

## Volunteer Position Description

**Position:** Dog Walker

**Department:** Kennels

Volunteer Program Coordinator	
<b>Name:</b>	Stella Molloy
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**Location:** 12 Kirkpatrick Street Weston ACT 2611

**Hours:** Daily 8.30am-10.30am or 1.30pm-3.30pm

### About the Position

Dog walkers provide dogs within the shelter stimulation and exercise, which is crucial for the dogs' physical and mental well-being. We house up to 50 dogs and puppies at any given time, with the majority of the dogs coming in through our Inspectorate, arriving as strays, surrenders, emergency boarding and Inspector seized.

### Key Duties

- Walking and supporting the training program with dogs on designated paths around the RSPCA shelter
- Spending some off-lead time in the exercise yards with toys playing games, socialising and training
- Spending time in the kennels with the dogs with general socialisation

### Skills & Qualities

- Experience with dogs; experience with medium-large sized breeds would be an advantage
- The ability to safely handle large, strong, boisterous dogs
- Willingness to take direction
- A fitness level that allows for two hours of walking, including over uneven terrain
- Positive and upbeat attitude
- Ability to safely supervise and participate in additional yard-time/ kennel socialising, where required

### Benefits

- Interaction with dogs and puppies
- Increased knowledge of canine behaviour and handling
- Participation in a worthwhile cause

### Mission

To prevent cruelty to animals by actively promoting their care and protection.

### Vision

To be the leading authority in animal care and protection.

### About RSPCA ACT

RSPCA ACT cares thousands of animals each year. Our Canberra shelter is a leader in animal welfare outcomes in Australia. We are committed to finding a home for every healthy companion animal and we have no time limits, age limits, or space limits for animals in our care.

RSPCA ACT operates an animal shelter, an animal cruelty inspectorate, a fully equipped veterinary clinic, a pet supply store, dog training classes a cat boarding facility and programs to support vulnerable members of the community. We are supported by dedicated staff and hundreds of volunteers who work to improve the lives of animals in the region.

### Induction and training

- Compulsory attendance to a two-hour information and induction session
- Practical training module with a member of staff

### Additional requirements

- Compliance with RSPCA training techniques
- Uniform Compliance
- Tetanus vaccinations up to date
- Working with Vulnerable People Registration
- Six-month minimum commitment

## Dog Walkers – Task Analysis

The role of a walker requires a high level of fitness and strength and the ability to walk on uneven surfaces in all-weather conditions. Walkers must be able to walk independently and with minimal supervision.

Description	Requirement	Regularly/irregularly	Additional Information
Manual Handling	1. Strength – Push/Pull	Regularly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Controlling dogs who may be pulling on leads and harnesses</li> </ul>
	2. Fitness	Regularly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walking for periods of up to two hours with dogs in all weather conditions on uneven surfaces</li> </ul>
Work Environment	3. Works Outdoors	Regularly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exposure to weather – sun, wind, rain, heat and cold weather</li> </ul>
	4. Exposure to biological hazards	Irregularly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zoonotic diseases</li> </ul>
	5. Exposure to risk of animal scratches and bites	Irregularly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
	6. Exposure to psychosocial risks	Irregularly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sick or injured animals</li> <li>• Euthanasia</li> </ul>