

## Volunteer Roles with DC Dogos Inc

DC Dogos Inc is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization focused on saving the lives of Dogo Argentinos. The only way we can do this is with the help of volunteers who also have the vision to help this beautiful breed. We know that there are kind people who have strengths and capabilities to fill various roles within the rescue. Below is a brief description of the different roles we need filled. Interested volunteers are encouraged to submit a volunteer application for one or more of the roles they feel is something they can do to help!

### CASE MANAGER

Case managers facilitate what it takes to get this dog from being saved to being placed in a home. Volunteers in this position serve as the main point of contact for a particular Dogo within their region. You must have the ability to coordinate and organize all efforts needed to help the Dogo. Volunteers in this role must be well organized, a good communicator, and be resourceful. Some duties included in this role include:

- Network Dogos within region; gather all info about the dog, be in contact with shelter/owner/finder.
- Help facilitate pulling the Dogo from shelter or current situation.
- Find foster, temp foster, or boarding options.
- Determine transport options, work with Transport Coordinator
- Main point of contact for the dog and facilitate all the needs to the proper coordinator/trainer/foster, etc.

We need Case Managers throughout the US. Below are the five different regions and the minimum number Case Managers (CMs) needed within each region. This is based on the current load of Dogos that circulate rescue within these areas.

<u>US REGION</u>	<u># CMs needed</u>
<b>NORTHEAST</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>MIDWEST</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>WEST</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>SOUTHWEST</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>SOUTH</b>	<b>4</b>



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### FOSTER COORDINATOR

We need several Foster Coordinators, ideally one or more in every region noted above. Volunteers in this position need to be a good judge of character and able to be diligent at screening people. You must be organized and able to keep track of fosters locations, limitations, availability, etc. Some of the duties include:

- Help find and screen potential short and long term fosters.
- Review the applications and submit your summary to the board for further review and approval.
- Serve as main point of contact for fosters with your region(s).

- Help connect fosters with proper personal within DC Dogos such as medical support, trainer, local vet, transporter, etc.
- Send fosters monthly medications and any other needed medication provided by the rescue.
- Send fosters paperwork for the Dogo they have.
- Send microchip to foster or verify microchip information and enter into system with updated rescue information.
- Obtain and input any paperwork foster may get regarding Dogo they have such as vet records, receipts, etc.
- Update and maintain database of fosters available.

### **APPLICATION REVIEWER**

We will need several volunteers in this role to keep up with the amount of applications that are received to foster, adopt, and volunteer. You must be able to keep up with emails and respond in a timely manner. Reviewers must also have a good judge of character and be resourceful in doing thorough checks on applicants. Some of the duties include:

- Receives and reviews applications to send to the Board for final determinations.
- Helps filter and submits opinion on applicants based on information provided.
- Contacts personal and vet references submitted by applicants.
- Responds to emails regarding applications.
- Communicates with applicants regarding approval or denials.
- Regularly correspond with the Board regarding applications and help ensure process moves forward in a timely manner.

### **TRANSPORT SCHEDULER**

Rescue transport can often be achieved at little to no cost. The goal is to get the Dogo transported safely as possible with consideration of their needs as top priority. You must be resourceful, organized, excellent communicator, and detail oriented. DC Dogos needs several volunteers to fill this role. Below are some of the duties that would be expected:

- Collaborates with Case Manager and parties involved to organize transport.
- Develop and distribute itinerary for transport including route, contact info, vehicle info, meeting locations, etc.
- Assure all paperwork is provided to transporter (vet records, health certificate, etc.)
- Locate and screen transporters throughout the US.
- Post and monitor transport option with volunteer pilots.
- Create a database of transporters.
- Serve as point of contact for transports.

## MEDICAL COORDINATOR

The Medical Coordinator should have a veterinary or medical background and able to help fosters and adopters as needed. This person will help guide fosters/adopters with medical concerns.

- Main point of contact for all medical issues.
- Collaborate with fosters, adopters, case managers, foster coordinators, etc.
- Recommend treatment or vet care based on seriousness of the case.
- Work with Case Manager and Foster/Adopter to help organize best care for the Dogo.
- Create protocols for the most common issues.

## FOSTERS

Fosters save lives! Without fosters we cannot rescue Dogos. Fosters can be short or long term, both are needed. Short term fosters are those that usually help on an urgent need until a more permanent foster or adopter, or transporter is found. Long term fosters are those that care for the dog until adopter is found. Fosters are needed everywhere all the time and there is no limit on the number of qualified fosters within the rescue.

“I can’t foster because I will get too attached”, people often do not foster for fear of getting attached to dog and being sad when they leave. This is part of being a foster but keep in mind that seeing them leave to their new home (vs leaving to the euthanasia room) makes it all worth the heartache! Keep in mind that your heartache is better than that dog not getting a second chance at life. It truly is rewarding and fun to watch your fosters thrive with their new families.

Fosters are expected to care for the Dogo as if he/she were their own! You will also help with the following:

- Offer a comfortable and loving home for the foster Dogo.
- Understand the needs of the Dogo and provide proper accommodations.
- Help the rescue evaluate the Dogo so he/she can be properly placed. This includes learning about their habits and behaviors with people, kids, other dogs, other animals etc. as best you can.
- Monitor and keep track of any medical needs that are short or long term. This also helps the rescue properly place the dog with the right adopter.
- Provide basic care for the Dogo such as food, medications, supplements, exercise, etc.
- Fosters are expected to provide food for the Dogo. Special considerations can be made if foster is not in a financial position to provide dog food.

## **TRAINERS**

DC Dogos wants to be a rescue that provides the training needed for Dogos in our care. Newly placed dogs that don't work out could have been avoided if the adopter simply had training support to get through the initial days to weeks. Once a dogo is placed with a foster or adopter a trainer will reach out to them as support. You must have a strong background with dog training and familiar with Dogo Argentinos.

- Communicate with foster/adopter and address the behaviors of decompressing, introductions, boundaries, and basic corrections.
- Determine if the dog needs further training to address any known or possible future issues.
- Be able to work in person, over the phone, or through video chat.
- Keep notes and update sessions in rescue database.
- Find and screen other trainers as needed.
- Offer a discounted or package rate after initial evaluation.

**For more information and application, go to [www.dcdoggos.org](http://www.dcdoggos.org)**