

Title: Regional Advocacy Field Team (RAFT) Volunteer

Department: Government Relations

#### **ASPCA Contacts:**

Audrey Tamez, Director, Legislative Engagement Kathryn Kopanke, Senior Manager of Outreach Kelly Glascoff, Outreach Manager

Salary Grade: Volunteer

### **Volunteer Position Details**

# Volunteer Title:

Regional Advocacy Field Team (RAFT) Volunteer

#### Location:

Locations for opportunities are communicated when the need for volunteers arises. Most volunteer activities can be conducted from home, but some may require travel within or around the state as the volunteer is able.

#### Days/Dates/Times:

Year-round. Dates of specific opportunities are communicated when the need for volunteers arises, with possible higher levels of activity for state legislation January through May. Some opportunities will be on-going throughout the year.

#### Time Commitment:

We ask our volunteers to commit to a minimum of six month and potentially up to two hours per month.

#### Age:

18 years and older; exceptions for younger advocates may be made on a case-by-case basis when an adult will assist and monitor the volunteer activities.

### Volunteer Responsibility Summary:

RAFT is a national volunteer program for volunteers who will work hand-in-hand with the District Captain in their area to actively engage on ASPCA priority legislation. RAFT Volunteers will work in coordination with ASPCA Legislative Engagement Team and the closest ASPCA District Captain Volunteer to support priority animal welfare legislation through grassroots advocacy. Tasks may include:

- Organizing and participating in phone banking projects
- Drafting and submitting letters to the editors of your local newspapers
- Attending and helping to organize advocacy events
- Driving social media advocacy campaigns
- Supporting ballot measure work
- Sending personal letters to their legislators

When engaged in an active project, volunteers must keep the Government Relations staff informed as to their progress. Volunteers are also strongly encouraged to attend a monthly webinar conference presented by ASPCA staff to receive updates on overall work.

# Requirements/Skills Needed (Certificates, Animal Handling Experience, etc.):

- High levels of flexibility and professionalism
- An appreciation for the incremental nature of policymaking and enthusiasm to make a difference working within the system
- Willingness to work flexible hours
- Excellent communication skills (phone and writing)
- Ability to use and comfort with basic computer technology and social media (Microsoft Word and Excel, online webinars, Facebook, Twitter)
- Passion and excitement!

# Training Provided:

- All new volunteers must attend an online webinar orientation upon joining RAFT
  - The webinar will cover volunteer code of conduct, ASPCA priority legislation, and tips for utilizing their advocacy to the highest benefit to animals.
- Upon selection, each RAFT will gain access to online webinar orientations, factsheets, and training materials, as well as information on how to implement effective tools for creating change.
- RAFT members will engage in monthly RAFT calls with members of the ASPCA's Government Relations team to deepen their understanding of the legislative process.

#### How to apply:

- Fill out the RAFT Volunteer Application Form which can be found here: www.aspca.org/raft
- Applications are reviewed and processed on a rolling basis.

For questions or more information, please email Kelly Glascoff at kelly.glascoff@aspca.org