

Volunteer Position Description

Dog Walker

Mon-Fri: 8-10a, 10a-12p, 12-2p, 2-4p & 4-6p

Sat & Sun: 9-11a, 11a-1p, 1-3p, 3-5p

DESCRIPTION

Title: Dog Walker

Reports to: Volunteer Coordinator

Commitment: 6 month minimum commitment, 2 hour shift/week (same day and time)

PURPOSE

Exercise is an important part of ensuring the shelter dogs remain happy and healthy throughout their stay with us. Our dog walkers provide shelter dogs the opportunity to get outside, stretch their legs, socialize and work on positive behaviors that will aid him or her in finding their forever home and to improve their quality of life during their stay with us. Dog walkers are equipped with multiple tools to help with training and behavior.

Because EBHS uses a color coding system to best meet the needs of each unique animals, all new dog walkers start with pre green training where they learn the core fundamentals of caring for shelter dogs first (husbandry). There is minimal dog interaction until you reach 16 hours of volunteering and attend an additional training session.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Provide proper care including housing, husbandry, exercise, and socialization according to EBHS policies and industry standards for EBHS animals
- Notify staff of animal medical needs/concerns
- Notify the staff of any dog behavior needs/concerns
- Following shelter sanitation protocol
- Comply with behavior programs for animals designated by the Dog Training and Behavior Coordinator or Shelter Operations Manager
- Comply with color coding policy
- Record all socialization time and interaction as directed
- Represent the organization in a professional and courteous manner
- Attend and participate in meetings, training programs, and continuing education
- Utilize force free, fear free, and science based training methods when handling animals and educate other volunteers and the public about these methods.
- Follow safe handling procedures as they pertain to animals and cleaning agents
- Work respectfully with and alongside staff and volunteers

QUALIFICATIONS

- Must be 18 years of age or older
- Dog handling experience preferred
- Able to work with minimal supervision and/or with a team
- Able to adapt quickly and work in a fast paced environment
- Excellent oral, written, and organizational skills with attention to detail
- Able to lift and carry animals, equipment, and supplies in excess of 50 pounds.
- Must attend New Volunteer Orientation and pre green training. Green dog walker training will take place after 16 hours of volunteer service.

WORK ENVIRONMENT

- Physical demands include:
 - Lifting and moving animals, kennels, and other equipment.

- Frequent movement, including but not limited to; standing, walking, stooping, carrying
- Working conditions include:
 - Possible exposure to dangerous, diseased, frightened, and injured animals.
 - Possible exposure to zoonotic diseases.
 - Possible exposure to potentially harmful chemicals
 - Working with strong cleaning agents on wet surfaces.
- Emotional demands include:
 - Euthanasia.
 - Animal abuse.
 - Animal neglect.

Requirements:

- Willing to volunteer during undesirable seasons such as winter
- Must be prepared to get dirty and perform other than desirable duties such as picking up after the dogs while on walks, laundry and dishes
- Must be at least 18 years old
- Must be able to handle high activity levels of dogs 50+ pounds
- Must attend orientation
- Must receive further training from our certified dog trainer prior to volunteering
- Must complete 2 months or 16 hours of pre green dog volunteering before attending training for green dog walking