If you're thinking about adopting a dog, it can be a GREAT experience. You should also consider fostering. Fostering helps increase the capacity of rescue shelters because most have only so many slots for adoptables. Fostering helps open up slots by having caring families provide "extra" slots in their homes.

Most dogs that are up for adoption have been through a lot and need a loving and caring home and if you can provide those two things, it's perfect for you and the pet. Fostering helps people who are thinking of adopting try the experience to make sure it results in a good situation.

Before fostering or adopting, some things you can do to prepare for adopting a dog/cat include setting up a space just for them, maybe in your laundry room or a part of the living room. You can prepare the area with treats and toys so the dog/cat can associate that area as their own and gain your trust. After a couple of days, or maybe right away, your new friend will be comfortable with you and others, but be prepared to give them time and take it slow.

If you're fostering a pet it can be a great thing to help get the dog adopted. For example, post positive experiences with the pet online and in your local newspaper, and post your phone number so people can come and see.

In summary, fostering is an outstanding opportunity to support pet rescues. And the satisfaction of fostering enriches lives—yours and the pets'.

Korvin San Miguel