

VOLUNTEER ROLE DESCRIPTION

Greyhound Enrichment

Objective

Greyhound Enrichment Volunteers work with staff at our GAP kennels in Seymour, to provide socialisation and enrichment activities to Greyhounds in our care. These activities may include washing and grooming dogs (especially to be ready for adoption days!), walking on a leash around the property, practicing stairs, and general attention and human interaction. These activities enrich the life of greyhounds being housed temporarily in GAP kennels, and support their transition from racing life to a family pet.

Key Duties & Responsibilities

The main duties and responsibilities a Greyhound Enrichment Volunteer may undertake include:

- Under the direction of GAP kennel staff, you may complete tasks including washing, grooming, and exercising dogs (around our rural property), and other socialisation activities
- You may work with GAP behavioural assessors on specific training activities
- Volunteers occasionally support the administrative team, particularly to prepare for Adoption Days
- You must arrive promptly for scheduled shifts, neatly presented in a GAP volunteer polo shirt, comfortable clothing (that can get dirty) and sturdy, closed toed shoes. Parking is available, however there is no public transport or lunch facilities nearby.
- You must adhere to the Volunteer Agreement, and any other relevant GRV policies you have signed or acknowledged, which are available to view on the volunteer portal
- Volunteers are generally not engaged in feeding dogs or cleaning kennels

Key Skills and Selection Criteria

GAP recruit volunteers in accordance with the equal opportunities act, and welcome and encourage applications from suitably qualified candidates. Skills required for the Greyhound Enrichment role include:

- Passion and commitment to animal welfare and Greyhounds as pets
- Ability to undertake relevant screening checks as required
- Experience of previous ownership, volunteering, or employment with Greyhounds or other animals
- Ability to understand and follow all instructions provided in training materials, and by GAP staff
- Good interpersonal skills and ability to work affectively within the GAP team
- Reasonable fitness level, and ability to stand for extended periods of time, and physically control a greyhound up to 40kg. GAP also welcome applications from volunteers with physical disabilities, who may be able to undertake light grooming and socialisation activities. Wheelchair accessible parking and toilet facilities are available, and our administrative offices are also wheelchair accessible.

Training and Resources Provided

- All new volunteers are required to attend a two-hour induction session at GAP in Seymour. These sessions are held regularly and volunteers may choose the session that suits their availability.
- Skills sessions are held periodically throughout the year which volunteers may attend to learn more about GAP and Greyhounds.
- Volunteers are provided with a GAP polo shirt and a cap to wear. As work is often outdoors, volunteers should dress sun smart, use sunscreen provided, and stay hydrated throughout the day. Tea and coffee facilities are available as well as a small kitchen with fridge and microwave.
- Visual training resources are available on the volunteer intranet to provide information on relevant topics, including Greyhound first-aid, prey drive behaviours and key messages of GAP

Reward and Recognition

Our Greyhound Enrichment Volunteers provide invaluable support to GAP, and our mission to achieve full rehoming of all healthy Greyhounds retiring from the racing industry. To show our appreciation to volunteers for their commitment, we hold special recognition events throughout the year.

This includes a celebratory event during National Volunteers Week in May, our end of year Thank You in December, and smaller events throughout the year.

These events are held at varied locations state-wide, to encourage attendance for volunteers from different regions. Where appropriate, we encourage volunteers to bring their Greyhounds to these special events.

For volunteers building skills and experience to enhance career opportunities or meet training course requirements, we can provide letters of service for your resume or course of study.