

BARC, The Humane Society seeks volunteers in several areas. A volunteer can work just occasionally or can be responsible for certain jobs part-time or share a part-time responsibility with another person. Age requirements for volunteers are: Minimum of 16 years of age and must have a parent or guardian aged 21 or older in attendance while volunteering; adults 18 years or older can work without parental or guardian supervision. Certain jobs will require the volunteer to be at least 21 years of age.

There is something for everyone to do; those who cannot perform heavy work can still make valuable contributions. Some of the needs are:

1. Someone to work part-time to supervise people performing community service. This volunteer must be at least 21 years of age. Most community service people are juvenile offenders ages 10-18 but some are older. (Any of these offenders under 16 years of age must have a parent or adult guardian or supervisor in attendance while they perform their service.) The shelter does not accept anyone for community service who has a theft, drug, or sexual assault offense. This job includes coordinating days and times offenders will be there; being there to supervise their work; and making sure safety is observed. Some of the tasks include cleaning cages; doing laundry; cleaning parking lot; raking yard; cleaning carriers; sweeping and mopping the shelter. This is a good job for multiple people to alternate days and times. This can be done any day during the summer when school is out; otherwise, usually on Saturday. This volunteer will work under the direction of the shelter supervisor.
2. Transport animals to and from veterinarians and care for the animal at the clinic while the animal's history is taken. This will be in your personal vehicle, and if necessary, you will provide the stock-or-horse trailer for cattle or horses. Assist the staff by taking animals to-and-from schools and other organizations. This is not needed often, but when it is needed, transporting is a very valuable job.
3. Gardening work. Several people are needed throughout the year to hand-weed the flower gardens, mulch, lightly prune dead limbs from shrubs, and dispose of weeds, trash, etc. Volunteers can come at their leisure, individually or as a group. If you mulch, please bring pine straw. Please bring plastic bags to collect the weeds and trash, and take them with you.
4. Clean kennels: This involves sweeping, mopping, and hosing down cages. Do laundry. Wash feeding dishes.
5. Assist in offsite adoptions. These usually take place at PetSense in Palestine. Responsibilities include: accept applications; interview potential adoptees; check adoption forms to make sure potential adopters meet BARC criteria; accept money for adoptions; help set up and take down tables and other equipment; give information sheets; help keep adoption area clean; dismantle adoption area; transport animals to-and-from adoption site. (One person does not have to do all these tasks; there will be several people involved at each adoption.)
6. Office work. Tasks would include taking pictures of the animals for publication. Get to know the animals and write bios to go with the photos. This is for the goal of getting animals adopted. Other general office work as determined by the shelter supervisor. Approximately one day a week; can share with another volunteer.

7. Lead shelter tours. You would work with the shelter supervisor when tours are planned for the public. The shelter supervisor would give you a brief training beforehand as you would need to be well-versed on all the steps of intake, care, adoption, etc.
8. Education: Work with BARC's Education Committee to take the messages of animal care, overpopulation, and safety to schools and other organizations as requested.
9. Exercise and socialize dogs. This is a very important need in getting the dogs ready for adoption, and it will be a very rewarding enterprise for someone who likes to spend time with dogs.
10. Help BARC's Board of Directors in fundraising. Besides the monies needed for everyday operation of the shelter, BARC has an urgent need for funds for its Spay and Neuter Clinic expenses. Its near-goal is to hire a veterinarian to perform these surgeries. BARC has been building and outfitting this clinic for several years as funds are donated and earmarked for it, but still needs much more to complete the clinic and hire a veterinarian to perform the surgeries. Any help you, your friends, families, organizations, schools, churches, other contacts can devote to helping us will be sincerely appreciated. Perhaps you or your group can organize a benefit to this end. Your suggestions for fundraising will be sincerely appreciated. If the equivalent of each person in the county would donate \$1.00, we could get \$50,000 in a countywide campaign. BARC's donations come from many efforts; no donation is too small. Pam Smith is the board member chair for fundraising; any proposed effort needs to be coordinated with her and approved by the Board of Directors. After your fundraising application has been approved, you would ordinarily organize and complete the fundraiser yourselves.

If you are interested in volunteering in these or other approved capacities for the benefit of BARC, The Humane Society, please contact Melanie Seal, shelter supervisor, at 903-729-8074.

Thank you for your consideration.