

Sandoval County State of New Mexico



General Volunteer Application for Animal Services

Thank you for your interest in volunteering to help Sandoval’s Homeless Pets! This application is specific to volunteer opportunities such as helping to socialize and exercise animals, cleaning kennels, helping with transports, marketing, events, and related activities.

Please complete the below information and submit it to sandovalpets@sandovalcountynm.gov so we can review it and get back with you!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone Number: _____

Driver’s License Number: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Emergency Phone Number: _____

Experience: Please share with us about your experience working with animals – personal, professional, and volunteer.

Skillsets and Interests: Please share with us about specific skillsets and interests you have in terms of ways you’d like to help.

Restrictions: Please share with us about any restrictions or constraints you might have as a volunteer helping with homeless pets.

Availability: Please list your time availability for volunteering.

Training: We use the ASPCApro Webinar Series as these were compiled by national leading experts in the field of Shelter Care for staff and volunteers alike.

The “Canine Communication and Behavior Series” is a 6-part series designed to help keep canines happy and healthy and staff and volunteers safe, and it can be accessed here:

<https://www.aspcapro.org/training-webinar-series/webinar-series-canine-communication-behavior>

Following an in-person orientation with County Staff, volunteers are required to complete the 6-part series prior to any unsupervised contact with a shelter dog, each of which is outlined below:

- **Speaking Dog: Canine Communications #1**
To set the stage for accurate interpretation, it is vital to describe behavior objectively. Before delving into the nitty-gritty of dog language, you’ll learn to clarify such muddy labels as submissive, dominant and conflicted.
- **Speaking Dog: Canine Communications #2**
In the second part of this series, we will compile all the core pieces into a coherent message by looking at the whole dog. In addition to body language, you’ll also learn about the range of dog vocalizations, and what dogs are able to know about others from what they smell.
- **Speaking Dog: Canine Communications #3**
In the final segment of the series, attendees will better understand how this information will contribute to conducting more informative assessments, better matchmaking, avoiding bites and providing a better quality of life for the dogs in your care because you can speak their language.

- **Human Body Language and Dog Behavior**

The second webinar in the series identifies ways to interact with dogs (including shy and aggressive ones) to help ensure a positive experience for everyone.

- **Defensive Dog Handling**

The third webinar in the series covers how to effectively defuse potential aggression with your own body language and how to properly use a leash and other common dog handling tools.

- **Dog Introductions**

The fourth and final webinar in the series will help you learn or polish your dog introduction skills, allowing for successful meet and greets.

Waiver & Release: In consideration of the opportunity to volunteer with Sandoval County Animal Services, I hereby represent and agree to the following:

1. I, the volunteer, am 18 years of age or older, or I am the parent or legal guardian to the Volunteer who is less than 18 years of age.
2. I understand, recognize, and appreciate that there are risks and dangers, inherent or otherwise, in volunteering for Sandoval County Animal Services, including but not limited to those risks associated with the handling of animals and the performance of other similar volunteer activities. I am submitting this Release and Liability waiver voluntarily and of my own free will. If the Volunteer is younger than 18 years of age, I hereby consent to the Volunteer(s) full participation and the volunteering of his/her services to Sandoval County.
3. I, on behalf of myself and my heirs, executors, administrators, assigns, and any and all persons claiming by and through me, and on behalf of the Volunteer if the Volunteer is younger than 18 years of age, hereby release and agree to hold harmless and indemnify Sandoval County and all of its officers, directors, employees, agents, elected officials, former employees, and representative from any and all claims, liabilities, and damages, known or unknown, that I and/or the Volunteer (if the Volunteer is younger than 18 years of age) may sustain from any bodily injury, personal injury, or property damage that may arise from my and/or the Volunteers volunteering for Sandoval County. This Release and Liability Waiver shall be binding on all parties, their heirs, successors, and assigns.
4. I understand that public relations are an important part of a Volunteer's activities on behalf of Sandoval County. I hereby irrevocably grant Sandoval County and its agents the right to use my and/or the Volunteer's, if the Volunteer is younger than 18 years of age, name, likeness, and any photographs of me for any purpose, including public relations, promotion, advertising, or other purposes. To the extent practicable, Sandoval County will make reasonable efforts to give me advance notice of any such use, but such notification is not a condition to the use of my and/or the Volunteer's name, likeness, or any photographs of me.

I assert that the information I provided in this Volunteer Application is true and correct, and I acknowledge that I have read and understand the entire Release and Liability Waiver. By signing below, I hereby accept the above terms and conditions and I agree to be legally bound by them.

Signature of Applicant

Date

For Staff Use Only

Date Application Reviewed by Sandoval County: _____

Date of Interview with Applicant: _____

Recommend (circle one) Approval/Denial to Volunteer: _____
Staff Agent

Final (circle one) Approval/Denial to Volunteer: _____
CSD Director

Date of Orientation with Staff Associate: _____