

POSITION DESCRIPTION



Department: Community Services
Position: Pets and Wellbeing Service (PAWS) Volunteer
Reports to: Social Inclusion Coordinator - Aged Care and Inclusion Team
Time Commitment: Monday – Friday (8am - 6pm); Saturday (8am – 12pm): 30-60 mins per walk.

NORTHSIDE COMMUNITY SERVICE VISION, MISSION AND VALUES					
Vision: A fair and inclusive community					
Mission: Providing exceptional services that support people to improve their lives					
Values:	Courage	Integrity	Choice	Innovation	Collaboration

POSITION OBJECTIVE

At Northside we know that healthy pets and healthy clients go hand in hand. Our volunteers provide a weekly dog walking service to ensure the happiness, health and wellbeing of pet owners and their four legged friends. Paws volunteers make regular visits to the homes of PAWS participants to provide dog walking and other animal care duties. Volunteers and clients arrange to meet at mutually agreed times and notify Northside of any changes to the participant support plan.

Volunteers must have the ability to work and communicate with a diverse range of older Canberrans from various backgrounds. We seek independent volunteers with the willingness to learn, apply patience and adapt to the various challenges that may arise.

KEY PAWS VOLUNTEER REPONSIBILITIES

- Visit the homes of PAWS participants 1-3 times per week, 30-60 mins per walk.
- Arrange to meet at mutually agreed times and notify Northside of any changes to the participant support plan.
- Provide social support to PAWS participants.
- Respect the decisions and independence of PAWS participants related to the care and wellbeing of their pet and all other tasks.
- Conduct each visit in a professional, competent and caring manner.
- Contact staff immediately if you have any concerns relating to the health or wellbeing of program participants or their pets.
- Complete a monthly visitation report and provide feedback by completing a quarterly evaluation report.
- Follow all guidelines, policies and procedures provided by Northside.
- Uphold the values of commitment and reliability while respecting the confidentiality and privacy of program participants at all times.
- Complete Volunteer Induction and Training.

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REQUIREMENTS OF THE POSITION

- Hold a current *Working with Vulnerable People Card*.
- Be willing to undergo a *Police Check*.
- Be capable of travelling to client's homes.
- Ability to work and communicate with a diverse range of people from various backgrounds, including older citizens.
- Experience with animals desirable but not necessary.
- Ability to work independently and take responsibility for own actions and behaviour and how this impacts on others.

BENEFITS OF VOLUNTEERING@NORTHSIDE

- Play a significant role in improving social and health outcomes for older Canberrans and their pets.
- Develop your own social support skills and gain skills and experience in animal care.
- Attain references to be used for work or other relevant applications.
- Opportunities to access the training and development activities offered by Northside.
- Kilometre reimbursement.
- Be part of the dedicated, caring and supportive Northside team!

CONTACT US

To express interest, please do not hesitate to contact Clinton our volunteer coordinator via:

- Email: volunteer@northside.asn.au
- Phone: 6171 8028