



8177 Regent Parkway, Fort Mill, SC 29715 ~ 803-802-0902

Thank you for choosing the Humane Society of York County as the organization to which you wish to contribute your valuable time. Your efforts will make a significant difference in our cats' and dogs' lives while they are temporarily living at the rescue waiting to go to their forever homes. We hope you find your experience with us rewarding.

The following information will help acquaint you with the Humane Society helping you to make your volunteer experience successful and enjoyable. If you have any questions after reading this information, please contact the Humane Society of York County at 803-802-0902.

The First Step

Before you can begin volunteering, you must complete a **Volunteer Application Form** and **Waiver of Liability Form**. These forms can be found on our website under the Volunteer tab or at the rescue. Please bring your completed forms with you when you attend the required **New Volunteer Orientation**.

New volunteer orientations are held on the **first Saturday** and the **third Friday** of every month from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. The New Volunteer Orientation should be attended **ONLY** by individuals 16 years of age and older. Younger volunteers are welcome at a later date under parental/guardian supervision. A parent or guardian must sign the Volunteer Application Form and Waiver of Liability Form for any volunteers under the age of 18.

Getting Started

You will get instructions for your first volunteer experience during the orientation. Some activities require additional training, and you will also discover how to obtain appropriate training for the opportunities in which you wish to participate.

If your volunteer activities are at the facility, sign in on the volunteer sheet located in the lobby upon arrival at the rescue. Please check in with a staff member for assistance in beginning your activities if needed.

Community service volunteers must coordinate their schedule with the Pet Coordinator. Once your schedule is determined, you must check with the Pet Coordinator upon arriving and leaving the rescue. Please bring all necessary paperwork with you, and leave your cell phone in your car.

Hours of Operation

Facility Open to the Public for Adoptions:

1 p.m. – 4 p.m. – Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday

1 p.m. – 6 p.m. (7 p.m. summer hours) – Tuesday, Friday

Volunteer Hours*:

The following are general volunteer hours which may vary on major holidays and for other events/programs:

Sunday, Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday	Tuesday and Friday	Activities
8:30 – 12 noon	8:30 – 12 noon	Dog walking, cat socialization, cleaning and rescue upkeep
1 p.m. – 4 p.m.	1 p.m. – 6 p.m. (7 p.m. summer)	Dog walking, adoption assistance, rescue upkeep
*Closed from 12 noon to 1 p.m. The rescue is closed to the public on major holidays, but our cats and dogs still need your attention and care. Hours may vary slightly due to inclement weather or major rescue events.		

PAWSibilities Thrift Store Hours *(Two- to four-hour shifts are available):*

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday and Saturday	Sunday
10 a.m. – 6 p.m.	10 a.m. – 7 p.m.	10 a.m. – 5 p.m.	1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Volunteer Opportunities

Many volunteer opportunities are available for you on a regular basis or for specific events. You can discover more comprehensive information in the **Volunteer Handbook** which is found on our website under the Volunteer tab. Examples include:

Dog walking. Do you enjoy taking a dog for a walk or jog? While their kennels are being cleaned, you can walk dogs so that they can enjoy the fresh air and take care of business. You can also spend time playing with dogs and puppies in the yard. Volunteers are essential for both exercise and socialization. A follow-up 1-on-1 instructional meeting will be scheduled.

Cat socialization, care, and upkeep. Do you enjoy spending one-on-one time with cats? Our cats/kittens need to be socialized to help them become more adoptable and help reduce kennel stress by providing exercise, stimulation, and play time. Holding, playing with, and combing and brushing the cats gives them much needed attention and helps them become comfortable with human contact. Volunteers often interact with cats while cleaning kennels.

Fostering. Foster homes provide temporary homes for litters of puppies and kittens that might otherwise be turned away. If you enjoy caring for little ones or have a heart for adult animals with special needs, fostering may be for you. A separate application and orientation class is required.

Fundraising and event assistance. You can help in the planning and execution of our special events and fundraisers. These fun events provide a diverse range of opportunities to use your skills and creativity. Join a team to help plan our annual events and fundraisers or hold your own fundraiser.

Adoption and lobby assistance. Do you like meeting and talking with people? We need volunteers from 1 to 4 p.m. (or 6/7 p.m.) to meet and greet rescue visitors, guide them to adoption areas, and answer frequently asked questions. Some experience will help you become familiar with policies and procedures, and information sheets are provided.

Animal care (clean-up crew). Keeping kennels and cages sanitary and fresh is one of our greatest needs. If you are willing to clean kennels, wash dishes and towels, unfold newspapers, etc., this job is for you! You will work alongside staff to maintain the healthy conditions in our animal rescue.

PAWSabilities Thrift Shop. Do you enjoy working in a retail environment? Volunteers take donations, organize the store, and assist customers at the thrift shop. They also promote the rescue by having special activities and seasonal events. The PAWSabilities Thrift Shop is located at 2144 Carolina Place, across from Baxter Village.

Transporting animals. Volunteers pick up dogs at the facility to transport them to offsite events to promote their adoptions.

Favorite Furry Friend Program. You can partner with a dog or puppy to help him/her get adopted. Spend extra time walking or playing with a special furry friend. You can work with your furry friend to promote good behaviors and help bad habits fade away. Escort your furry friend to special events, promote your furry friend through Facebook and other electronic media, and provide information to potential adopters. Experience is required, as is permission to take dogs offsite.

If you have questions or want to sign up, use the following contact information:

Volunteer Opportunity	Contact Person	Contact Information
PAWSabilities Thrift Shop	Mary Beth Knapp	marybknapp@comporium.net 704-287-6475
Volunteer Coordinator	Amber Adams	amber@kenadamscpa.com 803-487-1856
Foster Coordinator	Megan Prestwood	fosterprogram@humanesocietyofyorkcounty.org
Fundraising, Marketing & Special Events	Mary Beth Knapp	marybknapp@comporium.net 704-287-6475
Favorite Furry Friend Program	Lori Ochsner	llochsner@gmail.com 803-517-9916

We look forward to your joining us as we enrich the lives of our dogs and cats during their time with us and help them find their furever homes!