Volunteer Orientation

Halifax Humane Society

Welcome to the team!

Karina

Director of Volunteer Services

"I have over 20 years of experience building programs and high-functioning teams. I began my career working with Fortune 50 companies and most recently moved from the private sector to nonprofit organizations. It is where I belong. Outside of work, I spend my time with my husband, Chris, and our son, Logan. We love traveling, sports, and making the world a better place. "

Chris

Open Paw Volunteer Manager

Born in Jacksonville, FL.
Raised in Birmingham, AL.
Brooklyn, NY for 10 years.

Previously served as Assistant Manager – Park Maintenance at Central Park and developed volunteer programs centered around litter mitigation, trail maintenance, and habitat restoration.

Who we are

Vision:

A world where pets and people live happy, healthy lives together.

Mission:

The Halifax Humane Society exists to protect animals from cruel, neglectful, and exploitative treatment.

You Belong !

We are built on the belief that all people are equally deserving of the love and companionship of a pet, Halifax Humane Society's work is rooted in compassion and equality.

There is no place for hate, racism, or intolerance. As animal welfare professionals, we must always remember to keep the human in humane.

Our History

The Halifax Humane Society was founded in the early 1930s and was officially incorporated as the Daytona Beach Humane Society of Volusia County in 1937.

The first headquarters was created in 1939 and included a business office, living quarters, and kennels for the animals.

In 2019, Halifax Humane Society unveiled its renovated adoption center, which is now known as the Lohman Adoption Center.

In the fall of 2024, the Open Paw program was officially adopted in the shelter.

The first official Shelter Medicine program was established in 2025.

Open Paw Methodology

Open Paw's mission is to give people and their pets the tools they need to develop a successful relationship with one another and their communities.

The goal is to prevent the surrender, abandonment, and euthanasia of unwanted animals by making sure that they do not become unwanted.

Open Paw Goals

Education: Educate staff, volunteers, and the community about animal behavior and care.

Elevate Shelters: Turn every animal shelter into place where the community can go to learn about animals, including gaining basic training and behavior skills to increase adoption.

Opportunities: Training methods – cues and method training, leash handling, training walks-private, safe handling, kitten care, cat socialization, and many more!

Locations & Hours

Lohman Pet Adoption Center
(Main Campus)

2364 LPGA Blvd.
Daytona Beach, FL 32124
12 pm to 6 pm
Monday to Saturday

(On Sundays, please ask a Volunteer Manager for parking instructions)

Halifax Humane Society Spay & Neuter Clinic

600 Mason Avenue, Suite #150
Daytona Beach, FL 32117
7:30 am to 6 pm
Wednesday to Saturday

Halifax Humane Society Thrift Store

385 S. Yonge Street
Ormond Beach, FL 32174
9 am to 6 pm Monday to Saturday

Volunteer Programs

- Open Paw Behavior & Training
- Community Engagement
- Animal Sheltering
- Veterinary Services

Halifax Humane Society

Open Paw

Open Paw is a manners and skills training program for shelter pets. The goal for Open Paw is to help dogs and cats get adopted into new homes and keep those pets in their homes.

- Potty Walks
- Kong Kitchen
- Cat Socialization
- Enrichment
- Skills & Manners
- Kitten Care Assistant
- Leash Handling Training
- Real Life Experiences

Community Engagement

Opportunities: Photo shoot support, shelter laundry, and orientation.

We host community fundraisers and educational events. Our events and community outreach volunteers, support staff, and represent the mission of the Halifax Humane Society.

- Mutt Strut Festival
- Furball Gala
- Retail and donation support at the Halifax Humane Society Thrift Store

Animal Shelter

Volunteering in the animal shelter is one of the most exciting and rewarding experiences at Halifax Humane Society. Opportunities in this program area include participating in every aspect of shelter operations, helping with pet adoptions at both shelter and off-site locations, staffing the front desk, photo shoots to promote pet adoptions, promoting Petco Love Lost, our lost and found service, ensuring the shelter's laundry needs are met, and assisting in our retail pet supply store.

Vet Services

Spaying and neutering dogs and cats to prevent homeless puppies and kittens is provided at both our public clinic and at our shelter location. We offer volunteer opportunities in both clinics. As a volunteer, you help clean and prep surgery instrument packs, help with laundry, and even help monitor pets as they recover from surgery.

Our foster home program is managed by the Veterinary Services team. Fostering is a critical part of saving the lives of homeless and abandoned animals in our community.

Policies

Halifax Humane Society

Volunteer Commitment

Support the Halifax Humane Society's mission by being an ambassador.

Follow our policies (dress code, attendance, and code of conduct) and embrace the Open Paw training and skills program.

Have access to email & internet to check for updates & opportunities.

Utilize the training provided to ensure your safety and that of the animals.

You Make the Difference

Building 600 Kongs, going on 450 potty walks and 150 training walks daily, and providing all our animals with positive socialization, ensuring adoptability!

We couldn’t do what we do without YOU!

Volunteer Benefits

- Join a team of friendly, respectful, and professional animal enthusiasts.
- Gain access to professionally developed animal behavior training.
- Being the lifeline to our shelter and providing our animals an enriched experience (KONGs, potty walks, vet services, and cat care.)
- Making a positive and lasting impact on Halifax Humane Society, the staff, and our animals.

Attendance Policy

- Please avoid making a commitment that you may be unable to fulfill or take on responsibilities for which you feel unqualified.
- If you need to cancel or reschedule, log into Galaxy Digital and cancel your shift(s) This makes it available for other volunteers.
- Volunteers who no-show more than 3 times may be removed from the program.

We count on you and can't do it without you!

Dress Code

Casual workplace appropriate clothing:

- Volunteer shirt and name tag.
- No short-shorts, skirts or other exposing attire. No rips, fading, or frays.
- Closed toe shoes are required.
- Long pants are required when conducting potty/dog walks. Avoid leggings, or thin material.
- Attire that includes offensive language, religious, or political statements is not permitted.

Each special event will have its own dress code and will be detailed in the description displayed on Galaxy Digital. While most special events are casual, our signature Furball event is formal. Specific information will be provided for each volunteer position.

Shelter Safety

Animals in a shelter environment do NOT behave like animals in a home environment.

- Do not stick fingers/hands/face into kennels.
- Pay attention to the body language of the animal.
- Ask staff before interacting with an animal.
- Read EVERYTHING: Kennels, job descriptions, and emails.
- Follow guidelines for dog walking.
- Approach all animals with care.
- Report ALL injuries immediately to supervisor on duty.
- Important: please fill out an incident report.

Next Steps

- Complete your Galaxy Digital profile.
- Review and sign up for upcoming opportunities and volunteer trainings.
- Remember to log and validate your hours.
- Join our volunteer Facebook page.
- First time? Check-in at the volunteer office.

From what was discussed today, where do you see yourself volunteering?

Galaxy Digital

Your gateway into all things volunteering

You can login to your account through the website. This will provide you access to "opportunities".

Our opportunities are all the amazing ways you can volunteer your time. You will also have insight to upcoming events that we would love to see you at, and any updates from our team.

How to unregister:

Step 1: Log into your Galaxy Digital Profile and click “Volunteer Resume”

Step 2: Click the tab that says “Opportunity Responses”

Step 3: Click on the drop down on the right side that says “Select an action” then click “Unregister” then “Yes”

We're all so happy you're here with us.

Halifax Humane Society

Thank you and welcome!