

Do you want to help enrich the lives of the dogs available for adoption? Do you want to show potential adopters how smart our shelter dogs are? Do you want to teach the shelter dogs some basic manners they can use in their new homes?

Once you meet the criteria for the program, you will work with shelter dogs at times that are convenient for your schedule. You can work with those dogs that are color matched to your experience level (e.g. green, yellow, or red).

To participate:

- You must be a volunteer Pet Pal for a minimum of 1 month.
- Obtain approval and a recommendation from the Volunteer Manager.
- Attend a Shelter Dog Training Class

This on-going 1 hour class is offered twice a month at both the Macklind and Chesterfield Valley locations. For those working with Westport dogs, you may attend the classes using a Macklind dog and then take your knowledge back to Westport.

You can attend as many times as you'd like to work on specific behaviors with a particular dog or resolve a training issue.

Prerequisites: 1) BAT 101 and 2) fundamentals of using a marker signal OR permission of the Behavior and Training department.

- Join the Yahoo discussion group: HSMShelterTrainers@yahoogroups.com. You will receive an invitation when you complete the requirements for the program.
- Attend each of the following classes offered by the Behavior and Training department within 3 months of starting your participation in the program. As a volunteer, you are eligible to attend all of the following classes for free but you must pre-register with the Behavior and Training department by emailing obedience.training@hsmo.org or calling 314-802-5709. Check the website for current schedules: www.hsmo.org\pettraining

- o Behavior and Training 101 - This 2 hour class provides the fundamentals of how dogs learn and how to resolve common behavior issues. It is offered several times a month at both the Macklind and Chesterfield Valley locations.

- o Attend one of two classes on canine body language:

- The **first** session of a Dogs With Issues class. This 2.5 hour class is offered once a month at both the Macklind and Chesterfield Valley locations **-OR-**

- A Pet Pals education seminar focused on body posture communication. This seminar will be offered at varying times throughout the year.

- o Attend one of two classes on the fundamentals of using a marker signal (e.g. clicker) for training:

- The **second** session of a Dogs With Issues class. This 2.5 hour class is offered once a month at both the Macklind and Chesterfield Valley locations **-OR-**

- An Introduction to Clicker class. This 1 hour class is offered at varying times throughout the year at the Macklind and Chesterfield Valley locations..

You must agree to only use training equipment and methods of training described and demonstrated by the Behavior and Training Department. These methods and equipment were chosen because they are supported by scientific evidence, they have a history of effectiveness, and they result in positive interactions between you and the dogs. This can enhance the bond the dogs develop with potential adopters.