

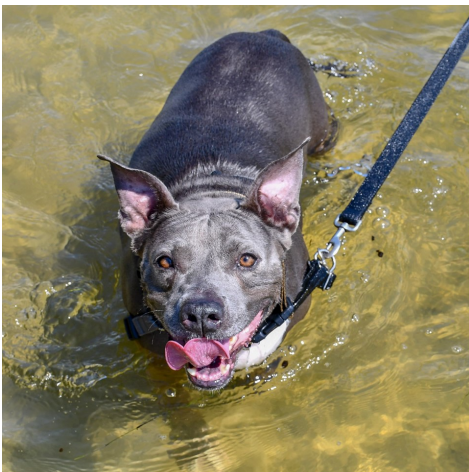
Purple Dog Volunteer Meeting

Proactive vs. Reactive Care

With a constant caseload of “behavior” animals, we need the help of all upper level volunteers to provide **proactive care** for the animals. Proactive care allows us to delay behavioral deterioration and even *improve* frustration-elicited behaviors that have already developed. We believe that we can progress from “treading water” to really “swimming,” but we can only do it with your help!



SHELTER NAME dogs should be proficient in basic obedience and receive playgroups daily.



We value each and every trainer at the Purple Level and consider you Behavior & Training Department team members! We simply cannot implement the daily training, behavior modification, playgroups, and enrichment that each dog deserves at SHELTER NAME without *your* help.

Thank you for attending this meeting on Purple Level Volunteer expectations. Please contact the Behavior & Training Department with any questions **CONTACT INFO**.

Expectations

Set an example. Volunteering at the Purple Level comes with great responsibility that is not to be taken lightly. Responsibilities include:

- Coaching other volunteers to handle SHELTER NAME dogs defensively
- Remain open to coaching from others. *We are all always learning!*
- Teaching other volunteers to perform constructive training exercises
- Exercising defensive handling techniques
- If you see something, say something!
- **Every interaction with a shelter dog should contribute to training progress or enrichment**
- Beat the heat by training in the INDOOR SPACE NAMES.
- *Thank you, Mentors!*

Document all session notes. As a Purple Level Volunteer, all of your interactions with the shelter dogs should be documented in Petpoint as a Memo and/or Care Activity. Keeping shorthand notes on a Smartphone is helpful! You can then enter them before you clock out. *Care Activities quantify the work that we all do! This data is presented to the Board of Directors monthly.*

Conduct kennel exercises. Conduct constructive kennel exercises. Train automatic sits and downs on your approach. This should be done before every training session.

Provide regular offsite training. Training offsite offers a valuable reduction in stress levels. Photograph, video, FB Live, etc!

Ensure all long-term dogs have reliable basic obedience skills. Currently, dogs that have been onsite for 30+ days **do not** have a strong knowledge of the following:

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Touch (hand targeting) | • Stay |
| • Sit | • Wait |
| • Down | • Leave it |
| • Come | • Drop it |
| • Watch me | • Loose leash walking |

Initiate new playgroup pairings. Rather than rely on established playgroups, strive to work with dogs that have not participated in playgroups regularly. Our goal should be to

offer playgroup or a constructive dog/dog desensitization session to *every dog, every day!*
This is not occurring at this time.

Frequently review Trello, CORE, Petpoint, and/or the Communication Board for case updates. *Are these communication methods effective? Do you have a preference for learning about new behavior modification needs?*

Current Behavior Cases

Florence. Advanced under socialization. *Currently in foster care.*

Tori. Reactive behavior toward children. Hyper-arousal. *Currently in foster care.*

Donald. LOS. Mild altercations noted toward other dogs in foster home.

Maryanne. Resource guarding observed in former home.

Ma Barker. Strained dog/dog interactions.

Fonzi. Rough, forward dog interactions. Aggression toward other dog noted in adoptive home.

Additional Notes From Discussion

- Standard behavior modification protocols can be found in Trello, the Volunteer Hub, and on the CORE page
- An Offsite Outing guide with suggestions on where to take a shelter dog can be located on the Volunteer Hub and the CORE page
- Upper level volunteers should be encouraged to remind Blue Level volunteers to manage their leashes correctly (no wrapping on wrist, don't allow the entire leash to be extended, etc.)
- Volunteers are encouraged to shadow other volunteers and staff members to grow more comfortable running playgroups. *Sundays are good days for playgroup shadowing!*