



UVHS Volunteer Assignments

Volunteers as young as 14 years old can participate when they are accompanied by a trained parent or guardian. Volunteers 18 years and older can participate on their own!

All volunteers must attend an Orientation and a guided one-on-one facility tour before they may receive an assignment.

**Assignments involving animal handling (dog walking and cat socialization) require additional training in animal behavior and safety practices.*

General Shelter Support: Assist with laundry, dishes, cleaning floors, etc.

Fostering: Fostering is a rewarding experience that can offer a nurturing, temporary home for an animal in need. Animals that may require foster include those that are very young and need to grow and thrive in an environment with minimal stress and animals that need time to recover from surgery or illness. As a foster, you have the chance to change a life for the better! Due to state regulations, foster families must reside in New Hampshire.

Dog Kennel or Cat Cage Cleaning: Cleaning kennels and cages is an important morning task at the shelter. A clean environment is important for disease prevention. This activity requires standing for an extended period of time, mobility to bend and crouch, and potential heavy lifting.

***Dog Walking/Enrichment:** Take dogs out for walks and help with making sure each dog gets an ample amount of time in the play yard. Other tasks may include providing enrichment items, brushing dogs, and assisting with staff-supervised play groups. Must be physically able to handle and walk dogs safely and securely.

***Cat Socialization/Enrichment:** Provide important interaction with the animals by spending time with them, playing with them, and providing enrichment. Must be calm, quiet, and respectful of cats' individual needs & preferences.

Donation Pick Up/Drop Off: Travel to off-site donation locations, collect donations and return them to the shelter. Pick up pet food from UVHS and deliver to mobile pet food pantry locations. This activity requires some heavy lifting and use of a personal vehicle.

Building & Grounds: Assist with small projects and repairs, groundskeeping, and facility maintenance.

Special Events: Duties may include greeting people, collecting information, set up and breakdown, etc. Volunteers should have general knowledge of UVHS programs and services, and represent UVHS professionally.