

Job Description

Role:	<i>Cat Cuddler</i>
Reports To:	<i>Volunteer Coordinator</i>
Supervises:	<i>Not applicable</i>
Classification:	<i>Volunteer</i>

York County SPCA Purpose:

The York County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (YCSPCA) is a charitable organization dedicated to providing long-term human and animal services to residents of York County through programs that find permanent, loving homes for displaced and stray animals, help control animal population growth, investigate and prosecute cruelty offenders and educate the general public about animal wellness and safety.

Position Overview:

The Volunteer Cat Cuddler plays a vital role in enhancing the well-being and adoptability of our feline residents. This position involves providing cats with love, companionship, and socialization, creating a warm and stress-free environment during their stay at our shelter.

Essential Functions:

- Offers cats gentle and soothing cuddles to help them feel safe.
- Engages in interactive play sessions with approved cat toys to stimulate cats mentally and physically.
- When appropriate, brush and groom cats to promote healthy coats and strengthen the human-feline bond.
- Spends quality time with shy or timid cats within their comfort level to instill trust and promote socialization.
- Reports any changes in behavior or health concerns, as well as anything of note to shelter client service counselors (CSCs.)

Education and Experience:

Required:

- Must be 18 years of age or older.
- Must have reliable transportation to and from the shelter.
- Must attend YCSPCA New Volunteer Open House, Orientation, initial training, and any future training required by the volunteer coordinator.
- Volunteers are required to carefully review and consent to the guidelines outlined in the volunteer handbook, including, but not limited to, social media communication and interaction guidelines.

Preferred:

- Prior experience with cats.

Skills and Abilities:

- Possesses a strong passion for the York County SPCA's mission.
- Safely handles animals alone or with the support of another adult who has also undergone the cat cuddler volunteer training.
- Communicates effectively with other volunteers and staff.
- Works efficiently without staff supervision.
- Able to demonstrate emotional strength and resilience in an animal shelter setting.

Working Conditions and Expectations:

- Shifts lasting 30 minutes to 1 hour; please note that volunteers' shifts are on a first-come, first-served basis due to the high volume of interest in this role.
- Comfortable with the unique aspects of working with animals, including their natural odors and excrements, the possibility of animals experiencing medical conditions, the chance of minor bites and scratches, and exposure to moderate noise levels.
- Volunteers will be expected to sign up for shifts, log their hours, complete training, communicate with other volunteers and staff, etc., using a digital database that is accessible via computer and/or cellular application, which they will receive training for.

Benefits:

- The satisfaction of making a positive difference in the lives of cats awaiting their forever homes.
- A chance to improve your understanding of feline behavior and care.
- The opportunity to build connections with fellow cat lovers through a fulfilling experience.
- Exemplary dedication and exceptional performance may pave the way for volunteers to take on the role of a "Volunteer Supervisor" in the future.

Physical Requirements:

- Must be able to stand, walk, sit, talk, hear, stoop, bend, squat, kneel, grasp, grip, and put fingers together firmly. Reasonable accommodation may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions of the job.

Job Description

Role:	<i>Small Animal Cuddler</i>
Reports To:	<i>Volunteer Coordinator</i>
Supervises:	<i>Not applicable</i>
Classification:	<i>Volunteer</i>

York County SPCA Purpose:

The York County Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) is a charitable organization dedicated to providing long-term human and animal services to residents of York County through programs that find permanent, loving homes for displaced and stray animals, help control animal population growth, investigate and prosecute cruelty offenders and educate the general public about animal wellness and safety.

Position Overview:

The Volunteer Small Animal Cuddler plays a vital role in enhancing the well-being and adoptability of our smaller animal residents. This position involves providing small animals such as rabbits and guinea pigs with love, companionship, and socialization, creating a warm and stress-free environment for them during their stay at our shelter.

Essential Functions:

- Offers small animals gentle and soothing cuddles to help them feel safe.
- Engages in interactive play sessions with approved toys to keep animals mentally and physically stimulated.
- When appropriate, brush and groom animals to promote healthy coats and strengthen the human-animal bond.
- Spends quality time with shy or timid animals within their comfort level to instill trust and promote socialization.
- Reports any changes in behavior or health concerns, as well as anything of note to shelter staff.

Education and Experience:

Required:

- Must be 18 years of age or older.
- Must have reliable transportation to and from the shelter.
- Must attend YCSPCA New Volunteer Open House, Orientation, initial training, and any future training required by the volunteer coordinator.
- Volunteers are required to carefully review and consent to the guidelines outlined in the volunteer handbook, including, but not limited to, social media communication and interaction guidelines.

Preferred:

- Prior experience with small animals, such as rabbits and guinea pigs.

Skills and Abilities:

- Possesses a strong passion for the York County SPCA's mission.
- Handles animals safely alone or with the support of another adult who has also undergone small animal cuddler volunteer training.
- Communicates effectively with other volunteers and staff.

- Works efficiently without shelter staff supervision.

Working Conditions and Expectations:

- Shifts lasting from 30 minutes to 1.5 hours.
- Shifts are available first-come-first-serve Sundays through Saturdays between 10:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.
- Comfortable with the unique aspects of working with animals, including their natural odors and excrements, the possibility of animals experiencing medical conditions, the chance of minor bites and scratches, and exposure to moderate noise levels.
- Volunteers will be expected to sign up for shifts, log their hours, complete training, communicate with other volunteers and staff, etc., using a digital database that is accessible via computer and/or cellular application, which they will receive training for.

Benefits:

- The satisfaction of making a positive difference in the lives of various small animals awaiting their forever homes.
- A chance to improve your understanding of small behavior and care.
- The opportunity to build connections with fellow small animal lovers through a fulfilling experience.
- Exemplary dedication and exceptional performance may pave the way for volunteers to take on the role of a "Volunteer Supervisor" in the future.

Physical Requirements:

- Must be able to stand, walk, sit, talk, hear, stoop, bend, squat, kneel, grasp, grip, and put fingers together firmly. Reasonable accommodation may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions of the job.