



Animal Behavior and Enrichment Volunteer

Objective: Provide sheltered animals with mental and physical stimulation. Assist HSP staff with the implementation of enrichment opportunities for sheltered animals (e.g. *Kong Program*). Teach and reinforce positive behavior to adoptable animals in order to make them more desirable companions. Make adoption follow-up calls and provide counseling to adopters (e.g. *Adoption Support Team*).

Duties

- ✿ Socialize, exercise, and train adoptable animals
- ✿ Produce, clean, and distribute appropriate toys to shelter animals
- ✿ Assist with adoption follow-up calls and counseling (*Adoption Support Team*)
- ✿ Accurately and positively represent HSP views on animal welfare issues.
- ✿ Promote HSP fundraising events, activities, and programs

Training

- ✿ Attend an Intro to Adult Volunteering session
- ✿ Complete Volunteer Application and Interview
- ✿ For canine activities read and develop comfort with the *Four Level Training Program for People and Dogs* by Kelly Gorman and Colleen Boyle
- ✿ Shadow an experienced volunteer within activity using the Mentoring Form until comfort/safety established
- ✿ Complete the appropriate Level of Open Paw proficiency for specific activity
 - Level 1- *Canines*, teach dogs to be quiet in their kennels and have good kennel presentation to the public. *Felines*, teach cats to relax in their environment and have good presentation to the public.
 - Level 2- *Canines*, teach dogs to sit quietly while being leashed. *Felines*, teach cats shy about being handled, to enjoy it.
 - Level 3- *Canines*, dogs are taught to sit, down, stand, and watch, and to have good manners in greeting people, playing, and being handled. *Felines*, teach cats that are boisterous to play more appropriately over biting or scratching.
 - Level 4- *Canines*, teaches dogs to walk nicely on a loose leash. *Felines*, teach SPIN cats tricks to maximize adoptability.

Commitment: Behavior and Enrichment Volunteers must commit to a minimum of three hours every other week and fulfill calendar commitment. Please note: Adoption Support Team members are recruited from advanced, qualified behavior and enrichment volunteers with additional time commitment necessitated.

Volunteer Profile: Must have a strong desire to improve the lives of sheltered animals. Must have had some type of animal handling experience *OR* completed extensive shadowing of experienced ABE volunteers as guided by Volunteer Coordinator. Must be patient and understanding with people and animals. Must be willing to get dirty. Must have no unmanageable allergies to animals or chemicals. Must be able to form a strong, temporary bond with an animal (with the ability and willingness to break it when required) and be able to work independently on helping to acclimate the animal to different sounds, smells and styles of interaction. Must be emotionally equipped to handle long-term residents and sometimes crowded conditions. Must have a desire to learn and be open to on the job training. Must be 18 years of age or older.

Job Classification: This job may involve any of the following physical parameters:

Physical Requirements:	Medium	Working Conditions:	Indoor/Outdoor
Bending:	Frequently	Sitting:	Occasionally
Squatting:	Frequently	Standing:	Frequently
Kneeling:	Occasionally	Walking:	Frequently
Climbing:	Occasionally	Lifting Weight:	0 to > 25 lbs
Reaching:	Occasionally	Repetitive Motion:	Fine Manipulations, Pushing/Pulling, Grasping

Volunteer Benefits

- 🐾 Wags, licks, purrs and happy shelter residents.
- 🐾 Behavior and training experience.
- 🐾 Exposure to many different types and breeds of animals.
- 🐾 Enrich the lives of homeless animals.
- 🐾 Direct contribution to the rate of adoptable animals

Supervision: Direct supervision by Volunteer Coordinator with support of Animal Caretaker staff and Shelter Manager.