

Volunteer Opportunities

Dear Friend of the Center:

Thank you for your interest in volunteering at Helen Woodward Animal Center.

The following information is for adults, with very limited positions for juniors at least 14 years of age.

How to become a volunteer:

- 1. Attend a volunteer **orientation** and tour to learn about our volunteer programs and the commitment involved.
- 2. <u>Interview</u> for a specific volunteer position. **Openings are limited and are posted at the orientation**.
- 3. If accepted, <u>training</u> dates and volunteer schedules are usually assigned within the same month. Most volunteer positions require a firm weekly 3-6 hour commitment for 6 months or 70 hours.

PLEASE NOTE: Under no circumstances will Helen Woodward Animal Center be able to verify any hours for court ordered community service. Please contact the court for a list of participating non-profit organizations to verify your hours.

Orientations are on the following Saturdays from 9:00-11:00 am.

2025 orientations are scheduled for: May 31st and July 12th

Doors open at 8:45am. Wear comfortable shoes. **Please do not bring pets to the orientation.**

- Please bring your completed Volunteer Application with you.
- Include complete and definite schedule availability (page 3 of application) for the next 6-8 months or if you anticipate a change in your schedule before 6 months, please write your new schedule on the application as well (Please do not write "flexible schedule").
- Once the orientation is completed, you will turn in your Volunteer Application to Volunteer Services and we will forward your application to whichever departments you are most interested in (depending on availability of openings). The department manager will contact you within 2-3 weeks after the orientation if they are interested in scheduling an interview with you.
- Interviews are scheduled <u>only</u> if you have completed the orientation and are available for the specific training dates and shift openings.
- Parents of junior volunteers may stay for the entire orientation or you may pick them up at approximately 11:00am (NOTE: Depending on the orientation attendance, we may finish earlier/later than 11:00am).

To sign up for the orientation, please e-mail Julie Pennell at juliep@animalcenter.org.

Megan McCarty Manager of Volunteer Services

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

AniMeals:

This program provides free food to the pets of homebound elderly, disabled citizens, low income, wounded warriors, and homeless. **Food Packagers** customize each client's food for the delivery some routes pack weekly some bi-weekly or monthly. Organizational skills are necessary and the ability to lift. **Meals Delivery People** pick up the packaged meals from Helen Woodward Animal Center and deliver to the appropriate locations around the county. Frequency depends on route and size of route depends on size of car needed. **Bin/Barrel Monitors** pick up food from donation bins in pet supply stores on a regular basis. You build rapport with store employees, helping them understand how beneficial AniMeals is to their stores and to the pets who receive the food. (Once per week or twice per month. A car is necessary). **Volunteers must be at least 18 years old to make deliveries.**

AniMeals Pet Food Drive:

AniMeals is a pet—food-on-wheels program that provides free food to the pets of homebound elderly, disabled citizens, low income, wounded warriors, and the homeless. Junior volunteers 10 years old and up may hold a pet food drive at a local supermarket or other location to collect food for the program. Parental supervision is required. Please request specific guideline information. (**The general volunteer orientation is not required.**)

Adoption Department:

Pets awaiting new homes need extra T.L.C.! Working in the Adoption Department includes exercising and socializing dogs or cats, restocking kennel supplies, kennel cleaning, laundry, and dishes. Additionally, the front desk needs assistance with customer service such as, answering phones, greeting clients, and clerical duties. **Volunteers must be at least 16 years old to apply. Openings are very limited.** Once trained, volunteers are scheduled to come in once a week for a 3-hour shift. Shift times start at 7:30-10:30am, 10:00am-1pm, 12:30-3:30pm, and 3:00-6:00pm. Shifts are available Sundays through Saturdays. Volunteers work with minimum supervision. Volunteers working with dogs need to be physically able to handle very large, enthusiastic dogs. Commitment required is 6 months or 70 hours with a regular weekly schedule. Volunteers can be at least 14-16 years of age to help with cleaning kennels, doing laundry and washing dishes only.

Foster Department:

The foster department works to make sure that animals coming in have homes until they are ready for adoption. **On-site foster volunteers** help set fosters up with their animals and ensure they have everything they need to care for them. Duties involve organizing files, stocking supplies, packing supplies, assisting during intake, and helping send animals home. **These individuals must be at least 14 years of age to apply.** Once trained, volunteers are scheduled to come in once a week for a 3-hour shift and must commit to volunteering for at least 6 months.

In Home Training Volunteers assist with the foster onboarding process by going to potential foster's homes and doing one-on-one trainings or home checks and then sending a report to foster staff. These individuals must be at least 21 years of age to apply. Once trained, volunteers are scheduled as needed (typically 3 hours per week) and must commit to volunteering for at least 1 year.

Foster families care for pets in their home. Volunteers provide varying levels of care for orphaned canines and/or felines, including but not limited to bottle feeding, medical assistance, socialization, or simply cuddling & feeding. **This is a separate application process**. (**The general volunteer orientation is not required.**) Volunteers participate in an interview and training process for certification. The foster application is available online at www.animalcenter.org or from the volunteer office. **Volunteers must be at least 18 years of age.** Once trained, volunteer's name is put on a list to be called to care for animals 1 week to 6 years of age, as the need arises. (Volunteers are not 'on-call' indefinitely. They are called at the time of need to see if they are available for about 1-8 weeks.) The pets are brought back to the Center once they are ready for adoption.

Club Pet:

Club Pet is looking for energetic volunteers to give our boarding dogs and cats lots of attention and TLC! Volunteers are needed 7 days a week. You must be able to commit to a 3-hour block of time, once per week, for at least 6 months. Our volunteer shifts are 9 a.m-12 p.m., 10 a.m.-1 p.m., 11 a.m.-2 p.m., or 12 p.m.-3 p.m. Our dogs and cats miss their families, so our volunteers step in to give them the love and attention they need while boarding. Volunteers exercise our dogs by taking them on walks and doing off-leash field play. For our older dogs, we offer TLC and cuddle times out in the sun on the lawn. Our cats look forward to their feather time sessions. Felines also enjoy bubble time, cuddle time and TLC sessions with our volunteers. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old to handle animals. Volunteers must also pass our dog handling class, which is given as part of the Club Pet Volunteer orientation and training program.

Administration Desk:

Volunteers in this position will be greeting guests as they arrive to our Administration building which currently houses our HR department, Accounting, Development, Operations, etc. Volunteers also answer all incoming calls to the Center and transfer them to the appropriate department. Various tasks such as organizing packets, stuffing goodie bags, organizing paperwork, etc. may be given from departments based on need. Volunteer positions are usually a weekday shift for 3-5 hours. We need volunteers who have organizational and customer service skills as well as attention to details. **Volunteers must be 21 years of age or older.**

Therapeutic Riding:

Therapeutic riding is dedicated to serving clients with special needs through equine-assisted activities. Equine assisted activities have a substantial positive impact on a student's emotional, social, cognitive and physical development. Volunteers help to provide the necessary environment of safety, support, and fun by assisting in several roles. In lessons, volunteers serve as either leaders of the horse or as side walkers, helping the rider with various tasks such as balance, motor skill planning, or focus. Volunteers also assist in barn chores, tack cleaning, grooming, and preparing horses for lessons. Volunteers are requested to come to the same 4 hour shift on a weekly basis. A 6 month overall commitment is required. Shift times range from 1:00-5:00 Tuesday through Sunday, and 8:30-12:30 Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. Volunteers must be able to help lift and support an adult rider. Junior volunteer openings (ages 16-17) are limited. For junior volunteers, an extensive background of lessons or comparable horse experience is required. We may have several camps in the summer where juniors are needed for 1-2 weeks. A background of lessons or comparable horse experience is highly recommended for all volunteers, but a limited number of positions may be available for volunteers 18 and older with limited or no horse experience. Please note, volunteers do not have the opportunity to ride our horses.

Equine Hospital Volunteers:

Volunteers in the Equine Hospital assist the technicians with animal husbandry like grooming and walking. Occasionally volunteers may assist technicians in cleaning procedure rooms and the barn. This opportunity is generally for those with an interest in attending veterinary school for large animal medicine. Extensive experience with horses is required. A 6 month commitment is required; exceptions are made for summer help. Shifts are once a week for 5 hours and the ability to be outside in a typical horse environment with ability to hand walk multiple horses. An interview with management is necessary. **Volunteers must be at least 16 years old.**

Pet Encounter Therapy:

PET involves taking a **variety of animals** to visit special needs clients in a variety of health care settings: skilled nursing facilities, hospitals, children's shelters, mental health facilities to name just a few. The majority of PET volunteers use their own dogs that have been screened for both temperament and health by PET personnel and approved for the work (only privately owned dogs are used – not adoptables.) Volunteers may use Center-owned rabbits, guinea pigs, reptiles, and birds, but small animal shifts are very limited. Ask the Manager of Volunteer Services for screening forms to find out if your pet is suited for this type of volunteer

work. All Volunteer-owned dogs are screened and introduced to the program after the volunteer is trained. This rewarding program requires patience and an outgoing personality. A commitment of four shifts (usually 3 hours each) per month, scheduled in advance is requested. Generally this program is on weekday mornings or early afternoons. **Volunteers must be at least 18 years old.**

Exotic Animal Care Assistants:

Volunteers assist the Exotic Animal Caregivers with husbandry, cleaning, exercising, and socializing of the exotic pets used in our Education and Pet Encounter Therapy programs. The animals are divided into three different categories including: amphibians and reptiles, birds, and small mammals (chinchillas, guinea pigs, and rabbits). Volunteers will typically start in just one category of animal as is deemed to best suit their exotic pet experience, but there are opportunities for growth into the other animal categories with time and commitment. **Volunteers must be at least 14 years old.** A 6 month or 70 hours commitment is required. Shifts: 9am-noon or (rarely) noon-4pm.

Education Barn Animal Care Assistants:

Volunteers assist the Barn Animal Caregivers with husbandry, cleaning, exercising, and grooming of the hoof-stock and barnyard creatures used in our Education and Pet Encounter Therapy programs. The animals can include a variety such as: alpacas, chickens, goats, invertebrates, miniature horses, and sheep. Volunteers must have some prior animal experience and attention to safety in order to work with these larger animals.

Volunteers must be at least 14 years old. A 6 month or 70 hours commitment is required. Shifts: 9am-noon.

Education Department Assistants:

Our summer camp program has 12, week-long sessions. Junior volunteers, **ages 14-17**, may apply to be teacher assistants for one week, Monday through Friday (you may apply for more than one week, but it's not a guarantee that you'll be able to volunteer for all of the dates that you request). Junior volunteer assistants help instructors with behavior management as well as setting up and cleaning up for the day.

* Important note to Juniors: **This program has a separate application and training program** to teach classroom leadership skills and determine junior volunteer readiness to be classroom assistants. The "Critter Camp" application is available in January or early February. (**The general volunteer orientation is not required.**) The application period is January through March, with summer assignments made in late April/early May.

Weekend Party Helpers:

Our weekend programs consist of birthday parties, scout field trips and Individual Animal Encounters. Junior volunteers ages 14 - 17 may apply to assist instructors with these programs. Junior volunteers will help with program set up/clean up, face painting, providing hand sanitizer after clients pet animals, and other general helpful assistance as needed by instructors. Volunteers usually work 3-4 hour shifts on Saturday or Sunday from 10 - 1 or 2 - 5.

Special Events:

Our fundraising events include the Spring Fling black-tie event (early June); HOPE Telethon (November/December), Pawmicon (July) and Surf Dog (September). <u>Volunteering only for events does not require the general orientation and tour</u>. It does require an on-site training session and a 5-8 hour shift on the day of the event. Tasks include set-up, take down, registration, auction sales, cashiering, vendor assistance, course control, etc. Limited positions are available for junior volunteers (14 and up). Contact the Volunteer Department for more information. (**The general volunteer orientation is not required.**)

Coins for Critters:

A fun and flexible way to help the Center's programs! Join a program where you monitor donation canisters in retail locations near your home. Volunteers exchange full canisters for empty ones on a weekly basis. We need volunteers who live in coastal North County. We also need volunteers to help recruit new business.

Helen Woodward Cares for Critters Outreach Program:

This program involves volunteers going to various locations around San Diego County (such as shopping malls, stores, etc.), setting up a booth and soliciting donations for the Center as well as talking with the public about Center programs and handing out brochures. At most events, an adoptable dog is brought to increase traffic. NOTE: In order to transport/handle any adoption animals, you must complete the Animal Handling Training class. Classes are scheduled usually following a Volunteer Orientation. Volunteers must be at least 14 years of age or older to participate in this program.

Orphaned Objects Resale Shop:

Orphaned Objects is a boutique style shop offering some of the best deals in San Diego. We carry one-of-a-kind items, furniture, home décor, games and toys, books, jewelry, art, clothing, shoes, sports equipment, pet products and more.

All sales at Orphaned Objects Resale Shop benefit the programs and pets at Helen Woodward Animal Center. Volunteers help ring up sales, organize and sort through inventory, assist with projects as needed from the store manager and tag items for sale. Volunteers must be at least 14 years of age or older.

Directions to the Center:

I-5 Northbound (from San Diego, El Cajon)

I-5 to Del Mar Heights Rd.

Go right (east) at end of ramp.

At El Camino Real, turn left.

At San Dieguito (about 2 miles) turn right (Stop light at this intersection).

Travel about 3.3 miles to

El Apajo Road and turn left at stop sign.

The Horizon Church entrance is about 1/4 mile on left.

(Across from fire station).

I-15 (from Temecula, Riverside, Escondido)

I-15 to Valley Parkway exit (Escondido).

Turn west at end of off ramp.

Go about 10 miles - the road changes and becomes the Del Dios Hwy.

Turn left at 2nd stop sign onto Via De La Valle.

Turn left at stop light onto Calzada del Bosque.

Follow Calzada del Bosque until it ends. Turn right onto Via de Santa Fe. The road takes a 90-degree bend to the left and changes into El Apajo Road.

The Horizon Church entrance is approximately 1/2 mile on the right.

I-5 Southbound (from Oceanside, Encinitas)

I-5 to Via De La Valle, turn left at end of ramp.

Go to Calzada Del Bosque, turn right.

At the end of the road

Turn right on Via De Santa Fe.

Road follows a 90-degree

bend to the left and changes into El Apajo Rd.

The Horizon Church entrance is about 1/2 mile on the right.

I-15 Ted Williams Freeway/ Highway 56 (from Poway, Rancho Bernardo, & Scripps Ranch)

Take Ted Williams Freeway/56 West. Exit at Camino Del Sur

Turn right on Camino Del Sur Drive 3 miles.

Turn left onto San Dieguito Rd. and drive 2.5 miles.

At the 3-way stop, turn right on El Apajo Rd.

The Horizon Church entrance is on the left.

Helen Woodward Animal Center Volunteer Application



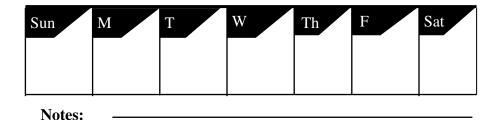
Identification								
Please be as complete	First Name	Last Name	Age (if under	r 18) Tod	ay's Date			
as possible in your answers.	Address	City	Stat	te	Zip			
Junior applicants (under 18) please	() -	()	-	()	-			
answer as many questions as you can. Be sure to print your answers clearly in blue or black ink.	Home Phone	Work Pho	one	Cell/F	Pager			
	Email Address	equested Orient	ested Orientation Date () -					
	Name of local person to contact in case of emergency Phone							
Education	School		Location	Training				
Please tell us a little about your educational background. Include any relevant training, vocational schools, workshops, etc.	High							
	College							
	Graduate							
	Other							
Employment								
Enter information about your employment history at right, starting with your current or most recent job.	Most recent or current employer's name () -							
	Description of duties		Phone	From	То			
	Previous employment		() -					
	Description of duties		Phone	From	То			
References								
Please give us the		() -					
names of some personal or business contacts who can act as references on your behalf (no family	Person's name	Daytin	ne Number	Relationship				
	Person's name	(Dayt) - ime Number	Relationship				
members, please.)								

Helen Woodward Animal Center Volunteer Application

Experience Check the areas in which you have experience below. Animals Horses	Education Classroom Inst Prepared Lesse Followed Lesse Taught Childre Age/Subject: Taught Adults Subject	truction on Plans on Plans en:	Community ☐ Volunteer Work ☐ Work with Children ☐ Work with Adults ☐ Work with Disabled Persons ☐ Non-profit Organizations ☐ Special Skills or Hobbies: ☐ Restaurant experience:		Management □ Supervisor/ Manager □ Hired/Dismissed Personnel □ Employee Training □ Project Coordination No. of people supervised:	
☐ Other Large Animals ☐ Dog ☐ Cat ☐ Other Small Animal ☐ Husbandry ☐ Training ☐ Showing ☐ Grooming	Horsemanship Western English Groundwork Vaulting Instructor Showing Caretaker Barn mgmt. Lunging	Clerical/Other ☐ Typing/WPM: ☐ Accounting ☐ 10 Key ☐ Cash Receipts/ Disbursements ☐ Retail/Register ☐ Phones switchboard	☐ Macintos ☐ Windows ☐ Desktop ☐ Web Pub	sh Publishing blishing ing Software occessing	☐ Custo ☐ Photo ☐ Writin ☐ Work ☐ Marke What pro	
Volunteering Tell us why (beside animals) you wan volunteer at the Control of the	des a love for					
Areas of Interest	AniMeals	Coins for Critters		Retail Store/ Resale Shop		Animal Ambassadors
After your orientation, please choose	Adoptions Animal Car	Education Departm		Pet Encounter Therapy		Marketing & Fund Raising
areas you could commit to for 6 months in	Adoptions (Front Desk)	Exotic A Care	Animal	Riding Therapy		Social Media
order of preference, (1) first choice	Foster Care (Adoptions)	Lare (Ed	dd/ Ther)	Office Support (Reception, Accounting)		Events: (Day of Event)
through (4) fourth.	Club Pet	Equine Hospital		Other		Smaller Events Short Term Projects
Please tell us a lit about yourself an how you heard about the Center	(school, club		☐ Yes☐ No	For what orga		Deadline?

Schedule

Please list <u>all hours</u> that are you available, <u>on a weekly</u> <u>basis</u>, <u>for at least 6-8</u> <u>months</u>. (We may need to explore your 1st, 2nd or 3rd choice of shifts.) Fill in specific times. Do not write "flexible".



Guidelines

Please read the volunteer guidelines at right carefully. They contain important information about the Center's rules and policies.

- 1. Volunteers are required to attend interviews, orientations, and training as the Center deems necessary. Volunteers are required to commit to a regular weekly schedule for 6 months or 70 hours minimum to participate in any Center program unless otherwise stated on job description.
- 2. Volunteers should be polite and helpful at all times. All people and animals are to be treated with respect and courtesy. Volunteers are required to adhere to the rules explained in the training as it pertains to animal handling.
- 3. Volunteers should refer questions from the public regarding Center policies to the staff only. Volunteers should maintain confidentiality in regards to Center clients and business.
- 4. Volunteers must accept the guidance and decisions of the professional staff person responsible for volunteer activities. Problems and disagreements should be taken to the department supervisor or the Volunteer Manager. Volunteer supervision should be consistent with the Volunteer Management Policy and Procedure Manual. This manual is available for review from the Volunteer Manager.
- 5. Volunteers are responsible for keeping track of their schedules and logging in daily according to their supervisor's system. Reasonable notice is required if unable to make a volunteer shift.
- 6. For safety reasons, volunteers are required to wear appropriate attire when working with animals. Smoking is allowed only in designated areas (see supervisor). Volunteers who work in a public access area are required to purchase and wear a Center T-shirt (approx. \$16) during their volunteer shift.
- 7. Volunteers should not be in any area of the Center without the proper training or supervision. Guests of volunteers are not allowed to accompany the volunteer during their shift.
- 8. Volunteers shall agree to the Center's right to release them for unsafe practices, for not following the procedures described in orientations and training sessions, or for any behavior that is inappropriate for Center business. Release will be determined by Center personnel only.
- 9. Parents are required to sign paperwork for junior volunteers. We reserve the right to release a junior volunteer from his or her job without delay if we feel the situation is either unsafe or unproductive.
- 10. Any accident or injury to either a person or animal should be reported to a Center manager immediately.
- 11. No photos or videos of any kind can be taken on Center grounds without prior consent.
- 12. Volunteers may not give any unapproved treats to any animals on Center grounds. Please check with your Volunteer Supervisor or a Center supervisor before giving any kind of treat to any animal on Center property. No rawhide treats may be given at any time.

The Center Agrees to:

- 1. Provide an orientation, training, and continuing education as available for the assigned position.
- 2. Assign a staff person to supervise volunteer activities.
- 3. Provide extended opportunities, when available, for those volunteers who are interested and qualified.

Volunteer	Initial:	Da	ate:	

Helen Woodward Animal Center Volunteer Application

Waiver and Release of Liability

For adult volunteers or parents of junior volunteers: Please read this information & sign your consent if you accept these terms.

- Tetanus Information: I understand that because I, or my child (if applicant is under 18) may handle animals, it is important to discuss the tetanus vaccine with my physician.
- I release Helen Woodward Animal Center from all responsibility that may occur because of my not pursuing this matter further and I understand whatever decision I make is at my own risk.
- I have read, understand and agree to the above tetanus information.
- In the event of an emergency while I am on Center grounds, I hereby give the Helen Woodward Animal Center permission to seek medical attention for myself or my child (if applicant is under 18.)
- I give permission for the Helen Woodward Animal Center to photograph me or my child for use in any Center publication, educational, or advertising purposes the Center may designate.
- I acknowledge that I, as a volunteer of Helen Woodward Animal Center, do not have permission to take photographs or video of any privately owned animals at the Center.
- I acknowledge and understand that as a volunteer of the Helen Woodward Animal Center, I, or my child (if applicant is under 18) are not covered by the Helen Woodward Animal Center's workers compensation or any other insurance policy for any damages or injuries I, or my child, may sustain during volunteer activities.
- I understand that participating in Helen Woodward Animal Center's activities involves the risk of injury to [me] [or] [to my child under 18 years of age], whether [I] [or] [my child under 18 years of age] or someone else causes it. Specific risks vary from one activity to another, and the risks range from minor injuries to major injuries, including catastrophic injuries. In consideration of [my] [or] [my child under 18 years of age] participation in the activities offered by Helen Woodward Animal Center, I, for [myself] [or] [on behalf of my child under 18 years of age] understand and voluntarily accept the risks and agree that Helen Woodward Animal Center, its officers, directors, employees, volunteers, agents and independent contractors, will not be liable for any injury, including without limitation, any personal, bodily or mental injury, any economic loss or any damage to [me] [or] [my child under 18 years of age] resulting from any negligence of Helen Woodward Animal Center or anyone acting on Helen Woodward Animal Center's behalf.

By signing below, I acknowledge and agree that I have read the statement above, understand the nature of the activities and risks, and agree to the terms.

Volunteer Signature, or if under 18 years, Parent or Guardian Signature Date Volunteer Name: DOB if under 18 yrs: Additional Parent/Guardian names (if applicant is under 18):.____ Work Phone:(Volunteer Parent/Guardian Home Phone:() Considering that many of the positions at the Center require dealing with animals, serving the public, Information working outdoors, and lifting up to 50 lbs., are you able to perform the essential functions of the position for which you are applying, either with or without reasonable accommodations? No \(\sigma\) If no, describe the functions that cannot be performed and what accommodations are Please complete Yes 🗖 required: this section. - Please list any medical problems, allergies or other issues we should be aware of to insure a safe volunteer environment: - Have you ever been convicted of a criminal offense? No I f yes, please explain. Applicant may omit any convictions for the possession of marijuana that are more than two(2) years old, and any information concerning a referral to, and participation in, any pretrial or post trial diversion program:

date, circumstances and relevance to the position applied for may, however, be considered.)

Signature

Junior
applications will
not be accepted
without parent or
guardian's
signature on
the waiver.

I have read, understand and agree to the above information and the Volunteer Guidelines on previous page. I certify that the information provided here is accurate and complete. I authorize reference and employment verification and background checks as necessary for specific positions.

(Note: no applicant will be denied solely on the grounds of conviction of a criminal offense. The nature of the offense,

Volunteer Signature, or if under 18 years, Parent or Guardian Signature Date

(If you are a volunteer applicant for Therapeutic Riding and do not wish to consent to emergency medical treatment, please see the Therapy office for a Non-Consent plan.)

Bring completed application to volunteer orientation or, if requested by Volunteer Dept., mail to: Volunteer Manager, Helen Woodward Animal Center, P.O. Box 64, Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067 or fax to (858) 756-0605.

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