



Humane Society at Lakewood Ranch
26920 Gopher Hill Road
Myakka City, FL 34251
941-361-1071 www.hslwr.org

Volunteer Application and Release Form

Today's Date: ____/____/____

How did you hear about Volunteering at the HSLWR? _____

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email (Required): _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Emergency Contact Information:

Are you over 18 years of age? (Y/N)_____ If no, Age: _____

If you are under 18 years of age, do you have your parent's/guardian's permission (Y/N)? _____

If you are under 18 years of age, what is the name, phone #, and email address of your consenting parent/guardian (required):

Name: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

You are required to have your parents/guardian sign a release prior to volunteering.

If you are under 16 years of age, you must be accompanied by a parent, who will also serve as a volunteer. Has your parent/guardian agreed to volunteer with you? (Y/N) _____

If the name & address of the parent/guardian, that will be volunteering with you, is different than listed above, please provide the following information:

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email (Required): _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Are you a full-time or part-time Florida resident? _____

If you answered part-time, please provide the approximate dates you are in town:

Available months: _____

What experience do you have with animals?

Have you ever been bitten or attacked by a cat or dog? If yes, did it require medical attention? Explain:

Are you comfortable approaching & handling dogs and cats that you do not know? If not, please explain.

Do you understand that dogs & cats may be unpredictable & the HSLWR cannot guarantee that a dog or cat in our rescue won't become aggressive? (Y/N) _____

Are you willing to assume the risks involved in working with animals who are sometimes frightened, are in unfamiliar surroundings, and may become aggressive and/or bite/scratch you? (Y/N) _____

All of the Options for Volunteering are noted below. Please check those areas where you are interested in Volunteering.

SERVICES

- Kitty Kare:** Caring for the cats at our center. We have morning and evening shifts 7 days a week that include feeding, cleaning & playing with the cats. We also need 'cat cuddlers'.
- Dog Care:** Caring for the dogs at our center. We have 3 shifts: morning, noon afternoon/evening 7 days a week. The shifts include walking the dogs, feeding, cleaning & playing/training the dogs. Multiple levels of dog care positions are available.
- Adoption Counselors:** Working with prospective adopters throughout the adoption process: from qualifying the information, ensuring an appropriate match, providing final approval and completing the contract and follow-up. Special training is required.
- Animal Transporter:** Ability to transport dogs (of all sizes) and cats to and from the veterinarian or events, using the HSLWR van or your personal vehicle. You must have a valid driver's license, be in good standing, and have insurance.
- Adoption Events:** We participate in adoption events to get our dogs and cats greater exposure. These events need to have volunteer involvement and require transporting the animals to and from the events and help with setting up and tearing down. Must be 16 years of age or older.
- Outreach/Education:** We occasionally hold educational outreach programs with schools & other organizations. The hours for events vary by event.

REVENUE/INCOME

- **Fundraising/Special Events:** As a non-profit organization, we are always seeking creative & artistic volunteers who can help us generate ideas for ways to raise funds and assist in executing those events. Some aspects may require special training.
- **Grant Writing:** We need volunteers who are experienced, or willing to acquire the expertise, in writing grants to seek funding for various aspects of the HSLWR. This requires an awareness of the legal, regulatory & financial requirements necessary to develop effective grant materials.

MARKETING/COMMUNICATION

- **Online Resources (Website, Email, Facebook, Twitter, etc.):** Volunteers are needed to create, monitor & maintain all online content & resources to ensure they effectively & efficiently promote HSLWR and its brand, logo & activities (including the adoptable pets). Knowledge & expertise in web development, graphic arts & efficient use of social networking tools would be helpful.
- **Written Resources (Newspaper, Newsletter, Ads):** We need volunteers who can create written material & marketing collateral which advertises, informs & educates the community, donors, sponsors & volunteers about HSLWR. Experience & contacts in preparing information for publication in local media would be a plus.

ADMINISTRATION

- **Financial Support:** We need volunteers who are experienced in developing & maintaining financial reporting processes & procedures. Knowledge of Excel, Quicken/Quick Books is preferable. Expertise in non-profit requirements would be desirable, but not mandatory.
- **IT Expertise & Database Support:** We need volunteers with IT expertise who can configure & maintain the technology infrastructure encompassing internet usage (website, email, Facebook, online sales, etc.), telecommunications requirements, online databases & applications (PetFinder.com, PetPoint, Adopt-A-Pet, Mail Chimp, & the Donor database/application). Also required are data input volunteers to update files, generate reports & output.
- **Volunteer Coordination:** This entails organizing & coordinating all volunteer information, as well as scheduling the resources necessary to support all facets of HSLWR. We also look for people to be part of the Volunteer Committee to gain, train, and retain volunteers.
- **Reception Desk:** We need volunteers to represent the HSLWR at the Reception Desk to greet the public, answer phones & email, show cats to prospective adopters, coordinate with Dog Adoption Team, and respond to and resolve questions/requests from the public. Light office work and computer use required.

ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEER AREAS

Is there another area of volunteering that you are interested in – a skill, interest, or talent that you would like to share? If yes, please elaborate:

Is there anything else you would like us to know?

VOLUNTEER RELEASE

I am requesting a volunteer position with the Humane Society at Lakewood Ranch. I agree to read and follow the rules and guidelines of the organization. I agree not to hold any Director, Board Member, employee or any other individual personally or otherwise responsible in the event that I sustain personal, financial, emotional or property loss/damage, while servicing the organization. I agree to follow the supervision of all persons involved in volunteer management. I understand that as a volunteer I am an important representative of the Humane Society and must do my best to represent the organization in a manner that is consistent with its articles, by-laws, guidelines and philosophies. I have read and understand this volunteer release. I agree to adhere to its entirety. If I am a minor, my parent/guardian has also read, agreed and signed this release. I understand that I/my guardian will be required to sign a separate Humane Society at Lakewood Ranch Volunteer Waiver, Release of Liability, and Hold Harmless Agreement.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____

If under 18 years of age:

Print Name of Parent/Guardian:

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Date: _____

Updated: 11/2020



Humane Society at Lakewood Ranch

Volunteer Waiver, Release of Liability, and Hold Harmless Agreement

This Waiver, Release of Liability, and Hold Harmless Agreement (“Agreement”) is executed on _____, 20____ by _____ (“Volunteer”) and Humane Society at Lakewood Ranch, its directors, officers, and agents (collectively known as “HSLWR”).

I desire to volunteer at the HSLWR and engage in animal shelter activities. I further understand that animal shelter activities may include, but are not limited to, handling animals, cleaning cages, walking dogs, attending offsite adoption and fundraising events, participating in fundraising/food/supply drives, soliciting donations, working at HSLWR locations, assisting in the display and adoption of animals at various locations, transporting animals from one location to another (if of legal driving age and having a valid license and insurance), and other duties and activities as necessary.

I am at least 18 years of age. (If Volunteer is a minor, a parent or guardian must also sign, as evidence of acknowledgment and acceptance of Agreement.)

I acknowledge and understand that working as a Volunteer requires the following capabilities:

- Use of both hands simultaneously with levels of manual dexterity to leash/harness animals;
- Ability to walk unaided on uneven, rugged, and sometimes slippery surfaces and lawn areas;
- Ability to bend, squat, pick up, and stand for significant periods of time while walking dogs and assisting the public.
- Possess average vision to move safely throughout HSLWR facilities and property;
- Ability to hear animals growling or making sounds indicating fear or pain;
- Ability to communicate effectively;
- Ability to handle animals both small and large with extreme caution and care;
- A tolerance for chemicals used in grooming and cleaning;
- An immune system strong enough to tolerate exposure to zoonotic diseases, such as ringworm and mange.
- Ability to follow instructions and procedures;

- Ability to assess potentially dangerous situations when working with animals and react appropriately in these situations.

Initial

I hereby voluntarily execute this Agreement under the following terms:

Assumption of Risk

I fully understand that volunteering at HSLWR includes activities that may be hazardous, including, but not limited to: handling frightened animals; cleaning feces, urine and vomit; being bitten and/or scratched; moving cages and crates; bending, stooping, lifting; walking and transporting animals; transporting equipment; and other activities involved in the handling of animals or setting up for events.

I hereby expressly and specifically assume the risk of any injury and harm resulting from engaging in any activities at HSLWR. I further release HSLWR from any and all liability from injury, illness, death or property damage or loss resulting from the activities directly or indirectly and shall forever hold harmless and indemnify HSLWR from the same.

Initial

Release and Waiver

I do hereby release and forever discharge, hold harmless, and indemnify HSLWR and its successors and assigns from any and all liability, claims, suits and demands of whatever kind of nature, either in law or in equity, which arise or may hereinafter arise from my activities with HSLWR.

Initial

Medical Treatment

I do hereby release, hold harmless, indemnify and forever discharge HSLWR from any claim whatsoever which arises because of any first aid, medical treatment, or medical services rendered in connection with my activities with HSLWR.

Initial

Photographic/Video Release

I do hereby grant and convey unto HSLWR all rights, title, and interest into any and all photographs, images, video and audio recordings made by HSLWR during my activities with HSLWR including, but not limited to, any royalties, donations, proceeds or other benefits derived from such photographs or video recordings. I further permit HSLWR to publish said images, recordings and videos at will on its website(s), social media site(s), marketing materials, and in other media for advertising, and other use as HSLWR deems appropriate in its sole discretion.

Initial

I expressly agree that this Agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the laws of the State of Florida, and that this Agreement shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida. In the event that any clause or provision of this Agreement is held to be invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity of such clause or provision shall not otherwise affect the remaining provisions of this Agreement, which shall continue to be enforceable.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read, understand, and execute this Agreement.

Date _____

Volunteer

Date _____

Volunteer's Parent or Guardian

Human Society at Lakewood Ranch

By: _____

Date _____



Assumption of Risk, Release of Liability, Covenant to Hold Harmless, and Indemnification to Relating to COVID-19

The novel coronavirus, COVID-19, has been declared a worldwide pandemic by the WHO. COVID-19 is extremely contagious and can be deadly, is believed to spread from person-to-person contact, is not always symptomatic with individuals who are infected, may repeatedly infect the same individual, may lie dormant on and be transmitted for prolonged periods of time by individuals and physical objects. As a result, federal, state, and local governments and health agencies recommend a variety of preventative measures that may be inconsistent with our voluntary participation, affiliation with HSLWR, LLC and its volunteers, premises; have prohibited or recommended against groups of people and close or interpersonal contact; and have urged caution when utilizing the shelter.

Because of COVID-19 is dangerous and contagious, we understand HSLWR cannot guarantee that anyone who comes on the premises or after leaving do not become infected with COVID-19

By signing this document, I acknowledge the contagious and dangerous nature of COVID-19 and its associated risks and knowingly, freely, and voluntarily assume the risk that I, my spouse, heirs, assigns, agents, and/or other individuals I encounter may be exposed to or infected by Covid-19 through my involvement with HSLWR. That such exposure or infection may result in personal or bodily injury, emotional injury, illness, permanent or temporary disability, loss of income or business, loss of reputation, property damage, and/or death to those individuals.

By signing this document, I (on behalf of myself, my agents, spouse, legal representatives, errors, assigns, and beneficiaries) knowingly, freely, and voluntarily release, hold harmless, discharge, covenant not to sue, and agree to indemnify Humane Society at Lakewood Ranch, LLC and any related agent client, shareholder, independent contractors, ensure, employee, attorney, director, vendor, or any other individual or entity related to it or otherwise, for any injury, loss, cause of bodily harm, damage of any kind, emotional injury, sickness in, illness, or impact on other known, unknown dormant, or pre-existing conditions, loss of well-being, death, loss of business or income, property damage, or other impact to myself or any other person, directly or indirectly related to COVID-19 or my affiliation, participation, involvement, or utilization of Humane Society at Lakewood Ranch , LLC its premises, or otherwise, for any reason or no reason.

By signing this document, that no one has pressured, forced, or coerced me to execute this, and that it shall be affective as the date signed below and may not be revoked or amended without the express written consent of Humane Society at Lakewood Ranch, LLC.

_____	_____	_____
Printed Name of Releasee	Signature of Releasee	Date

If Releasee is under 18 years of age

_____	_____	_____
Printed Name of Releasees	Signature of Releasee's	Date
Parent/Guardian	Parent/Guardian	