

# "Pets & Pals" Teams



Pets and Pals teams are a great opportunity for youth in the community to learn about volunteerism and get involved with the Humane Society of Boulder Valley.

## Who can participate?

Pets and Pals teams consist of one adult and up to two children between the ages of 7 to 14. This adult must be a parent, legal guardian or trusted family friend who is 18 years or older. The Humane Society of Boulder Valley is unable to provide adult partners for Pets and Pals teams.

Why does the Humane Society of Boulder Valley require immediate supervision of youth volunteers? Each volunteer role has specific rules that must be followed to ensure the safety of the people and the animals of the Humane Society of Boulder Valley. Direct supervision of youth volunteers by their adult partner ensures these rules are followed. In addition, the Humane Society of Boulder Valley is open to the public seven days per week, and we benefit from community service programs through agencies such as Workforce Boulder County, the Boulder County Sheriff's Office and local court systems. As when visiting any agency or business that is open to the public, you are responsible for your child's supervision and safety.

## Can Pets and Pals teams participate in all volunteer opportunities?

While Pets and Pals teams can participate in many of our volunteer opportunities, some volunteer programs are not appropriate for children under the age of 15. Please make sure you are thoroughly reviewing the description of each volunteer opportunity to determine if it is appropriate for Pets and Pals teams.

## What are some other ways for kids to help the Humane Society of Boulder Valley?

- Foster Program: fostering animals in your home is a great opportunity for families with children of all ages. You can view information about fostering on our website [here](#).
- Many young kids opt to support the Humane Society of Boulder Valley indirectly by holding fundraising or donation drives. See a list of ideas for helping in this capacity by clicking [here](#).

## How do Pets and Pals get started?

1. Browse current volunteer opportunities  
We encourage you to review our list of volunteer opportunities to determine which available opportunities are appropriate for Pets and Pals teams.
2. Complete your volunteer fee payment and volunteer profile  
As part of the volunteer application process, we require a volunteer fee to help offset the costs of background check fees, training materials, your volunteer uniform, volunteer program maintenance, and other costs that leave a footprint in our finances so more can go toward animal care. After paying the volunteer fee, you will fill out a volunteer profile to indicate in which volunteer opportunity you wish to participate.
3. Complete a background check authorization  
The adult counterpart of a Pets and Pals team must complete an authorization to run a criminal background check, and the results must be approved by HSBV, before you can volunteer with us.
4. Attend training/first shift  
After you submit your volunteer fee payment and volunteer profile, you will receive information about signing up for training or a first shift based on your interests.
5. HAVE FUN!

For more information about Pets & Pals, please contact a member of the Volunteer Services Department: [volunteer@boulderhumane.org](mailto:volunteer@boulderhumane.org) or 303-442-4030, Option 7.