**Animal Care Volunteer Role Description**

**POSITION SUMMARY:** Animal Care volunteers at NCAL provide support to our Pet Adoption Center team and are responsible for the daily care and cleaning of animals and their enclosures. They are essential in providing a healthy, comfortable space to reduce stress and promote a high quality of life for our animals as they await their forever homes. The work that our animal care volunteers do is crucial for the overall health and wellbeing of our animals and can even shorten their stay and help them become more adoptable! Read the full description, essential functions and required qualifications below.

**ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:**

- Sanitizing kennels and assisting staff with daily shelter cleaning routine
- Preparing fresh bedding, toys, bowls for each day
- Assisting with dishes, laundry, sweeping, and mopping as necessary
- Walking and exercising NCAL dogs during the scheduled walk times
- Guiding visitors at the dog and cat wing by answering questions/sharing information about available animals, getting staff members as needed, ensuring presentability by refilling water and food bowls and spot cleaning kennels
- Socializing NCAL animals and helping them destress with positive interactions
- Monitoring behavior and medical needs on daily log and notifying staff members
- Communicating with staff members about certain dog behaviors you have encountered and any additional training you may need
- Other responsibilities as directed

**Skills Needed:**

- Ability to stand and walk for long periods of time
- Comfortable with animal handling
- Ability to commit to a regular schedule
- Comfortable lifting over 20lbs
- Comfortable handling cleaning agents and organic matter
- Ability to follow directions
- Friendly and warm personality
- Must be 16 years and older (young people aged 16-18 need to have their parent complete a waiver)

**All animal care volunteers MUST comply with NCAL’s confidentiality policy**