

Nashville Humane Association

Volunteer Opportunities

Animal Care Volunteers

One of our greatest, ongoing needs involves paying attention to our current animals! We need volunteers daily to walk dogs and socialize cats, as well as clean, clean, clean! Volunteers contribute elbow-grease to keep the shelter clean and the animals healthy. Grubby clothes and a hard work ethic are a must.

Canine Kennel Assistant

Shift time: Monday – Saturday, 8am to 5pm; Sunday, 10am to 5pm. Please note: dog walking takes place after 10am; prior to 10am Canine Kennel Assistants will help staff with cleaning kennels.

Duties: Kennel assistants provide hands-on care to the animals, ensuring that the shelter living environment remains safe, clean, and comfortable. Canine Kennel Assistants aid the shelter staff with daily cleaning chores and keeping the adoptable dogs socialized by walking them.

Abilities/Skills preferred: Good mobility in order to help clean kennels and cages; ability to handle animals of varying sizes. The walking trail at NHA sits atop a steep hill. Please consider your physical limitations prior to volunteering and/or when selecting an animal to walk.

Cat Socializers

Shift time: Monday – Saturday, 8am to 5pm; Sunday, 10am to 5pm

Duties: Cat socializers give much needed attention to the residents in the cat show room.

These volunteers will monitor the room to ensure that the cats are living in a quiet and hospitable environment, including educating potential adopters on safe-handling techniques.

Please note: Adult cats need your time and energy more than kittens.

Abilities/Skills preferred: Ability to handle animals of varying temperaments; enjoy working in a quiet environment.

Foster Care

Shift time: As needed

Duties: This special corps of volunteers opens their home to care for bottle feeders and injured animals. This takes a special sort of volunteer, and is a big commitment. These animals require an intense amount of care including, around the clock feeding and administering medications.

Abilities/Skills preferred: Proper animal handling skills, as well as an understanding of medical issues. Training provided.

Adoption Volunteers

We need dedicated “people persons” to aid our adoption staff in serving the public. Greeting potential adopters and helping them meet the furry companion of their dreams increases adoption success rates. You’ll answer general questions about Nashville Humane Association, as well as questions about particular animals.

Shelter Matchmaker Volunteers

Shift time: The greatest need is on Saturday, 10am to 5pm; and Sunday, noon to 5pm

Duties: Greet visitors and guide them back to the kennels. Remove dogs and cats from cages for customer meet-and-greets. Monitor adoption rooms for disruptive behavior. Answer questions about NHA’s adoption policies and procedures. Help keep kennels clean to ensure optimum appeal of NHA animals.

Abilities/Skills preferred: Outgoing personality and ability to talk comfortably with potential adopters; ability to handle dogs and cats of various sizes. Willingness to learn about NHA’s policies and procedures.

Adoption Volunteers continued...

Teddy's Team Volunteers

Shift time: Off-site on Saturdays and Sundays, varying shifts

Duties: Teddy's Wagon is a mobile adoption unit. Shelter animals are taken to various local sites such as pet supply stores or special events, to meet prospective adopters. Please note: Volunteers must complete 20 hours of service to participate in this program.

Abilities/Skills preferred: Must be comfortable working with the public and handling dogs of various sizes.

Program Volunteers

ROVER/ Community Spay and Neuter Program Assistant

Shift time: One day a week (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, or Friday)

Duties: The Community Spay and Neuter Program and Rover receive over 200 calls a week from pet owners looking to schedule spay/neuter appointments. The NHA needs dependable volunteers to return some of these appointment calls each week from the NHA shelter.

Abilities/Skills preferred: Volunteers must be comfortable using the phone and entering data into a computer.

Development Department Volunteer

Shift time: Thursday or Friday; anytime between 9:30am and 2:30pm.

Duties: All that we do at NHA is supported through the generous donations of individuals, foundations, and corporations. If you want to help the animals, but cannot work with them directly for any reason, you can still help. Enter constituent information and gifts in the Development database, create mail merges to fulfill donor acknowledgement needs, file hard copies and supporting documentation of gifts, and assist with mailings to constituents. Duties variable, depending on interest and skill level.

Abilities/Skills preferred: Person with strong desire to help out with administrative functions of the Humane Society Development team. Preferred experience with Microsoft Office and database software.

Food Bank Volunteers

Shift time: Wednesday, 1pm to 4pm; Sunday, 1pm to 2:30pm

Duties: In today's world, many families have been forced to make difficult decisions about pet ownership. This program distributes pet food and supplies to families-in-need in our community. Volunteers operate the food bank, by assisting individuals with necessary paperwork and allocations.

Abilities/Skills preferred: Must be comfortable working with the public; ability to lift up to 20lbs.

Special Events

Shift time: As needed.

Duties: NHA holds events throughout the year, and from Holiday Pet Portraits to Dog Day Festival - we always need volunteers who are ready to travel about town. We are looking for enthusiastic, out-going volunteers to personify our mission in the public eye.