# **Chico Animal Shelter Volunteer Role Description**

Position Title	Socialization / Enrichment - Dogs
Direct Supervisor	Shelter Staff
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#### **Organization Mission**

Courteously and compassionately promote the health, safety and welfare of citizens and animals in our community by honoring the human-animal bond, treating each person and animal as an individual, and providing humane care and positive outcomes for unowned/unclaimed animals.

### **Activities and Goals**

Provide comfort for the dogs housed at the shelter by providing activities for them while they are in their kennel.

## **Duties and Responsibilities**

- Identify and provide the type(s) of enrichment activity appropriate for each dog under the guidance of shelter staff.
  - Types of enrichment activities include food puzzles, frozen treat blocks, sitting quietly in the kennel, learn-to-earn activities, chew toys, Kongs, etc.
- Make sure kennel is clean before leaving dog in run
  - o This may involve spot cleaning as needed and topping off water
- Can be combined with Dog Adoption Ambassador

# **Minimum Time Requirements**

2 hours per week (12:00 AM - 6:00 PM). Ongoing need.

Location/Work Environment	Eligible for work at home
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Dog kennels at animal shelter. May be subject to loud noises (barking dogs), pet hair and dander, feces and urine, cleaning agents, and strong odors. Exposure to dogs, who can be unpredictable.

Interaction With Animals		None		Minimal		Some	х	Extensive			
Interaction the Public		None	х	Minimal		Some		Extensive			
Experience Needed	х	Entry Level	х	Prior Experience and/or Training Needed							

#### **Skills/Qualities Required**

Comfortable around a variety of dogs and willingness to learn about dog behavior.

Ability to take direction and learn shelter policies and procedures.

Some familiarity with positive reinforcement training techniques is helpful.

Ability to work independently.

### **Orientation and Training**

Training will include an orientation on going in and out of kennels with dogs and learning basic dog behavior. Additional training includes dog behavior modification using positive training techniques.

#### Other

Volunteer is required to wear closed-toed shoes and long pants. Tee-shirts, no tank tops.