



# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

## DOG ENRICHMENT TEAM

You value the benefits of utilizing a variety of enrichment activities to keep dogs healthy, strong and mentally sharp. By spending quality time promoting dogs' natural curiosity for the world around them, you also create a safe, comforting environment for them to improve their overall well-being and adoptability. You value teamwork, empathy and integrity. You support the mission to protect the health, safety and welfare of people and animals by interacting with a variety of dogs (size, breed) to build positive connections between humans and dogs.

### **Volunteer Shift(s) & Time Commitment**

Volunteers are required to sign up for a minimum of twelve hours per month.

### **Duties Include**

- Promoting the adoptability of dogs by conducting approved enrichment activities
- Adhering to departmental safety standards for the use of various supplies, toys, puzzles
- Documenting daily interactions to assist with capturing behavior and enrichment history to share with potential adopters
- Stimulating positive kennel front presentation using clicker tools and high-value treats to mark desirable behaviors with training
- Engaging and interactive nose work activity that encourages dogs to use their sense of smell to retrieve high-value treats hidden in a designated dog play yard or classroom; enrichment conducted upon approval a Supervising Animal Care Attendant
- Spending time calmly with a dog outside of the kennel. This can include: reading, lounging, or even brushing/combing External Quiet Time.
- Use of approved toys or puzzles to encourage mental stimulation. Enrichment can be performed in the kennel or designated yard for dogs.
- Communicating changes in dog medical status and behavior to the volunteer liaisons
- Complying with departmental safety, security and operational policies and procedures

### **Desired Qualifications**

- Genuine care for animal welfare consistent with DAS's philosophy
- Ability and willingness to follow directions and constructive criticism
- Willingness to learn about and utilize positive reinforcement methods when interacting with dogs
- Ability to react quickly to avoid any possible mishaps between animals and people
- Must be able to work independently
- Have good physical strength and the ability to handle animals of various size, strength and behavior traits

### **Training**

- Volunteer Orientation
- Disease 101/Personal Protective Equipment
- Animal Information Board (AIB) training
- Department dog behavior and enrichment videos
- Complete volunteer mentorship (4) sessions

