



Canine CARE

Program Description

Dog Care is a team of self directed volunteers committed to improving the general living experience of all dogs at HEA. We provide basic care and human contact for dogs that are healthy and adjusted, but prioritize efforts toward those dogs that are sick, injured or behaviorally challenged. Dog Care volunteers provide care and gentle socialization for dogs that may otherwise fall very ill or are unable to present well to the public because of environmental stress.

How Can Volunteers Help?

- o **Assist** — Attend to basic creature comforts, such as clean water, food, rooms and kennel liners. This also includes letting dogs outside.
- o **Assess the dogs** — Observe their health and behavior, attend to their needs, and report on dogs' condition to the team leader.
- o **Follow through is very important** — Dog Care volunteers must be comfortable asking questions of HEA staff and/or the team leader.
- o **Basic "home" care** — This includes gently cleaning eyes and noses, grooming and removal of matted hair

Volunteer Qualifications

- o Volunteers must have a genuine concern for the welfare of dogs.
- o No specific tasks will be laid out per shift; therefore, volunteers must be self-motivated and have the ability to make appropriate judgment calls and ask questions when needed.
- o Volunteers must be able to complete multiple tasks, have good communication skills and be able to follow HEA safety guidelines as outlined.
- o A willingness to work with all dogs, regardless of appearance, is important. A sick dog is not always a pretty dog, but he or she may be the dog most in need of your love and attention.
- o Most of the dogs in HEA's care are large, very strong dogs. You must be physically able to handle these dogs in order to work with them.
- o Volunteers are required to attend team meetings when scheduled.

Time Commitment

Dog care occurs twice a day. Morning and Evening care takes about 2-3 hours a piece.
Morning Care occurs from 9am-11am
Evening Care occurs from 3pm – 5pm
You must be able to commit to a minimum of one day a week.