
734-347-1552
adrienne.sheely@gmail.com

Squire, Pam & Steve (Board Treasurer, Transport)
6986 Cimarron SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49546
616.285.5801 (H)
616.450.4851 (C)
psquire@wnj.com

Stafford, Lisa (Foster)
8050 West S. Avenue
Schoolcraft MI 49087
269.372.3899
mls83e@comcast.net

Sterling, Diane (Foster)
314 McKinley
Boyne City, MI 49712
734.355.3160
boyne5@charter.net

Sweet, David & Janet (Transport)
1591 Hillsboro Avenue SE
Grand Rapids MI 49546
616-682-2464 (H)
404-805-5922 (C)
davidsweet616@gmail.com

Urbanski, Todd & Jane (Interviewer)
201 Rollingbrook NE
Ada, MI 49301
616.957.5139 (H)
616.822.0478 (C)
j.e.urbanski@att.net

Walker, Randy & Pam, (Foster, Interviewer)
320 Burrows Road
Kalamazoo, MI 49006
269.998.0973
Pamwalker320@gmail.com

Wiersum, Heather (Interviewer)
5114 Blaine Avenue SE
Kentwood, MI 49508
616.293.3772
heatherwiersum@yahoo.com

GREAT LAKES GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE (GLGRR)
FOSTER PARENT AGREEMENT

Welcome to Great Lakes Golden Retriever Rescue (GLGRR) Foster Team! You are about to embark on a fun and fulfilling volunteer job. You will join other dedicated volunteers who want only the best for Golden Retrievers. We have established procedures and policies for foster parents and their families to follow. These guidelines outline your responsibilities as a foster parent. You will work with others on the GLGRR team to move the dog through the fostering and adoptive process. Don't worry—you are not alone! New foster parents have access to a mentor who can be your go-to person for questions and support.

Please review all the information and policies in the GLGRR handbook. By signing this Agreement, you acknowledge you have read, are familiar with, and will adhere to all GLGRR policies.

General

- Foster parents must treat their foster Golden as their own dog.
- At their expense, foster parents shall provide food, bedding, toys, leashes, collars, daily grooming as well as meet any day-to-day needs of the foster Golden. In some cases, with prior approval from Allie Medendorp, President (amedendorp@wnj.com), GLGRR will pay for professional bathing/grooming of a dog, if needed.
- GLGRR reserves the right to transfer or remove a foster Golden from a foster parent's home if GLGRR deems that is in the best interest of the foster Golden.
- All foster Goldens coming into GLGRR follow the foster/adoption procedures and policies listed in the handbook. Any exceptions require prior board approval.
- New foster parents are required to participate in an orientation conducted by our Volunteer Coordinator, Ginger Hentz, via phone or in person.
- GLGRR foster parents are required to attend in-person training sessions when scheduled. Foster parents unable to attend the training event will need to discuss their options with the Volunteer Coordinator to attend another training. As new information is available, foster parents will attend occasional trainings held online or via conference call. Foster parents will also be expected to follow guidance sent to them from GLGRR periodically via email or other means.

THE FOSTER GOLDEN IN YOUR CARE MAY NEVER BE RELEASED TO AN ADOPTER WITHOUT THE ADOPTION FORM COMPLETED AND THE CHECK IN YOUR POSSESSION.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I/we have read and understand the policies and procedures listed in the handbook and agree to abide by them.

Dated: _____, 20__

_____
[Foster parent's signature]

_____
[Foster parent's printed name]

Dated: _____, 20__

_____
[Co-foster parent's signature]

_____
[Co-foster parent's printed name]

Dated: _____, 20__

_____
[GLGRR representative's signature]

_____
[GLGRR representative's printed name]

Great Lakes Golden Retriever Rescue
Resource List

Allie Medendorp, President Amedendorp@wnj.com (616) 437-1610	Medical & Health Issues and Vetting for Foster Dogs Dog Behavioral Issues and Training Liaison Issues for Board Consideration
Wendy Mickle, Vice President Wmickle@comcast.net (269) 491-2911	Foster Dog intake Transport Coordination Turkey Dog Program Coordination and Support
Ginger Hentz, Volunteer Coordinator Gahentz@aol.com (269) 209-0200	Volunteer Applications and Orientation Foster Parent Mentors and Support
Jenna Medendorp, Adoption Coordinator Jmedendorp1@gmail.com (616) 690-0530	Roster Postings Connecting Fosters and Approved Applicants Website and Social Media Calendar and Special Projects
Rebecca Schnepp Schnepp_becca@yahoo.com (517) 803-0024	Interviewing & Selecting Families

Intake Process: Getting Your Foster Golden

GLGRR takes in Goldens many different ways, the three most common being:

- Owner Surrenders
- Turkey
- Shelters

Our Intake Coordinator, Wendy Mickle (wmickle@comcast.net), handles all of the incoming Goldens. She works to get as much information as possible about the incoming Golden and his or her behavioral and medical history/needs. In many instances, though, despite a continually evolving form, she does not ever receive all the information. The Turkey dogs and the shelter dogs come usually with no background and only the observations of the folks who have worked with them. The owner surrenders are a mixed bag – some come with totally truthful stories, but the majority of people surrendering their dogs are choosing not to share important information. When you are called with a fostering opportunity, Wendy will provide you as much information as she has discerned. You may accept or decline a Golden based on that information.

If you choose to accept an incoming foster Golden:

- Wendy will provide you with transportation details.
    - Note: If you are picking up the foster Golden directly from his/her previous owner, which is very rare, please be sensitive to their situation. It may be very difficult for them. Even if the Golden is not in good condition, it is not our place to judge. Thank them for choosing to surrender their Golden to us. The owner will have received an owner surrender form from Wendy. She will tell you if she has the signed copy back or if you need to pick it up, too. If the owner does not have a printer, Wendy will provide you with the owner surrender form to be signed and returned. Be sure to take all the paperwork the owner provides you and scan or screen shot it to Allie or Wendy as soon as you are able. The original material should be sent to the post office box. Although Wendy

can update the owner in a broad manner as to how their dog is adjusting to their new world, under no circumstances can information be shared about the permanent home. Do not give the owner your address or phone number.

- You must take on the role of a caretaker for your foster Golden.
    - Note: In no situation may the foster transfer the dog to any other party (includes boarding facilities while on vacation) without approval from Wendy or Allie.
- Be prepared to follow the procedures that GLGRR has in place.
- Hold onto a copy of any information that you receive about your Golden, as you will need that documentation throughout the process. Treat any documents that have the previous owner's information as strictly confidential and black out the previous owner's name and contact information before giving to the adopter. Allie will let you know, based on either vet records or calls to the vet, what medical issues should be addressed at the "wellness" check of your foster.
- In order to help keep the records straight, please keep your foster Golden's name the same as it is upon intake, unless the dog is coming from an abusive situation.

Important Reminder

Dogs of all shapes, ages, sizes, and dispositions come into GLGRR. They are Golden Retrievers so we anticipate that they will be friendly, sweet tempered, and easy keepers. Some Goldens come into GLGRR with special needs. Wendy tries to match dogs with foster homes and with the abilities of the foster family. Wendy will give you as much information as she has about a particular dog. However, the dog may exhibit behaviors that were unknown at the time of intake. It is your responsibility to immediately alert Allie and Wendy of any observed behavioral issues in the dog that may potentially cause harm to a human or another dog or of any behaviors that you do not know how to address. They will be able to guide you on how to handle these issues and what steps to take.

Great Lakes Golden Retriever Rescue: Transporting Dogs

Because we have fosters throughout the state, transportation of dogs is a necessary and sometimes complicated issue. Adding to that is the fact the Turkey dogs go first to the Farm to rest and decompress, so when they are transferred it is a trip to Sawyer, MI, and back to start them on their way. We always need folks to help with transfers, and should you decide to do so, you will be given exact dates, times, and contact information for your next stop. Transport is a rewarding part of rescue, plus you get to know yet another dog, and some more fosters!

Talk to the dog in calm, loving tones.

Respect the dog's feelings because they have either just travelled 14 hours, are leaving their owners for reasons they don't understand, or they are coming from a noisy shelter they never deserved to land in.

Always take time to move at the dog's pace.

Never bring your own dog.

Stifle your impulse to feed the dog.

Prior to leaving, give your transport a chance to pee and poop.

Occasionally a dog will have trouble jumping in a car. Be gentle with those older hips or frightened Goldens.

Relaxing in the car will help your transport feel more comfortable. Blankets, quilts, or a dog bed all help with easing a dog's anxiety.

Timing is important, so give yourself enough time to get to the designated location. Some transports can be two or three stops.

Things to Remember

- Bring a leash so the transporter you are meeting can have hers/his back.
- Double leash the Turkey dogs. We also have a specific leash we use for the Turkey dogs. If you did not get one at the training, contact Allie or Jenna to get one. The second leash on the Turkey dogs does not have to be the slip leash.
- If you have an SUV, many times it is easier to control the dog by letting them in and out of the side door instead of the back. The back opening is hard for one person to cover safely, and many are frightened of the automatic hatch.

Great Lakes Golden Retriever Rescue
Everything You Need to Know About Fostering a Turkey Golden

Background Information

In 2017, GLGRR began a partnership with a rescue in Turkey who sends Golden Retrievers over to begin the lives they deserve. We are one rescue of many who have taken on this endeavor to help these hopeless dogs. In Turkey, there are thousands of homeless animals roaming the streets, forests and beaches, with many being Goldens. The various municipalities work to spay and neuter as many dogs as they can, however, when the municipal shelters become full, those same dogs are released into the wild to fend for themselves. Because Goldens are such mild dogs, they don't typically fare well when left to compete with other breeds for food and shelter.

We work with an experienced rescue in Turkey to bring the Goldens to the United States. These volunteers enable extensive vetting which is required for their export. After they find a flight volunteer to escort the dogs to Chicago via Turkish Airlines, they prepare the dogs for travel and drive them to Istanbul to catch their flight to freedom. The flight volunteer is responsible for escorting the Goldens through Customs at the airport. A representative from GLGRR meets the flight volunteer at the airport in Chicago, releases them from their crate in the pet relief area, and loads them up to take them to their next stop, and official welcome to the United States!

The Transition

The Turkish Goldens are taken from O'Hare to a "dog retreat" in southwestern Michigan. The facility is extremely peaceful, and the owners are incredibly kind with a huge love for Goldens and a deep respect for the Turkish community. The Turkey dogs, as we affectionately call them, stay at the Farm for 10 days to two weeks. Enough time for them to relax, decompress and be seen by a vet for their "wellness" exam. This is their time to be loved, play and rest. The intake coordinator stays in close contact with the owners and they determine when the Goldens are ready to move on to their foster, who will provide much more structure and training, to prepare them for their future family.

Turkey Goldens: Medical Conditions

Transmissible Venereal Tumors (TVTs): A TVT is a sexually transmitted disease. Intact, free roaming dogs are at greater risk of acquiring and spreading this disease, which is very prevalent in countries with high heat and humidity. There are TVT dogs in the southern United States, as well as Mexico. It is not limited to the Mediterranean countries. A TVT is passed through direct contact with tumor cells from a diseased animal. It is transmitted through the act of sex, humping and can also be transmitted by oral contact, such as licking. Signs of TVT are red, tumorous masses seen on or coming out of the surface membrane of the vagina, or on the penis. Blood drops may also be observed dripping from the vagina or penile foreskin. The dog will usually lick

the affected area with frequency. A TVT, when allowed to run its course, many times will self-cure. However, to limit exposure, the tumors need to be removed and the dog placed on a chemotherapy treatment every two weeks for four to six treatments. Generally, a favorable prognosis that allows for a complete cure is expected. However, as with any communicable disease, the dog's overall health contributes greatly to the success and longevity of the treatment. We have imported almost 50 Goldens from Turkey and had two cases of a TVT, both of which were cured. Nationwide, almost 1700 Goldens have come from Turkey and there have been 11 reported cases. Fortunately, the initial vet who sees the Goldens directly after their arrival, does a thorough TVT check prior to them coming into contact with any other dogs.

Turkey Goldens: Common Behaviors

Now that we have imported 40+ dogs from Turkey, we are able to have a sense of common behaviors. Initially they may be slightly nervous, although most sleep the entire way back from the airport! They have had their lives as they know them changed, though, and it is a huge transition. These Goldens have often lived on their own for months and never had much human guidance. Consistency with training is hugely important. Also, make sure your expectations are attainable – these dogs from Turkey are very eager to please and yearn for human direction and contact.

Resource Guarding: Turkey Goldens traditionally are good natured and easy to handle. However, some of them have come from miserable, starving lives, and can be very protective of food. So initially anyway, treat them as you would any other foster and feed them separately. They also have never had toys. They may share their toys, they may rip up their toys, and they may feel protective of their toys. Again, as with any other foster, pick up all the toys until you can ascertain if there will be a problem. Do NOT have toys immediately accessible to these Goldens, allow them to settle in and meet their foster siblings, if applicable. When you do introduce toys, be sure you are watching very carefully your foster Golden's behavior.

Other Dogs: The vast majority of the Goldens we have brought over from Turkey LOVE other dogs and are very pack oriented. It is true that other dogs are the best teachers and our Turkey Goldens get a sense of security and learn so much from other animals in the home. As always, be sure to properly introduce the dogs.

Prey Drive/Containment: Many Goldens in Turkey roam free and find their own food, hence, chase squirrels, birds, rabbits, etc. For this reason, pay close attention if you have a cat. Some of these dogs chase, others do not, but, again as with other fosters, protect your own pets. Given their natural tendency to wander and their desire to chase, almost ALL of the Turkey Goldens have a physical fence requirement and can never go to a home with an invisible fence system. There are rare exceptions to that rule. If you are fostering a Turkey Golden and feel very strongly that they would be okay with a walking plan or tie-out, exceptions can be made.

Great Lakes Golden Retriever Rescue
Foster Expectations

General

- Provide a loving and structured environment for the Golden
- Keep the Golden safe
- Carefully observe the Golden's personality and needs
- Asses his/her suitability for a future forever home
- House the Golden for a minimum of two weeks or until ready for adoption
- Foster homes for GLGRR must treat their foster Golden as their own dog.
- At their expense, Fosters provide food, bedding, toys, leashes, collars, daily grooming, and for other day-to-day needs of the Golden.

Daily Care

- Twice a day, the foster dog MUST be fed in their crate or alone in a separate room
- Bathe, brush and check ears during the first two weeks and then as needed
    - In some cases, with prior approval from Wendy or Allie, GLGRR will pay for professional bathing/grooming of a dog.
- Provide quality and nutritious food for the foster Golden *(avoid grain-free kibble or kibble containing corn and/or chicken*).
- Give your foster Golden lots of love and play time
- Provide daily exercise that is appropriate for the foster Golden's age and condition

Containment

- Your foster Golden MUST be contained at all times (physical/invisible fence, tie-out, leash)
- Supervise, monitor, and confine the dog, keeping it within your control at all times
- Assess if the foster Golden needs a physical fence in the adoptive home, if they could be trained to an invisible fence, or if they would be okay with a tie-out/walking plan

Training

- Identify any behavioral issues
- Socialize the dog and expose it to a variety of people and situations
- Introduce the Golden to new dogs to assess the interaction
- Positive reinforcement, teaching of basic commands (sit, down, stay, wait, etc.)
- Leash training
- Introduce the GLGRR dog to children (if possible), strangers, and to other dogs in a safe and controlled environment so you know what he/she does and doesn't like

Adoption

- While it may seem like a good idea, please do not market your foster Golden to friends, family, neighbors, etc. to adopt. We have an adoption process and many applicants waiting to adopt.
- Thoroughly interview all of the interested families via phone before deciding who can visit and connect with the applicant's interviewer
- Carefully watch the interaction between your foster Golden and prospective families
- Complete all required documents before the adoption takes place
- Complete the Adoption Contract thoroughly and legibly with the adoptive family

Great Lakes Golden Retriever Rescue Food Guide

The following products are quality, reasonably priced dog foods that we recommend feeding your foster Golden. The foods are found at various stores throughout the state. While you do not have to feed one of these foods, the food you feed your foster Golden must meet the following requirements:

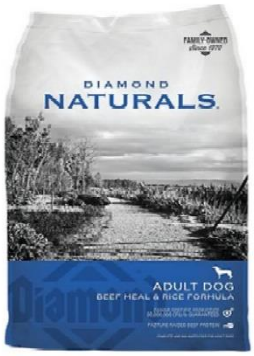
Contains Grain
Grain free diets cause heart issues

Does NOT Contain Chicken
Many Goldens have allergies

NO Colors and Dyes
The chemicals are harmful

NO Corn and Fillers
Bad for the digestive system

If your foster Golden has weight issues, excessive allergies, etc., please call Allie to help find a food that works well for your foster.



Diamond Naturals
Beef & Rice

Where to buy?
Tractor Supply, Walmart,
Pet Supplies Plus, Chewy

Cost
$36 for 40lb Bag



Diamond Naturals
Lamb & Rice

Where to Buy?
Tractor Supply,
Walmart,
Pet Supplies Plus,
Chewy

Cost
$37 for 40lb Bag



Rachel Ray Nutrish Just 6
Lamb & Brown Rice

Where to Buy?
Petco, Petsmart, Chewy, Walmart

Cost
$33 for 28lb Bag



Kirkland
Lamb, Rice and Vegetable

Where to Buy?
Costco

Cost
$44 for 40lb Bag



4-Health
Salmon & Potato

Where to Buy?
Tractor Supply Co

Cost
$37 for 35lb Bag

Great Lakes Golden Retriever Rescue

Foster Observation Sheet

Please begin the checklist when you welcome a new foster Golden into your home. Continue to add notes throughout the foster Golden's stay in your care. Complete this checklist when your foster Golden is headed to their new home.

Date of Intake: _____ Intake Location: _____

Dog's Name: _____ Age/Birthdate: _____

☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Altered ☐ Intact

Taking Possession of the Golden

When you first get the Golden, please mark what documents you are given:

☐ Signed Owner Release, if an owner surrender

☐ Shelter Receipt, if the Golden is from a shelter

☐ Copy of any medical records

☐ Other records the owner may have about the Golden

Initial Observations: _____

_____

_____

_____

Known Medical Condition:_____

_____

_____

_____

Current Medications: _____

_____

Physical Description (include color, skin and coat description, any unusual markings): _____

_____

_____

_____

Weight: _____ ☐ Needs Weight Loss ☐ Needs Weight Gain ☐ At Ideal Weight

What bad habits does this Golden have? _____

_____

_____

_____

How does the foster Golden interact with other dogs? Show signs of dominance or a submissive behavior?

_____

_____

_____

_____

Does this Golden show signs of a high prey drive? Ex. Chasing smaller animals, obsessively watching squirrels, etc.? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Is the Golden crate trained? ☐ Yes ☐ No

What goals do you have for this foster Golden, before he/she gets adopted? _____

_____

_____

_____

How would you label the foster Golden's energy/activity level? ☐ High ☐ Medium ☐ Low

Has the Golden been around children? Ages? How does the Golden react? _____

_____

_____

_____

General comments about the Golden's every day behavior: _____

_____

_____

_____

_____

What will the new adopter need to continue working on with the Golden? _____

_____

_____

_____

Great Lakes Golden Retriever Rescue
Ready for Adoption: Getting Your Foster Golden on the Roster!

If the following items have been completed, your foster Golden is likely ready for the roster! Please read through the requirements carefully.

- ☐ Had the foster Golden in your care for a minimum of two weeks, but not less than seven days after any surgery, which includes spaying and neutering
- ☐ Carefully observed the foster Golden's behaviors and completed the Foster Observation Sheet
- ☐ All vet work has been completed and the Vetting Checklist has been filled out
- ☐ Any health or behavior issues have been resolved
- ☐ The foster Golden is well socialized with people
- ☐ The foster Golden's behavior with other dogs has been observed
- ☐ The foster Golden displays knowledge of acceptable behavior in the home (i.e., does not counter surf, jump up on visitors, destroy furniture or other household items, etc.)

If your foster Golden meets the requirements listed above, email Jenna (jmedendorp1@gmail.com) with a description of the dog and at least two photos for the roster. New rosters are sent out on Wednesdays. If you want your foster Golden on the roster, please be sure that Jenna has the information by noon at the latest. Once a dog is listed on the roster it will likely take a minimum of two weeks for your foster Golden to be matched with its forever home.

You will need to fax or email copies of all vet records to Allie prior to the dog being listed on the roster so that she can be sure nothing has been missed.

The bio you write should encompass your foster Golden's personality. The bio should also share a brief background of the Golden. Make sure that the bio is clear and transparent so that applicants know exactly what to expect. Be sure to include the following:

☐ Age	☐ Energy Level	☐ Containment Requirements
☐ Good with kids? Age(s)?	☐ Good with cats?	☐ Good with other dogs?
☐ Crate trained?	☐ Good in the car?	☐ Training Needs

** Note on Containment: We have applicants that have a physically fenced yard, invisible fences, tie-outs and a walking plan. Decide what your foster Golden needs based on his/her temperament, including activity level, prey drive, history, exercise needs, etc.

After your foster Golden is placed on the roster, interested applicants will contact our Adoption Coordinator, Cindy. She will pre-screen all interested applicants to make sure they meet the requirements listed in the bio you wrote for your foster Golden. While it may seem like a good idea, please do not market your foster Golden to friends, family, neighbors, etc. to adopt. We have an adoption process and many applicants waiting to adopt.

Cindy will then forward you the names of the qualified applicants. Our interview team will forward you the qualified applicant's application and notes for you to review. You can then review the applications and notes so that you can start to get to know these applicants. If you have questions, do not hesitate to ask the applicant's interviewer or Cindy for further information.

Contact all of the qualified applicants to set up a phone interview with them. You don't have to grant a visit to every applicant you talk to. Please refer to documents on how to interview potential applicants for further guidance.

Great Lakes Golden Retriever Rescue Vetting Checklist

Please be sure this form is filled out thoroughly. Start by importing any information from previous vet records that you receive from Wendy or Allie. **Please remember to white out the previous owner's name, address and phone number on vet records that came with the dog.** Then, email Allie (amedendorp@wnj.com) to discuss what other vetting needs to be done and set up an appointment to get it done.

The vet sends the original invoice to Treasurer Pam Squire, but not a detailed report of what procedures/vaccinations were done at the visit. **Request a copy of the vet records from the clinic at the time of service or ask the vet clinic to fax/email the records to Allie and she will email you the records. The copies will go with the dog at time of adoption.**

Submit completed Vetting Checklist and all vet records to Allie at the time the dog's bio and photos are sent to Jenna Medendorp (jmedendorp1@gmail.com). This can be done by scanning/emailing the copies, faxing (616.222.2294), or taking a *clear* picture with your phone and texting to Allie. A Word version of this form can be provided upon request.

Name of Your Rescue Vet Clinic: _____ Phone: _____

- ☐ Microchip Number: _____ Date: _____ Vet: _____
- ☐ Titer Test Date: _____ Vet: _____
- ☐ Rabies Date: _____ Vet: _____
- ☐ DHLPP Date: _____ Vet: _____
- ☐ Fecal:
  - Positive
  - Negative

  Date: _____ Vet: _____
- ☐ Heartworm
  - Positive
  - Negative

  Date: _____ Vet: _____

Date(s) Preventative is given: _____ _____ _____ _____

- ☐ Spay/Neuter (If needed) Date: _____ Vet: _____
- ☐ General Health Visit
  - Ears, skin heart

  Date: _____ Vet: _____
- ☐ Other: _____ Date: _____ Vet: _____
- ☐ Other: _____ Date: _____ Vet: _____

Notes from vet: _____

_____

_____

_____

Great Lakes Golden Retriever Rescue Vetting Checklist

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- ☐ Titer Test Date: _____
- ☐ Rabies Date: _____
- ☐ DHLPP Date: _____
- ☐ Fecal: Date: _____
  - Positive
  - Negative
- ☐ Heartworm Date: _____
  - Positive
  - Negative

Dates HW Preventative given: _____ _____ _____ _____

Dates Flea Preventative given: _____ _____ _____ _____

- ☐ Spay/Neuter (If needed) Date: _____
- ☐ General Health Visit Date: _____
  - Ears, skin heart
- ☐ Other: _____ Date: _____
- ☐ Other: _____ Date: _____

Notes from vet: _____

_____

_____

_____

Great Lakes Golden Retriever Rescue
Medical Cheat Sheet

	Causes	Symptoms	Treatment	When to call Allie?
Diarrhea	There can be multiple causes. Most commonly caused by stress, parasites, a virus or dietary allergies or intolerances	Diarrhea, dehydration, weakness	Identify the cause, if possible, and begin a bland diet of turkey burger (drain/rinse) and rice; pumpkin can also be added. Slowly add kibble over several days.	Blood in stool; gums are pale/white; dog is not interested in eating anything; accompanied by vomiting
Ear Infections	Can be caused by seasonal or food allergies, ear mites, yeast, bacteria, hair growth deep in the canal	Head shaking or tilting, ear odor, vigorous scratching, redness in the ear canal, lack of balance, discharge	Try to identify the cause. You may need to see a vet and get medication. Gently, but thoroughly, clean the ears routinely with an ear wash or a 50/50 mixture of water and apple cider vinegar.	If you feel the dog needs to see the vet.
Heartworm	Caused by a parasitic worm transferred to the dog by a mosquito bite.	Mild persistent cough, reluctance to exercise, fatigue, decreased appetite, weight loss.	Diagnosed by a blood test done at the vet. Treatment is determined by the severity of the case. The dog should have reduced activity while going through treatment to prevent any complications.	N/A (Part of initial visit to vet.)

Hotspots	Intense chewing, scratching or licking of one area, insect bites, and allergies are commonly the causes of reoccurring hotspots. Dogs with hypothyroidism are also prone to hotspots if not appropriately being treated for low thyroid.	Large, raw, inflamed and bleeding area of skin. The area becomes moist and painful. Will spread with continued licking of the area.	Try to identify the cause to prevent future hotspots. Clip any hair away from the wound, gently wash with warm water and gentle soap, allow the area to dry and then apply a light dusting of Caldesene powder (found in baby section of your local store), prevent the dog from licking the affected area.	Email or text Allie to alert her to the hotspot(s). If there is no improvement with the suggested treatment after a few days, call Allie.
Hyperthyroidism (High thyroid)	Most commonly caused by overactive thyroid nodules. Can begin if you are over treating hypothyroidism. This the rarer form of thyroid disease in dogs.	Weight loss, increased appetite, vomiting, diarrhea, disheveled look, increased thirst, rapid breathing	Diagnosed by a blood test at the vet. This is not curable, but managed by a daily pill. Thyroid rechecks are important to be sure you stay on the correct dosage of medication.	If you notice any of the symptoms, call or text Allie.
Hypothyroidism (Low thyroid)	The most common factor is a dog's age and breed. It can also be caused by a shrinking thyroid or the immune system attacking the thyroid	Frequent ear infections, itching, chronic skin infections, hair thinning, dry bristly hair, weight gain without an increase in food, fatigue, joint pain, slow movements.	Diagnosed by a blood test at the vet. This is not curable, but managed by a daily pill. Thyroid rechecks are important to be sure you stay on the correct dosage of medication.	If you notice any of the symptoms, call or text Allie.

Intestinal Blockage	Ingestion of objects that cannot be broken down through digestion. Rawhides and bones are the most common causes. Other causes include toys, clothes, towels, stuffed animals, rocks, sticks, tennis balls, shoelaces, hair ties/bands and ribbon.	Vomiting, loss of appetite, straining during bowel movements, diarrhea, tarry stools, inability to defecate, lethargy, burping, excessive drooling, abdominal bloating, abdominal pain, remaining still, refusing to lie down	If you witness your dog digest something they shouldn't, you can immediately induce vomiting by giving the dog the correct dosage of hydrogen peroxide. **If the item is large, call Allie first as the dog could choke if you induce vomiting.** If the diagnosis is not immediately known, your dog will need to get to the vet immediately so that vet can assess the severity and decide if surgery is needed.	Contact Allie as soon as you know or suspect your foster dog has ingested a foreign body.
Intestinal Parasites	Intestinal parasites are parasites that live inside the host dog's gastrointestinal tract. Worms may be roundworms, whipworms, hookworms, tapeworms and protozoa, such as, giardia and coccidia.	Although hard to spot any symptoms, you may notice visible worms or eggs in the stool, scooting, vomiting, diarrhea, a distended abdomen, weight loss, occasionally coughing	After being diagnosed by a stool sample, you are given an oral medication and treatment plan by the vet	N/A

Lyme Disease	Lyme Disease is caused by bacteria transmitted to the dog by a tick.	Fever, loss of appetite, reduced energy, lameness, swelling of joints, generalized stiffness, discomfort, kidney failure	Diagnosed by a blood test done at the vet (done when a dog is tested for HW). Treated by the administration of antibiotics over the course of several weeks.	N/A (Part of initial visit to vet.)
Transmissible Venereal Tumors (TVTs)	Result of direct contact with tumor cells from a diseased animal. It is transmitted through the act of sex, humping and can also be transmitted by oral contact, such as licking. Intact, free roaming dogs are at greater risk of acquiring and spreading this disease, like in Turkey.	Red, tumorous mass bulging out of the surface membrane of the vagina, or on the penis. Blood drops may also be observed dripping from the vagina or penile foreskin. The dog will usually lick the affected area with frequency.	Surgically excise the mass and begin a 4-6 week chemo treatment. A favorable prognosis that allows for a complete cure is generally expected. The dog's overall health will be the deciding factor in how well treatment goes.	Turkey dogs are examined by a vet for TVTs while at the farm where they decompress after traveling. However, should you observe any symptoms, contact Allie.
Urinary Tract Infection (UTI)	An infection caused by bacteria, fungi, or parasites in the urinary tract, which includes the kidneys, ureters, bladder, and urethra	Increased frequency of urination, urgency, bloody urination+n, unexplained accidents in the house	Diagnosed by a urine sample tested by a vet. Treated by antibiotics.	If you notice any of the symptoms, call or text Allie.

Should I feed a grain free diet?

If you feed grain free kibble to your dog, especially if your dog is a Golden Retriever, PLEASE educate yourself about the topic of Taurine Deficiency and Dilated Cardiomyopathy (DCM). There is an association between feeding grain free foods that contain peas, beans, and other legumes (and most of them have these ingredients) and DCM. This condition can be fatal if left undetected and untreated, but if caught early, is treatable and potentially reversible. Education is the key! GLGRR recommends that fosters not feed grain-free kibble unless a foster dog's allergies require a grain-free food.

What's an Emergency?

Mike Casemier, DVM



Determine What's Normal

- Vital Signs
- **Heart Rate** – most easily felt on the left side
- Medium to large breed = 60 to 80 beats per minute
- Small breed = 100 to 140 bpm
- **Respiratory Rate –** observe rise and fall of chest.
- Medium to large breed = 10 to 30 breaths per minute
- Panting up to 200 per minute





Mucous Membrane Color

- What color are the gums?
- If heavily pigmented, can look at the membranes in the lower eyelid
- Normal is pink.
- Blue, white, yellow, brick red or brown = Emergency
- Capillary Refill Time
- Time it takes for the gums to return to normal color after you press on them
- Normal is 1 to 2 seconds
- More than 3 sec. = Emergency





What's the Temperature?

- Have to take it rectally
- Use pediatric rectal or digital thermometer
- Lubricate with water-based lubricant or petroleum jelly



- Normal range is 100.0 to 102.8°F
- Temperature over 104°F is an emergency
- Temperature below 98° may be an emergency (or you took the temp of feces)



Recognizing an Emergency

- Trauma (hit by car, laceration, puncture, falls, etc.)
- Difficulty breathing
- Bleeding (internal vs external)
- Heat stroke
- Seizures
- Toxin/poison ingestion
- Excessive vomiting/non-productive retching
- Bloated/distended abdomen
- Eye injuries







Survey the Victim

- ABC's of Emergency
- Airway – Is there an open airway?
- Breathing – Rate and effort?
- Circulation – what's the heart rate?





- Mucous membrane color?
- Capillary refill time?
- Evidence of bleeding?
- Level of consciousness?
- Temperature?



Specific Emergencies

- Internal bleeding/Red blood cell destruction
  - Hemangiosarcoma
  - Immune-mediated hemolytic anemia
- Lethargy
- Not eating
- Increased heart rate
- Pale/white mucous membranes
- Increased or decreased temperature
- Distended abdomen



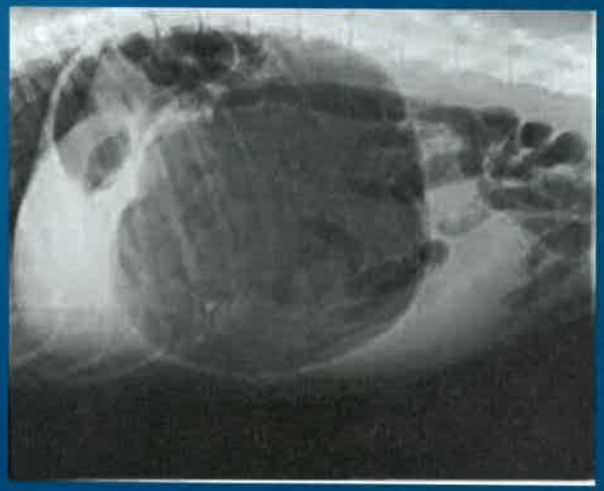


Pale mucous membranes in a dog with IMHA

Specific Emergencies

- Gastric Dilatation-Volvulus (twisted stomach)
- Pale mucous membranes
- Distended abdomen
- Non-productive retching
- Not eating/drinking
- Down dog stretching
- Stretching out neck
- Can't get comfortable





Specific "Emergencies"

- Rodenticides
- Bromethalin – neurotoxin (Tomcat)
- Seizures, tremors, incoordination
- 10lb dog would need to consume 5 to 6 packages
- No antidote – make dog vomit
- Brodifacoum – anticoagulant (D-Con)
- Bleeding disorders, bruising, blood from nose
- Takes 3-5 days to see symptoms
- Antidote – oral Vitamin K_1





How to make a dog vomit

- If advised to induce vomiting
- Household (3%) hydrogen peroxide orally (new bottle)
- 1 teaspoon per 10lbs of body weight
- Can be repeated every 10-15 minutes for 2 to 3 doses
- Old school was teaspoon of table salt per 10lbs body weight
- Not recommended anymore due to potential for salt poisoning





Anaphylaxis

- Facial swelling/hives due to allergic reaction
- Insect bites/stings
- Contact dermatitis (plants, pollen, etc)
- Eating bugs
- Whatever else dogs get in to....
- Benadryl (diphenhydramine) 1mg per pound
- Adult tablets are 25mg
- If trouble breathing = emergency





Heat Stroke

- Collapse
- Vomiting/bloody diarrhea
- Increase heart rate
- Body temp above 104^{0}F
- Brick red mucous membranes
- CRT may be very fast or very slow
- Panting
- Trouble walking





Treatment

- Move to cool/shaded area
- Soak in/with cool (not-iced) water
- Place cool/wet towels around neck, in groin, armpits, belly
- Discontinue cooling when temperature reaches 103^{0}F
- Most of these dogs require further treatment with IV fluids, etc
- Recovery depends on how elevated temperature became
- Potential for organ failure





DOES YOUR DOG EXHIBIT SIGNS OF HYPOTHYROIDISM?

Hypothyroidism is a disorder of the thyroid gland. In hypothyroidism, not enough thyroxine is produced, which causes slow metabolism. ***Hypothyroidism can be suspected from symptoms such as increased body weight, lethargy, excess shedding, bald spots, allergies, excess drinking, stiffness in hindquarters, and susceptibility to infections. In some circumstances, anxious or aggressive behavior may be exhibited.*** Of the breeds of dogs affected, Golden Retrievers top the list. To confirm a diagnosis of hypothyroidism, a blood sample is needed to check the thyroid hormone levels.

Recently, veterinarians have begun to realize that hypothyroidism is not simply an all-or-none condition. There can be varying degrees of dysfunction. Somewhere between "normal" and hypothyroid are dogs whose thyroid levels are lower than necessary for optimal function but whose levels are still technically within the normal range. In this situation, only a few subtle symptoms may be present. This situation is referred to as "sub-clinical hypothyroidism."

> *Example:* A 2-year-old golden retriever that is shedding excessively and showing aggression may have thyroid hormone levels in the 25^{th} percentile in the normal range. A healthy, active dog of this age should have her thyroid hormone levels in the 75^{th} to 100^{th} percentile of the normal range for optimal well being. If thyroid hormone levels are elevated to optimum levels by giving synthetic thyroid hormone, dramatic improvements in the dog's physical status, mood, and behavior can result.

Once diagnosed and started on a synthetic thyroid hormone (a pill given every 12 hours), a dog may show improvement in as little as 5 days or may take as long as 4 weeks. The dog will be on this medication for its lifetime. Periodic blood tests by your veterinarian will help monitor your dog's thyroid levels to be sure the dosage is correct.

If your dog exhibits any or a combination of the symptoms listed above, talk with your veterinarian to see if hypothyroidism may be the cause.

Titer Testing: Preventing Overvaccination

A titer test is an alternative to annually vaccinating your dog and preventing unnecessary overvaccination, which can be harmful. A Titer test is a blood test that measures the level of antibodies your animal has made. Most dog owners have it done in conjunction with their dog's annual heartworm test. The vet sends the blood to a lab for testing.

The World Small Animal Veterinary Association, the American Animal Hospital Association, and the American Veterinary Medical Association have announced publicly that annual vaccination is unnecessary and can be harmful. Experts like leading veterinary immunology researcher Ronald D. Schultz PhD proved decades ago that most dogs will be protected for many years (and probably for life) by one round of core vaccines as puppies – usually when they're about 16 weeks old. Overvaccination can cause a wide range of health problems that range from minor fever to anaphylactic shock and cancer. So it's vital that we vaccinate our pets only when necessary.

The results of a Titer test show antibodies within your dog, which tells your vet if your dog is still protected by vaccinations previously received. If your dog shows that he/she is protected, you do not need to revaccinate and can use the results of your titer test for vaccination documentation. Every dog processes a vaccination differently, so if your dog receives a low rating, you can have your vet give him/her a booster. *Note that the Rabies vaccination is exempt as Michigan requires a Rabies vaccination every three years no matter what.*

> For example, the DHLPP vaccination targets multiple diseases, Distemper, Hepatitis (CAV-2), Leptospirosis, Parainfluenza, and Parvovirus. The results of the Titer test may show that your dog is ONLY low on the Leptospirosis vaccination. With those results, you do not need to give an entire DHLPP vaccination, so a booster for Leptospirosis is a good alternative.

More and more veterinary clinics are willingly offering Titer tests, before vaccinating. It is important that you are your dog's advocate and speak up for his/her best interest. We encourage you to do some more research about Titer testing before setting up your next appointment to revaccinate.

Great Lakes Golden Retriever Rescue
Adoption Process Overview

Once your foster Golden has been placed on the roster, our Adoption Coordinator will send you names of applicants that meet the requirements you developed for your foster Golden. You will be emailed a copy of each applicant's Adoption Application and notes from the applicant's interviewer. The application and notes will give you an idea of what the applicant's lifestyle is like. You are encouraged to email the interviewers if you have any questions about the applicant. Be sure to contact the interviewer directly and **DO NOT** respond to the email that the applications are sent from (greatlakesgoldenrescue@gmail.com), as it is a group email and multiple volunteers have access to it.

Susan Schultz: goldencrazee@yahoo.com

Joe Davidson: jdperm78@gmail.com

Sue Blankenhagen: bythebay@chartermi.net

Heather Wiersum: heatherwiersum@yahoo.com

Pam Walker: pamwalker320@gmail.com

Janice Masters: jncmst@aol.com

Jane Urbanski: j.e.urbanski@att.net

You will be responsible for setting up a phone conversation with all of the applicants that the Adoption Coordinator sends to you. During the phone interview, you will be able to ask the applicant lots of questions about their life and what they are looking for in a dog. Please see the additional resources in the handbook for help with this. Be sure to take notes during your conversations that you can refer to later.

After all of the phone interviews have been completed, make a list of which applicants are not the best fit for your foster Golden and which applicants should come to your home for a visit. You are responsible for informing the applicants that are not chosen for a home visit that you have decided that it is not a good fit. It is best to do this over email**.** If you are not comfortable with this, then the Adoption Coordinator can do this for you.

You are responsible for scheduling a visit to your home with the remaining applicants. Applicants are required to bring their current dog(s) and anyone that resides in the home to the visit. All applicants that you feel deserve a visit will be granted that visit. **We do not do same day adoptions**. Do not make any final decisions until all visits have been completed. There are additional resources in this handbook on visiting with potential adopters. Be sure to watch the interaction between the foster Golden and the applicant(s) and any other dogs that the applicant has. It may be helpful to make some notes after each visit.

After each visit, please touch base with the applicant's interviewer to discuss the visit. Then, you get to make the decision on which applicant was the best fit for your foster Golden. It can be an extremely difficult decision, but trust your intuition and rely on what your foster Golden's body language told you during the visits. You will have that "Ah Ha!" moment. If you don't have that moment or feel right about any of the applicants, that is okay! We have a lot of applicants and get more every day. The perfect applicant will come along for your foster Golden!

Once you make the decision on which applicant will get to adopt your foster Golden, you can notify them and set up a time for them to come back to complete the adoption. Also, notify their interviewer. Please refer to the documents regarding adoption day in the handbook. For the applicants you do not select to adopt your foster Golden, please either let them know in a timely fashion or contact our Adoption Coordinator and they will contact the applicant(s) stating that you selected another family.

Great Lakes Golden Retriever Rescue
Interviewing a Family for Your Foster Golden

- Before calling:
  - Review application and interviewer's notes on applicant, making note of anything that you would like to know more about.
  - Prepare questions specific to your foster dog and specific to the applicant you will be interviewing.
  - Pick a time to contact interested applicants without any distractions.

- During the phone interview:
  - Ask WHATADOG interview questions (see WHATADOG document).
  - Add your own questions to determine if they are a good fit for your foster dog.
    - A family that seems like they would be great dog owners still might not be the right fit for your current foster golden.
  - Take notes during the phone call and jot down their answers.
  - Look for consistency between the application and their spoken answers.

- After the phone interview:
  - If you feel the applicant is a good fit, set up a time to have all individuals in the household and their dogs come for a visit.
    - Explain how the visit will go.
    - Clarify that getting a visit doesn't mean the applicant will get the dog.
    - Tell them if there are multiple people interested in your foster dog.
    - Also, stress that your decision will be based on finding the perfect fit for your foster dog.
    - Reiterate that the decision won't be made on the day of the visit.
  - If you do not think the applicant is a good fit for your foster dog, do not grant a visit to the applicant.
    - When notifying the applicant via email, explain your reasoning, focusing on the needs of your foster dog.
  - Communicate with Cindy and the applicant's interviewer to provide feedback and indicate whether or not a visit was granted.



WHATADOG'S TOP 14 FACT FINDING QUESTIONS FOR POTENTIAL ADOPTERS

1. What did they like the most about their previous/current dog?
2. What are your hobbies (running vs. watching movies)
3. Where did they keep their previous dog when gone to work?
4. What activities did they /or do they do with their current dog?
5. When traveling what did they do with their dog? (kennel vs. home sitter)
6. What was the dog's feeding routine? (free feeding vs. timed feedings)
7. Did your dog have any issues with other dogs or dislike certain people?
8. Tell me about a typical day in the life of your previous dog.
9. Has your dog ever had any formal dog training?
10. What's your idea of the "perfect" dog?
11. Do your friends/family members have dogs?
12. What would cause you to get rid of a dog?
13. What is the worse thing your previous dog did?
14. **What drew your interest to this dog?**

Remember, as a Foster it is our job to find the ***Dog Their Right Home***, NOT to find a Home that is right for the Dog.

Christine Mahaney christine@whatadog.net 616-648-6840
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Great Lakes Golden Retriever Rescue
Visit with Potential Adopters & Selecting a Family

- **Before the visit:**
  - Make sure your foster dog is well groomed.
  - Have your personal dogs in a secure, separate area, so that they won't interfere with the visit.
- **During the visit:**
  - Observe the interaction between your foster dog and the potential family.
  - If applicable, wait to have them bring their dog(s) inside.
    - Then do a proper introduction between foster dog and any personal dogs the potential adopter has.
    - Watch interaction between the dogs and people.
  - Throughout the visit, ask any questions you may have about things you notice.
  - If the visit is going well, consider having the potential adopter take your foster dog for a short walk.
  - Near end of visit- ask potential adopter their thoughts.
    - Are they still interested?
    - Do they have concerns?
    - Do they think the dog will fit into their family well?
  - Let them know that you will contact them when the decision has been made.
- **After the visit:**
  - Take notes for yourself about your impressions of the visit.
  - Communicate with the applicant's interviewer to let them know how the visit went.
  - After the final visit, give yourself 24 hours to decide what family, if any, is the best fit for your foster Golden.

What to Consider When Choosing Your Foster Dog's New Family

- Do their personalities complement each other?
  - Consider their lifestyle and the dog's activity level.
- Do they have experience with large dogs? With training?
- After all visits have been made, compare your foster dog's reaction to each of the potential adopters.
  - Who were they most comfortable with?
  - Who were they most interested in?
  - Which potential adopter will best meet all of your foster dog's needs?
  - It's not necessarily the potential adopter that you get along best with; it's the potential adopter who will be the best fit for your foster golden.
- Remember, it might take time to find the right people for your foster dog. Don't compromise. Be patient and the perfect applicant will come along.
- Once you select a family, you can call to notify them of the good news. Also, notify the Adoption Coordinator and the applicant's interviewer.

GREAT LAKES GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE

ADOPTION AGREEMENT

This agreement is for the transfer of possession of the Golden Retriever known as Dakota ("the Golden Retriever"), approximate age 4, to John & Jane Doe ("Adoptor") from the Great Lakes Golden Retriever Rescue (GLGRR), for and in consideration of which Adoptor agrees to abide by all of the conditions set forth in this agreement and in its attachments.

Adoptor shall pay an adoption fee to GLGRR of $350 if the Golden Retriever is from 7 years old or younger and $200 if the Golden Retriever is 8 years and over. If GLGRR has puppies under the age of 6 months, the adoption fee is $400. The adoption fee for dogs imported from Turkey is $500. The adoption fee is refundable if GLGRR is notified within 14 days of adoption of any problems with the Golden Retriever.

If this Golden Retriever is not spayed or neutered already, Adoptor agrees to have a licensed veterinarian spay or neuter the Golden Retriever by N/A.

GLGRR makes no warranty or guarantees as to the Golden Retriever and expressly disclaims any and all warranties or guarantees, including but not limited to the physical and mental health, longevity, behavior, temperament, ownership title, pedigree or otherwise of the Golden Retriever. GLGRR makes no warranty or guarantees against hip dysplasia and will not surgically treat said condition.

This agreement will be in effect as of the date of the signature below and will continue in effect until the Adoptor notifies GLGRR of the death of the Golden Retriever or returns the Golden Retriever to GLGRR. The Adoption Agreement may be terminated at the sole discretion of GLGRR, if GLGRR determines it is necessary to repossess the Golden Retriever for any reason, including but not limited to, failure to abide by the Adoption Agreement and its conditions. GLGRR agrees to accept the return of the Golden Retriever at any time for any reason. Adoptor shall not transfer ownership or possession of the Golden Retriever to anyone other than GLGRR without written consent of GLGRR.

The conditions set forth on the subsequent pages are part of and are incorporated by reference into this Adoption Agreement. The conditions may be reasonably updated or modified from time to time by GLGRR, to assure the health, safety and welfare of any Golden Retriever. The Adoptor agrees to abide by any such updates or modifications as if they were part of this Agreement at the time of signing this Agreement.

GLGRR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO PEACEABLY MONITOR THE PROGRESS OF THIS GOLDEN RETRIEVER OR OTHERWISE FOLLOW UP WITH THE ADOPTOR TO ASSURE THAT THE ADOPTOR IS ABIDING BY ALL CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS OF THIS AGREEMENT. IF THE CONDITIONS OF THE AGREEMENT ARE NOT UPHELD BY THE ADOPTOR(S) THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE LIFE OF THE GOLDEN RETRIEVER, GLGRR RESERVES THE RIGHT TO TERMINATE THE AGREEMENT, AT WHICH TIME THE GOLDEN RETRIEVER MUST BE RETURNED TO GLGRR.

If it becomes necessary for GLGRR to take legal action or institute some other proceeding for breach of this Agreement or to otherwise enforce the provisions of the Agreement, if GLGRR prevails, the Adoptor agrees to pay all attendant court costs, out of pocket expenses, and attorney fees incurred by GLGRR.

PLEASE NOTE: YOUR GOLDEN HAS RECEIVED HIS/HER VACCINATIONS. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE COPIES OF ALL VET RECORDS, PLEASE CONTACT THE FOSTER HOME IMMEDIATELY OR CALL OUR VETTING COORDINATOR AT 616.437.1610. DUE TO HEALTH CONCERNS, DO NOT ALLOW YOUR VET TO REVACCINATE.

The Adoptor(s) undersigned hereby agree to forever release, discharge, defend, indemnify, and hold harmless GLGRR, its Board, and/or any rescue representative charged or chargeable with responsibility or liability from any and all claims, damages, costs, expenses, loss of service, actions/causes of action arising out of any act, injury or loss on account of the adoption of the above-mentioned Golden Retriever.

Adoptor understands that the parties hereby released admit no liability of any kind by reason of this Agreement and that Adoptor has carefully read the conditions of the Agreement, will abide by all requirements and conditions imposed by the Agreement, and will lovingly maintain the Golden Retriever as a member of Adoptor's family.

John Doe	4/24/19	John Doe
Adoptor's Signature	Date	Print Name
Jane Doe	4/24/19	Jane Doe
Spouse's Signature	Date	Print Name
1234 Main Street	Grand Rapids, MI	49501
Address	City	State/Zip Code
787-987-6543 (C)	doefamily@gmail.com	Marlene R.
Home Phone / Cell Phone	E-Mail	Interviewer
Jenna Medendorp	Jenna Medendorp	4/24/19
GLGRR Foster	Signature	Date

IF YOU OWN A COTTAGE OR SECOND HOME, PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

9876 North St.	Traverse City, MI	49684
Address	City	State/Zip Code
787-987-6543 (C)		
Phone		

GLGRR GENERAL CONDITIONS OF ADOPTION

1) Your Golden Retriever should take two weeks to adjust to new surroundings and adapt to its new home. If you are having behavioral, medical, or other problems AT ANY TIME with your Golden Retriever, contact your Interviewer, Foster Home, or a Board member IMMEDIATELY!

2) Adoptor agrees to notify GLGRR if your Golden Retriever is LOST or STOLEN. Adoptor agrees to do the following:

   (a) Call 616.437.1610, 269.491.2911, or GLGRR's hotline (616.336.1707)
   (b) Call your Interviewer, Foster Home, a Board member and local veterinarians next. If your dog is still wearing its rescue collar, it is very likely we will be called first.
   (c) Call police, shelters, Animal Control, followed by showing up IN PERSON to check for your dog. Shelters do not always know what a Golden Retriever looks like.
   (d) Post flyers, call local and regional newspapers.

3) Your Golden Retriever will wear a collar with a current license AND IDENTIFICATION TAG

with Adoptor's address and phone number. Adoptor will license dog within two weeks of this Agreement and obey all laws and ordinances regarding pet ownership. If you vacation at a permanent place, purchase an ID tag for that location as well.

4) Your Golden Retriever CANNOT BE SOLD OR GIVEN AWAY TO AN INDIVIDUAL, SHELTER OR OTHER GOLDEN RETRIEVER AFFILIATED AGENCY. Your Golden Retriever cannot be used for experimental purposes, trained or used as an attack dog, or used for dog fighting purposes.

5) If you cannot keep your Golden Retriever for any reason, **you must return it to GLGRR**.

6) Your Golden Retriever will reside as an indoor pet, be given proper food and clean drinking water, indoors and outdoors. When outdoors, your Golden Retriever will be under your control at all times. Your Golden Retriever will not be left outside when no one is home.

7) Adoptor agrees to allow GLGRR to periodically check on your Golden Retriever to assure compliance with this Agreement. These visits may be random or scheduled throughout its lifetime.

8) Your Golden Retriever will not be transported in an open truck or kept in an unsafe environmental condition, such as a closed vehicle or unshaded area outdoors.

9) Adoptor agrees to notify GLGRR of address or telephone change, and to promptly return our Annual Update form when received.

10) Your Golden Retriever will be given vaccinations as recommended by your veterinarian, and kept current on rabies vaccinations as required by law. Your Golden Retriever will be given an annual heartworm blood test and given heartworm preventative, as prescribed by your veterinarian. An annual well dog veterinary examination will help ensure your Golden Retriever's proper health.

11) Your Golden Retriever must be taken to a veterinarian if sick, injured, or euthanasia is indicated. All medical treatment and euthanasia must be performed in a humane manner by a licensed veterinarian.

12) All Golden Retrievers through GLGRR must be spayed or neutered. There are NO EXCEPTIONS to this policy. Puppies less than six months of age or Golden Retrievers not medically ready for surgery will be spayed or neutered as indicated by a licensed veterinarian, in coordination with your Interviewer or a Board member. Adoptor will send a certificate of sterility to GLGRR. If a Golden Retriever is accidentally bred before spaying, the Adoptor will consult a GLGRR veterinarian regarding a mismate shot, surgery, or whelping the litter. All offspring from such a situation will be the sole property of GLGRR.

13) Your Golden Retriever must have a "well baby" examination with your personal veterinarian within 14 days of adoption **at your expense**. If a pre-existing condition is suspected, please notify your Interviewer immediately, before proceeding with tests.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS, NOTES AND DISCLOSUORES (medical, behavioral, adoption requirements, etc.)
Dakota will need continued training. He is very smart but needs consistency. He has low thyroid which will need to be monitored and treated going forward.

FEEDING INSTRUCTIONS

Dakota eats 4Health Salmon and Potato food. He eats 1 1/2 cups twice a day, morning and night. Dakota is used to eating in his crate.

MEDICAL INFORMATION

☐	Microchip Number: 911453751	Date: 4/8/19	Vet: Southkent Veterinary Hospital
☐	Titer Test	Date: 2/18/19	Vet: Southkent Veterinary Hospital
☐	Rabies	Date: 2/18/19	Vet: Southkent Veterinary Hospital
☐	DHLPP	Date: 1/17/16	Vet: Mattawan Animal Hospital
☐	Fecal: o Positive o Negative	Date: 2/18/19	Vet: Southkent Veterinary Hospital
☐	Heartwom o Positive o Negative	Date: 2/18/19	Vet: Southkent Veterinary Hospital

Date(s) Preventative is given: 4/1/19 _____ _____ _____

☐	Spay/Neuter (If needed)	Date: 4/8/19	Vet:
☐	General Health Visit o Ears, skin heart	Date: 2/18/19	Vet:
☐	Other: Heartworm Treatment	Date: 2/22/19	Vet:
☐	Other:	Date:	Vet:

Notes from vet: Titer test results show that Dakota is still covered for his DHLPP, which was given by his previous owners. A Titer Test can be given next year to re-check his levels.

I/We have read the above stated conditions and/or disclosures and understand them.

Adoptor's Signature *John Doe Jane Doe*

GLGRR Foster's Signature *Jenna Medendorp*

GLGRR Adoption Day Checklist!

You have fostered and cared for this Golden, talked and interviewed families, met and interacted with potential families, and finally found the perfect home for your foster Golden! After notifying the selected family, you have set a date and time for them to come pick up their new forever companion. The adoption day is exciting, but it is important to be thorough with the details so that you set your foster Golden up for success and GLGRR gets the legal documentation we need to protect the organization, if an issue were to arise.

The day before the family arrives, go through your foster Golden's red folder to remove the Foster Observation Sheet and the Vetting Checklist. Then be sure the folder contains the following information for the adopter to take home:

- Two Adoption Contracts that you have gone through to fill out the sections you can ahead of time, like those pertaining to your foster Golden's vet work, diet, etc.
- Current and past vet records - be sure any previous owner's information is hidden (blacked out).
- Any other documents pertaining to the foster Golden that you were given from Allie, Wendy or the previous owner. Again, be sure any information about a past owner is hidden.
- Thyroid & Titer Test Information

When the selected family arrives, be sure they have the following items. If they don't, please direct them to your local pet store.

- Leash
- Collar
- ID tag with the new owner's information

Before the family leaves, be sure the following is completed:

- Thoroughly and legibly complete both Adoption Contracts. One copy will be put in the red folder for the adopter to take home. Keep the other copy.
- Collect the check that correctly covers the adoption fee
- Review your foster Golden's vet work with the applicant so they don't go to their vet and immediately redo the vaccinations that we did.
    - If you are adopting out a Turkey Golden, let the adopter know they will be mailed their new Golden's passport that has vaccination documentation.
- Send the adopters home with some food that you have been feeding your foster Golden, so that they can transition the Golden to what food the adopter feeds.
- Take a family photo with the foster Golden and his/her new family. Ask the family if we have permission to share.
- Remove your collar and/or the Great Lakes identification tag

Great Lakes Golden Retriever Rescue
Post-Adoption Tasks

Immediately after the adoption is complete, please gather the following items:

- Completed copy of the Adoption Contract
- Adoption fee check
- Completed Foster Observation Sheet
- Completed Vetting Checklist
- Any other documentation relating to your foster Golden

Once the items are collected, please mail them to Allie at:

GLGRR
PO Box 1455
Grand Rapids, MI 49501

In addition to gathering the paperwork, please email Allie (amedendorp@wnj.com) a short adoption announcement. Include the family's name and photo with the foster Golden, if they gave permission to share it. The announcement is shared with our volunteers.

Adoption Follow Up

Three days after the adoption:

- Call the adopters to see how things are going.
- Ask if they have any questions about the Golden.
- Remind adopters that all the necessary vetting has been completed.
  - **Within 14 days of adoption**, we ask that adopters make an appointment at their vet clinic so that their adopted Golden gets into the system and gets looked over by their vet. They should NOT be getting any vaccinations.
- **If they adopted a Turkey Golden, please remind them that the Golden's passport will be sent via USPS shortly. The passport includes proof of all vaccinations, so they DO NOT need to vaccinate the dog. Also, email Wendy (wmickle@comcast.net) the adopter's name and address for mailing the passport.**
- Some fosters encourage people to send photos, texts, etc. so you can see how the dog is transitioning.

Two weeks after adoption:

- Call the adopter to see how the transition continues to go.
- Notify the adopter that we do an annual adoption update in the fall and their participation is extremely important. We will either mail or email the adoption update to them.
- Inform the adopter that they will be added to the GLGRR email database and they will be updated on what is happening with GLGRR, fundraisers, etc.
- Encourage interaction on our Facebook page and participation in fundraisers, such as the annual calendar contest.
- Remind the adopter that if they are unable to care for their adopted Golden, the Golden **MUST** be returned to Great Lakes Golden Retriever Rescue