



SPCA of Westchester
590 North State Road
Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510
(914) 941-2896, extension 28
www.spca914.org

JUNIOR VOLUNTEER APPLICATION

Thank you for your interest in volunteering at the SPCA of Westchester. To be considered for a junior volunteer position, please complete the following information. Return the completed application to the SPCA at the address above or send by email to Joanne@SPCA914.org. This application is also available to be printed from our website.

The following programs have been developed for volunteers who are *at least 10 years of age* (see below for different minimum age requirements for certain volunteer programs), and under 18 years of age. Junior Volunteers under the age of 15 must be accompanied by an adult when volunteering. Many scout troops, school groups, and individuals participate in these programs and enjoy them immensely! They have made a real difference in the lives of our adoptable dogs and cats.

Please indicate below the types of volunteer opportunities that you are interested in:

- ☐ **Animal Advocacy** – Visit our shelter and take photos of a dog or cat. Create drawings or *Adopt Me* flyers and distribute them throughout your community or on social media. Raise money for our *Wish List* items, organize a bake sale, or hold a donation drive for all the shelter animals to help with their support. Be a part of our *Kind Kids* program. While at the shelter: schedule a tour, hear some of our history, and learn about humane education.
- ☐ **Kongs®, Toys and Enrichment** – Sanitize and stuff Kongs®, clean the toys, and make treats that are part of our canine enrichment programs. Volunteers (*age 12 and above*) can help with these activities at any time the shelter is open, or in their own homes with the supervision of an adult.

- ☐ **Reading, Study-Buddy and Story-Telling with Dogs** – Volunteers can borrow a book from the library in our Volunteer Cottage or bring their own book selection to read to dogs. They can also do homework (on any subject) out loud or imagine a story to tell the dogs. The dogs are in their kennel spaces during the interaction time, and the volunteer is on the outside of the kennel. These activities help soothe the dogs.
- ☐ **Journaling with Cats** – This creative writing exercise stretches the imagination and curiosity of volunteers while helping them observe and learn about cat body language. The cats benefit from having companionship while they remain in their kennel space.
- ☐ **Playing an Instrument or Singing to Dogs and Cats** – Volunteers can choose to play certain instruments for or sing to dogs and cats, who are in their kennel spaces during the interaction time, while the volunteer is on the outside of the kennel. These activities help soothe the dogs and cats.
- ☐ **Fostering** – Open your home to a shelter dog/puppy or cat/kitten while we work to find them permanent homes. Fostering length of time varies. Your family (*which must include an adult who is at least 21 years of age*) needs to complete a fostering application.
- ☐ **Pet Therapy “Golden Outreach”** – Visit healthcare facilities with your own dog or with a specially trained shelter dog to make a difference in the lives of residents and patients. *Junior Volunteers must be accompanied by an adult who is at least 21 years of age.*
- ☐ **Adoption Events** – Be a part of adoption events at our shelter. We need volunteers to be puppy tenders and to help in other areas at the events.
- ☐ **Community Outreach/Special Events** – Help distribute literature about the SPCA’s mission, Humane Law Enforcement, and the Simpson Clinic; educate our communities about the services we provide. Assist with special events that the shelter organizes to raise awareness about animal advocacy and adoption.
- ☐ **Shelter Beautification** – Help us keep our shelter welcoming and attractive year-round. Get involved with gardening, trail maintenance, mulching, planting, painting and other special projects.

Why would you like to volunteer at our shelter? _____

First/Last Name _____

Home Address _____

Mobile Phone _____ Email _____

Parents' Names and Contact Information _____

Waiver: On behalf of my child, I am aware that we must successfully complete General Volunteer Orientation as well as all required training programs before we can engage in any volunteer activities and we agree to abide by all the rules, regulations, policies, and procedures of the SPCA of Westchester. On behalf of myself, my child, and all our present and future heirs and assignees, I hereby agree to hold harmless and not bring legal action of any kind arising out of damage, injury, or loss to my property or myself, regardless of the cause, including negligence, to the SPCA of Westchester and its employees. On behalf of my child, we have read and completed the SPCA of Westchester Volunteer Manual (including the Volunteer Release Form), initialed and understand its contents.

Applicant's Parent's Signature _____ Date _____