



DOG TRAINER
Job Description
Class: Contract (Part-time)
Reports to: Shelter Manager

POSITION OVERVIEW: Provide behavioral training of shelter dogs in order to lower stress and improve adoptability of the animal. Also provides training, problem solving, and support to shelter staff and volunteers. Provide professional, compassionate, and excellent customer service to all who visit, call, volunteer, and donate.

- Assist as needed the assessment of animals' temperaments and behaviors, and are able to identify different types of aggression
- Provide feedback and assistance in creating behavior improvement plans for dogs with behavioral challenges and follow-up with shelter manager for implementation
- Provide appropriate, common sense training to dogs in order to reduce problem behavior and increase adoptability. Training should be easily adaptable to home environment by adopters
- Provide instruction to staff and volunteers on how to work with dogs displaying behavioral challenges
- Monitor behavioral health of animals and immediately identify any issues that may require to shelter manager and staff
- Monitor health of animals and immediately identify health issues and report to shelter manager and staff
- Provide instruction to staff and volunteers on how to work with dogs displaying behavioral challenges
- Work with staff and volunteers to get to know, provide for, transition, and promote adoptable dogs
- Availability as needed to provide follow-up with adopters' concerns
- Make recommendations to shelter manager and other shelter staff in determining whether a problem behavior is treatable or untreatable
- Advanced knowledge of canine behavior and will be responsible to receive continual training

Competencies

- Formal and credentialed training in a variety of dog behavior training techniques in an animal shelter environment
- Strong dog handling skills and ability to accurately read dog body language
- Compassion and empathy for animal and human clients
- Strong interpersonal and verbal and written communication skills
- Maturity, good judgment, and professionalism
- Ability to work individually and on a team
- Public speaking and presentation skills
- Ability to follow instructions and procedures
- Ability to remain patient, tolerant, calm, and empathetic in stressful situations

Education/Training

- High school or GED minimum
- At least two years minimum experience training and accurately assessing dogs in an animal shelter environment preferred
- CCPDT credentials preferred
- Other dog training education credentials will be considered (IAABC, PPAB, ADPT, and KPA)

Physical Requirements

- Handle and restrain animals weighing up to 100 lbs
- Lift 50 lbs to waist height
- Frequent standing, walking, bending, lifting, stooping, carrying, and reaching

TO APPLY:

Send letter of interest and résumé to:

Mail: WAIF
ATTN: Shari Bibich
PO Box 1108
Coupeville, WA 98239-1108

Fax: (360) 678-0248

Email: waifsmgr@waifanimals.org

No phone calls, please.
Position will remain open until filled.