**Cat Handler & Cleaning**

**Job Objective:** To assist caregiver staff by providing one-on-one attention and love for shelter cats. The more attention and activity the cats receive, the happier they become, thus improving their chances for positive adoption. To follow our standards of care and low-stress handling.

**Responsible to:** Animal Care Supervisor: Volunteer Coordinator, Animal Care Supervisor

**Job Description:** Responsibilities include:

- Hold, pet or play with cats
- Communicate with cats in a gentle, non-threatening manner
- Be able to use both hands simultaneously and be able to react with a high level of dexterity and be able to pursue and/or retrieve animals who have escaped from your control
- Ability to walk unaided on unpaved, uneven, rugged and sometimes muddy and slippery terrain.
- Ability to bend and squat in order to leash/harness and pick up an animal.
- Assist the public with questions regarding cats and general adoption information
- Clean kennels and litterboxes
- Laundry
- Make enrichment toys
- Lift up to 25 pounds
- Sweeping the floors and general cleaning, to include floors, windows sink areas
- Follow sanitation guidelines
- Help with adoption visits as needed or requested by staff
- Other duties as assigned
- Help with adoption visits as needed or requested by staff
- Monitor for signs of illness/behavior issues

**Training required:**

- Information session
- Classroom training with the behavior specialist
- 1-3 mentoring shadowing sessions with a designated staff member or mentor volunteer
- Ongoing behavior training’s – 2 every 6 months while a volunteer
- 8 hours of housekeeping duties

**Qualifications:** Volunteer must have the ability to interact with the public in a courteous and respectful manner, even in stressful situations. He/she must also have the ability to communicate well and follow directives with minimal supervision. He/she must be gentle and patient when working with cats.

**Days and hours needed:** 7 days a week

- Monday – Friday 12 to 7 pm
- Wednesday 12 to 5 pm
- Saturday – Sunday 12- 5 pm.

**Time Commitment:** minimum of 8 hours per month to remain an active volunteer.