

DOG CARE AND ENRICHMENT VOLUNTEER

Department: Shelter **Reports to:** Canine Behavior Coordinator | Kennel Manager

SUMMARY

Assists with the care of Women's Animal Center's animals by providing exercise, socialization, and basic positive-reinforcement obedience training for dogs

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

A dog enrichment volunteer will be responsible for the actions below at minimum; other duties may be assigned.

- Treats all animals with respect and compassion at all times without exception.
- Follows procedures to access and handle dogs in a safe manner to protect the safety of the animal as well as the person handling it.
 - Performs duties with least invasive handling to maintain a safe interaction
- Maintains a friendly and cooperative demeanor with staff, fellow volunteers, and the public.
- Supervises dogs at all times during exercise sessions.
- Make a regular commitment so that the program can be successful
- Reports any medical or behavioral issue to the proper staff member.
- Stocks supplies and performs other duties as requested by shelter managers.
- Observes animal behavior and body language; report any changes through proper procedures.
- Transfers animals to and from cages/kennels as appropriate.
- Records information according to instructions
- May assist in bathing/grooming of animals as requested by staff managers.
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QUALIFICATIONS

To perform this role successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill, and/or ability required.

- Basic knowledge of dog breeds and their behavior, free of bias toward any specific breed
- Must follow safety standards and procedures and work to ensure a safe environment for animals, the public, other volunteers, and employees.
- Must maintain a consistent, pleasant and non-judgmental demeanor with staff, volunteers, other agencies and the public.

GREEN LEVEL

- Must be able to lift and handle animals, including animals up to 40lbs.
- Must attend an information session, a dog handling orientation, and complete two hours of shadowing a dog enrichment volunteer.

BLUE LEVEL

- Must be able to lift and handle animals, including animals up to 80lbs.
- Must attend an information session, a dog handling orientation, and complete four hours of shadowing a dog enrichment volunteer.