

ENRICHMENT AND HUSBANDRY VOLUNTEER JOB DESCRIPTION

Summary:

An Enrichment and Husbandry Volunteer is someone that works primarily in kennels one-on-one with the adult dogs in training. They will focus on spending quality time with the dogs, helping make sure their kennel remains a positive space. They will utilize the white boards in the kennels to determine which dogs need enrichment and will use the provided binder containing enrichment activities to pick different activities to do with each dog.

Qualifications:

- Must have completed application
- Must have completed and passed background check (18+)
- Must have watched FSD Orientation video
- Must have watched Dog Body Language video
- Must have attended in-person Volunteer Walking Class
- Must have attended in-person Kennel Orientation

Essential Functions of Enrichment and Husbandry Volunteer:

- Utilize whiteboards to determine which adult dogs need enrichment.
- Spend quality time with each dog in their assigned kennel.
- Utilize binder containing all enrichment activity documents located on black shelf in kennels.
- Use transport lead to walk dog from office to their kennel, and then back to office after enrichment is complete.
- Check in with Kennel Technicians if there are any questions or concerns.
- Assist with sweeping, mopping, laundry, dishes etc. as needed by Kennel Technicians.

Work Environment:

This volunteer position operates primarily in the kennel area of the FSD facility. The noise level can often be loud and is often a chaotic and high-paced environment.

Physical Demands:

- Frequently required to stand, bend, stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl.
- Required to perform a variety of physical motions with their hands, arms, shoulders, and legs in order to properly clean kennels and care for dogs.
- Must be able to manipulate and use all equipment and tools necessary to care for dogs. This includes kennel locking mechanisms, carabiners, etc.
- Must be sturdy on feet, as dogs often jump and/or bump into knees and legs.

Additional Information:

Our Enrichment and Husbandry volunteers play an essential role in the day-to-day operations of our kennels. The time they spend with our adult dogs in training is a very important part of their training process, and the more one-on-one time the dogs have with our volunteers in their kennels, the better!

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

When volunteers arrive for their onsite volunteer shifts:

- Upon entering FSD make your way to the front desk and sign in on the tablet (you will also sign out when leaving).
- **Please use Walkie-Talkie located on food table to check in with Kennel Technicians. Please make sure they know you have arrived for your shift.**
- Check the whiteboards to determine which dogs still need their enrichment. Start with any dogs that have multiple "I need my enrichment" magnets.
 - o When you pick which dog you would like to work with first, **be sure to read ALL kennel and training notes.** Not every dog will be appropriate for every enrichment activity.
- Utilize binder located on black metal shelf to determine which enrichment activities they would like to focus on. Within the binder are several pages with different activities and how to do them.
 - o Our enrichment activities are designed to help make the kennels a positive space for the dogs while also engaging them in activities that stimulate their brains or help them relax. Living in a kennel can be stressful for some dogs, so our goal here is to help the dogs feel comfortable and happy during their time spent in the kennels. Most of our current enrichment activities involve impulse control games, relaxation, and body handling.

Throughout the volunteer shift:

- Spend as much time with each dog as you would like.
- **If the dog's whiteboard says that they are in an office up front, use a transport lead to walk dog from their assigned office back to their kennel.**
 - o Once you're back in their kennel with them, remove the transport lead and do whatever enrichment activities you have chosen.
 - o Once you've completed their enrichment, please allow them a quick opportunity to potty in the small square yard right outside the door in chute. Keep them on their transport lead while they potty.
 - o After they have had a chance to potty, return them to the office they were removed from.
- If you have finished doing enrichment with dogs but still have time left in your volunteer shift, please be proactive. Similarly, if you'd like to break up the enrichment and do other tasks during your shift, please be willing to assist with things like sweeping, checking laundry, and doing dishes. There is a list of tasks that ALL volunteers will be asked to help with posted back in the kennels near the black metal volunteer shelf.
- If you have any questions about what to do **please use the radio to reach the Kennel Technicians. They will guide you in the right direction.**

Important things to remember:

- **Please ask! Do not make assumptions!** If there are any questions, please ask. Kennel Technicians are happy to assist you in any way that you may need. Also, please let staff know if there is anything of concern, whether it be behavior, things chewed up in a kennel, etc.