



Dog Walker

Major Objective: To provide the dogs who are awaiting adoption the chance for some fresh air and exercise, while teaching them some important manners.

Duties

- Exercise and socialize adoption pending dogs
- Take dogs to different walking trails in town
- Comply with and maintain important health and safety protocols
- Assist in establishing exercise routines important to the dog's health
- Have a professional approach to handling the animals and dealing with the public
- Positively represent Joplin Humane Society's beliefs and philosophies

Training

- Complete a Volunteer Application
- Interview with Volunteer Coordinator
- Attend the initial training
- Attend an orientation within 2 months of starting program
- Show proficiency in loose leash tactics

Commitment: Dog walking volunteers act as the pre-adoption dog's main source of exercise. With this high level need, volunteers will need to make a commitment to complete training and to dedicate a minimum of 2 hours a month for a 3 month period of time.

Volunteer Profile: High Energy, Outgoing, Self-Motivated, Engaging, Confident, And Patient. Individual must be willing to learn about animal behavior and be willing to be a pillar of strength in the eyes of the dogs they handle. Must want to help all dogs. Must be able to lift 40 pounds. (You will probably never lift any dogs off the ground, but these guys can be rowdy and a general strength level is required to properly handle them.)

Volunteer Benefits:

- Learn how to read basic canine body language.
- Learn how to teach a dog to walk on a loose leash.
- Cardio for you and the dog.
- Feel rewarded by seeing the peace you can bring to the dogs.
- Have the opportunity to continue volunteering and move to next stage of training which consist of learning how to teach basic obedience cues.
- Learning information that will improve your relationship with your own companion animal.
- Direct contribution to increase in adoptions.

Supervision: Direct supervision by Volunteer Coordinator; Indirect supervision by Shelter Manager