

KENNEL ASSISTANT VOLUNTEER JOB DESCRIPTION

Summary:

A Kennel Assistant Volunteer will work alongside FSD staff to provide basic care and enrichment to adult dogs in training. A volunteer of this nature will be tasked with assisting our Kennel Staff in a variety of ways, including but not limited to, doing dishes laundry, cleaning kennels, assisting with feeding, taking dogs outside to potty and exercise, assisting with enrichment, and other kennel-related tasks. This is more of a general help position.

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
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Essential Functions of Kennel Assistant Volunteer:

- Assist FSD staff in daily tasks, including dishes, laundry, kennel cleaning, meal preparation.
- Utilize whiteboards to determine what level of care each dog requires at any given time.
- Assist FSD staff with potty breaks as directed.
- Utilize provided transport lead anytime a dog needs to be removed from their kennel for any reason.
 - o No dogs are to be off leash in kennel area.
- Adhere to training requirements and proper safety protocols.
- Communicate any health or behavioral observations with FSD staff in timely manner.
- Assist FSD staff with all kennel and dog related tasks as directed.
- Assist with sweeping, mopping, laundry, dishes etc. as needed by Kennel Technicians.

Work Environment:

This volunteer position operates primarily in the kennel area as well as surrounded areas in the FSD facility. The noise level can often be loud, and it is often a chaotic, 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 to properly clean kennels and care for dogs.
- Must be able to withstand Colorado weather conditions.
- Must be able to safely walk and handle dogs up to 100 pounds through kennels and in play yards.
- Must be able to safely lift up to 50 pounds.
- Must be comfortable being on their feet for extended periods of time.
- 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.
- Must be able to move short distances quickly.

Additional Information:

Our Kennel Assistant Volunteers play an essential role in the day-to-day operations of our kennels. The assistance they provide our kennel team allows FSD to maintain a clean, healthy environment for the dogs in training. They ensure our dogs receive the highest level of care possible and provide an immense amount of value to the well-being of each dog at FSD, ultimately allowing FSD to serve as many clients as possible.