

# Volunteering

## Frequently Asked Questions



### **What sort of things do volunteers do at The Animal Foundation?**

Volunteers perform a variety of tasks to ensure our shelter runs smoothly. Whether it's walking dogs, cuddling cats, taking photographs, helping at a community event, or greeting visitors in the lobby, our goal is to find you a spot worthy of your talents! More information will be given at orientation.

### **I need community service hours for school credit. Can I do that at The Animal Foundation?**

Yes. Apply through the regular volunteer program and request sign-off on your hours on a regular basis.

### **Is participating in the volunteer program the same as court-ordered community service?**

No. Individuals needing to complete court-ordered community service must first obtain a referral through HELP of Southern Nevada (call 369-HELP) and then apply at the Community Service office in the main shelter building. We do not accept referrals directly from courts, judges, probation officers, or attorneys. You must be 18 to complete court-ordered hours.

### **I need community service hours for a Division of Welfare program. Can I do that at The Animal Foundation?**

Yes. For community service, simply bring your paperwork to the Community Service office in the main shelter building. If you are part of a CWEP or Vocational Rehab program, your case manager must first contact the Volunteer Coordinator to set up an interview.

### **What are the age requirements to volunteer at The Animal Foundation?**

Volunteers ages 12-15 must be supervised by a parent or legal guardian at all times while volunteering, which means the parent or guardian must also apply to volunteer. Ages 16-17 require parental consent. Ages 18 and over are considered adult.

### **How do I get started?**

The first step is the Volunteer Application. Once we receive your application we will contact you (usually within a week) to schedule a New Volunteer Orientation. Orientations are most Saturdays at 11:00am to 12:30pm. (Holiday weekends are usually excluded.) Visit our website for the online application.

### **What then?**

At orientation you will receive our volunteer handbook, learn about the different volunteer opportunities, and sign-up for training based on your areas of interest. Some positions may require an interview and more than one training session.

### **What times and days would I have to be there?**

Volunteers may be scheduled any time between 8:00am and 7:00pm seven days a week. Scheduling for certain positions may be done online through the Volunteer Information Center, which is available once you are an active volunteer. Other duties are scheduled directly with the volunteer coordinator, appropriate department manager, or lead volunteer in that department.

### **Is there a minimum amount of time I must volunteer?**

If you complete fewer than two hours in any calendar month, your volunteer status will become "inactive" and you will not be able to schedule further volunteer activities until you reactivate your status. We suggest a minimum of 3 hours per week, however many volunteers complete considerably more.

