



# PAW PALS JR.

## **VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**

WELCOME TO OUR VOLUNTEER  
PROGRAM

# 🌟 **Make a Difference, Even If You're Little!**

Do your kids want to help shelter animals? Paw Pals Jr. is a special volunteer program just for kids ages 5–11, where they can make a BIG impact on the lives of shelter pets—alongside their parent or guardian. Our junior volunteers help with important behind-the-scenes tasks that keep our animals healthy, happy, and ready to be adopted. While these young volunteers won't work hands-on with large dogs (for safety reasons), they'll still be part of the team that helps care for them!

When a child turns 12, they can graduate to our full volunteer program, where they'll receive additional training and can start helping more directly with the animals.

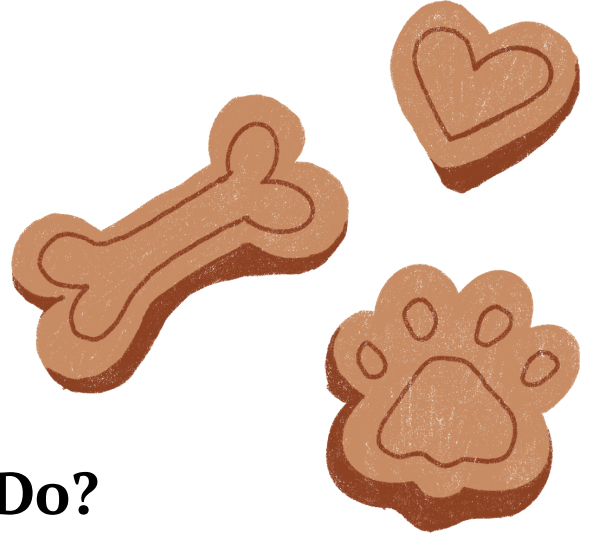
## **Who Can Join?**

**Kids ages 5 to 11**


**Must be accompanied by a parent or guardian the entire time**

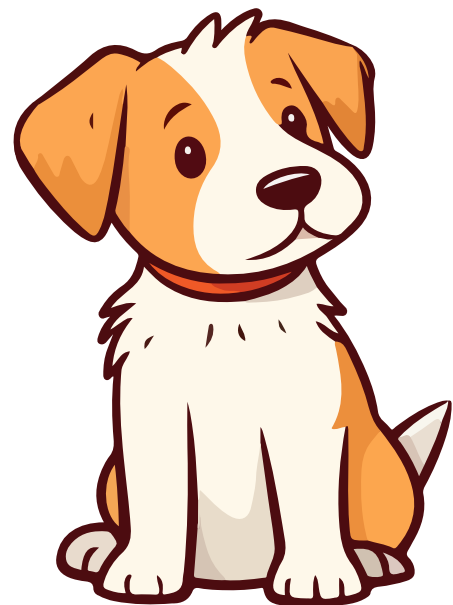
**No more than 2 children per adult is allowed for safety reasons**

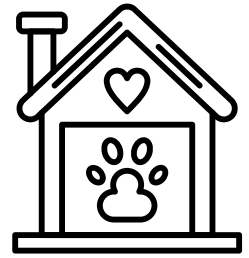




## **What Can Junior Volunteers Do?**

- ✓ Help with laundry (cleaning blankets, beds, and towels)
  - ✓ Wash food and water bowls
  - ✓ Make enrichment treats and toys for the animals
  - ✓ Hand out treats (with staff guidance)
  - ✓ Reading to the animals
  - ✓ Sweep and tidy walkways and common areas
-  **Safety Note:** Junior Volunteers will be allowed in animal areas, but they will not have hands-on interaction with large dogs or animals under behavior review.





## **What Should You Wear?**

- Closed-toe shoes are a must — think sneakers, not sandals
- Clothes should be comfortable and easy to wash (you may get messy!)
- No spaghetti straps, crop tops, or offensive graphics
- Long pants are recommended to protect legs
- Long hair should be tied back
- Lanyards will be provided for identification while on site.

## **Volunteer Conduct & Expectations**

As a shelter open to the public, we want every customer — and every animal — to feel welcome, safe, and cared for.

We ask that Paw Pals Jr. volunteers and their adults:

Use kind voices and calm behavior inside the shelter

Follow all staff instructions carefully

Be respectful to staff, animals, other volunteers, and visitors

Stay positive — your attitude helps animals find homes!

Treat this like a job: be dependable, show up on time, and be ready to help

Volunteers are ambassadors for CCAS — your teamwork and attitude help create a great experience for everyone!



## **Graduation to Full Volunteer Program**


Once your child turns 12, they'll be eligible for our full volunteer program! That includes:

- ✨ Extra training
- ✨ A full tour
- ✨ More hands-on experiences with dogs and cats
- ✨ The chance to become a full Volunteer Crew member!

## **Ready to Get Started?**

Becoming a Paw Pals Jr. volunteer is easy!

 Email: [aorgan@cumberlandcountync.gov](mailto:aorgan@cumberlandcountync.gov)

 Call: 910-438-4050

We'll help you schedule your first visit and show your child just how awesome it feels to help shelter pets.

*We ♥ our  
Volunteers*

# **Paw Pals Jr. Family Pledge**

Cumberland County Animal Services



As a Family, We Promise To:

Follow all shelter rules to keep people and pets safe

Always supervise our child during volunteer time

Wear proper clothes and shoes for safety and cleanliness

Arrive on time and let staff know if we can't make it

Support one another with kindness, patience, and teamwork



As a Junior Volunteer, I Will:

Be respectful to animals, staff, and visitors

Use calm voices and gentle behavior in the shelter

Listen carefully and follow directions

Stay positive and helpful, even when jobs aren't glamorous

Always try my best to help make pets feel safe and loved



As a Team, We Understand:

Junior Volunteers will not work directly with large dogs

Volunteering is about helping the animals, even if we can't touch them

Our attitude matters — happy helpers create a happy shelter!

💙 Together, we're proud to be part of Paw Pals Jr. — helping pets and learning how to care!

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (Adult): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

