

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Supervisor Roy Wilson

SUBMITTAL DATE:
7/17/2006

SUBJECT: Junior Teen Volunteer Program

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

- 1) Approve the Department of Animals Services Junior Teen Volunteer Program

Departmental Concurrence

BACKGROUND: Traditionally, Riverside County Volunteers are 16 years of age or older. In the humane animal community there is a tradition to have volunteers who are 13-15 years of age who are tied to responsible adult volunteers or staff to allow young people interested in animals to maintain and develop their interest, by providing age appropriate volunteer activities (see Attachment A) performed under the direct mentorship of adult volunteers or staff. This opportunity allows us to reach children in formative years to promote the message of humane treatment of animals. It is proposed that all youth who enroll in the JTVP be assessed by the Volunteer Coordinator. Parents will need to be present at the interview and sign a waiver of liability for participation. The Department of Animal Services will not rely solely on the age of the youth to decide their participation or which activities they will be trained to perform, as some children are more mature than others. JTVP volunteers will be provided training for all functions that will be performed and will be limited to performing specific tasks. Contact with animals will be limited to small pets such as hamster, rabbits, and guinea pigs; as well as to puppies and kittens and in some cases adult cats.

Roy Wilson

FINANCIAL DATA	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$ 0	In Current Year Budget:	N/A
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$ 0	Budget Adjustment:	N/A
	Annual Net County Cost:	\$ 0	For Fiscal Year:	06/07

Dept't Recomm.: Consent Policy

Per Exec. Ofc.: Consent Policy

Prev. Agn. Ref.: | District: All | Agenda Number:

Junior Teen Volunteer Program

(13-15 years of age)

Here's your chance to be part of a program created just for you. While volunteering at the Department of Animal Services, you can learn about all the interesting things we do to assist the pets in our care on a daily basis. It is mandatory that you wear your name badge and JTVP t-shirt when you are performing your volunteer service.

- **Greeting customers:** in the front lobby or the halls, approach customers and ask if they need any assistance
- **Escort customers through kennels or catteries:** this is to assist customers who are looking for the right pet, or helping them to learn how to find their lost pet
- **Unfolding newspapers:** this helps the kennel staff when cleaning cat cages
- **Pet Detective:** help customers match lost dog/cat flyers with their dog/cat information, look through newspaper and our lost and found board, advise customers on how to best locate their pet (inform them about importance of micro-chipping their pet)
- **Cleaning the glass:** you would be surprised at how dirty the glass gets in the cat viewing areas
- **Lost and Found Board:** Make sure the lost and found board is tidy and up to date
- **Assist clerical:** the inserting of notices of license renewals takes lots of time and is very important
- **Breed characteristics:** learn about breeds of dogs and cats to better inform customers if they have questions
- **Adoption Packets:** every pet that gets adopted needs an adoption package and you can assist the Adoption Counselors in doing these
- **Work with Pocket Pets, Puppies and Kittens, etc.:** you will have the chance to work with hamsters, guinea pigs, rabbits, puppies cats and kittens once you have been trained

Remember, outside the shelter, you can also help. Collection of towels, blankets and sheets from neighbors and friends, Pennies for Pets (through your school), Adoption Packet materials for merit patches through Girl Scouts.

Thank you for your interest in assisting to help the animals in our care. Anything that you can do is very much appreciated.

Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Department of Animal Service to guide our business practices according to the best interests of the animals within our care and the public we serve. We promote safe, healthy and humane human/animal coexistence through public education, humane sheltering, responsible pet placement, progressive law enforcement and pet overpopulation reduction.

Dated July 17 2006