

Job Description

Role:	<i>Canine Enrichment Facilitator</i>
Reports To:	<i>Volunteer Coordinator</i>
Supervises:	<i>Not applicable</i>
Classification:	<i>Volunteer</i>

York County SPCA Purpose:

The York County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) is a charitable organization dedicated to providing long-term human and animal services to residents of York County through programs that find permanent, loving homes for displaced and stray animals, help control animal population growth, investigate and prosecute cruelty offenders and educate the general public about animal wellness and safety.

Position Overview:

The Canine Enrichment Facilitator plays a vital role in providing a mentally enriching environment for the dogs during their stay at the shelter. Long days without mental stimulation can lead to their minds deteriorating, and canine enrichment assists in keeping their minds sharp and active. Canine Enrichment is available Sundays through Saturdays, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Essential Functions:

- Assist in the dog kennel and outside play yards, providing stimulating activities for the dogs.
- While the role is dynamic, it could potentially involve cleaning toys, water bowls, etc.
- Set up pools in the play yards, lead nose work activities, fill KONGS, etc.
- Report any changes in behavior or health concerns, as well as anything of note about the dogs, to the canine team, if necessary.

Education and Experience:

Required:

- Must be 18 years of age or older.
- Must have reliable transportation to and from the shelter.
- Must attend YCSPCA New Volunteer Open House, Orientation, initial training, and any future training required by the volunteer coordinator.
- Volunteers are required to carefully review and consent to the guidelines outlined in the volunteer handbook, including, but not limited to, social media communication and interaction guidelines.

Preferred:

- Prior experience with dogs preferred.

Skills and Abilities:

- Possesses a strong passion for the York County SPCA's mission.
- Must be able to responsibly volunteer alone, or with the support of another adult who has also completed the York County SPCA's volunteer canine enrichment training.
- Effective verbal communication with other volunteers and staff.
- Works efficiently without shelter staff supervision.
- Comfortable around various sizes of dogs.
- Able to demonstrate emotional strength and resilience in an animal shelter setting.

Working Conditions and Expectations:

- Shifts are available on a first-come, first-serve basis. We recommend volunteering four times per month so you can stay up to date on any changes in policies and procedures.
- Comfortable with the unique aspects of working with animals, including their natural odors and excrements, the possibility of animals experiencing medical conditions, the chance of minor bites and scratches, and exposure to moderate noise levels.
- Volunteers will be expected to sign up for shifts, log their hours, complete training, communicate with other volunteers and staff, etc., using a digital database that is accessible via computer and/or cellular application, which they will receive training for.

Benefits:

- The satisfaction of making a positive difference in the lives of the dogs in our care awaiting their forever homes.
- A chance to improve your knowledge about the York County SPCA.
- The opportunity to build connections with fellow animal lovers through a fulfilling experience.

Physical Requirements:

- Must be able to stand, walk, sit, talk, hear, stoop, bend, squat, kneel, grasp, grip, and put fingers together firmly. Reasonable accommodation may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions of the job.