

POLICY TITLE	<b>PETS IN A RESIDENTIAL HOME</b>
POLICY NUMBER	
EFFECTIVE DATE	
REVIEW DATE	
REVISION DATE	
AUTHORIZED BY:	

**I. POLICY STATEMENT**

It is the policy of [AGENCY NAME] that Pets may be allowed at any of the centers if there is proper care and oversight and if everyone living at the center both wants the pet and suffers no physical discomfort due to its presence.

**II. PURPOSE**

To provide guidelines for pet ownership and care in residential settings

**III. DEFINITIONS:**

- A. State and County Laws: The rules and regulations regarding animal ownership for the county and state in which the animal will reside.
- B. Vaccinations: A vaccine given in order to produce immunity to an infectious disease.

**IV. APPLICABILITY AND RESPONSIBILITY**

This policy applies to all departments, except the supported living sites where individuals own their own homes.

**PROVISIONS – STAFF PETS**

1. Pets belonging to staff are allowed in the center only for the enjoyment of the people living there, and not for the convenience of staff. When staff wishes to bring pets into the home they must secure advance permission from people in the home and home manager.
2. If the employee’s pet is allowed to visit the center, the visit must be conducted while the employee is off shift. At no time is an employee authorized to bring their pet to work while they are providing services to an individual served.
3. No pet that is suspected of being aggressive or destructive to property will be allowed on the premises. Any pet which becomes a threat will be removed from the center
4. All pets must have up-to-date shots, and proof of vaccinations must be supplied if requested.
5. No pet shall be mistreated, either by abuse or neglect, at any center. Neglect or abuse will be cause for removing the pet from the center and may be cause for dismissal.

## **PROVISIONS – TENANT PETS**

Tenants are permitted to own one common household pet collectively, hereinafter referred to as Pet, in accordance with the following rules for keeping pets:

1. Pet shall be a warm-blooded mammal, or a bird. No other type of animal shall qualify as a common household pet for purposes of this policy
2. Pet will not exceed 30 pounds in weight.
3. Management of Pet must be provided with proof that Pet has been properly vaccinated for rabies, and that all local licensing requirements have been met.
4. No Pet shall be allowed on premises if it has not been properly vaccinated.
5. Pet shall be neutered or spayed prior to being allowed on the premises.
6. Tenants will be solely responsible for the maintenance and costs related to the upkeep of this Pet to insure that it receives proper standard care and humane treatment. Tenants will be expected to keep a litter box (cats, guinea pigs, birds, etc.) in a condition that does not cause any noticeable odor.
7. Tenants shall insure that the Pet does not wander into neighboring yards, and be solely responsible for insuring that any debris or damage caused by the Pet is properly disposed of in the waste receptacles.
8. Any Pet causing infestation or damage to the building, grounds, flooring, carpeting, will be considered the complete responsibility of the Tenant, pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Lease. Agreement to which this Addendum is affixed.
9. Any violation of the provisions contained herein will be construed as a health and safety violation.

## **V. MONITORING AND REVIEW**

## **VI. DEFINITIONS**

## **VII. PROCEDURES**

## **VIII. REFERENCES**