



WESTSIDE RESCUE

Volunteer Information

Thank you for joining us, and supporting our efforts to complete our mission. We are a small organization dedicated to addressing the needs of the homeless community of Fresno and their animals with dignity and compassion. Westside Rescue believes in the human-animal bond; and works to keep as many animals as possible healthy, with their owners, and out of shelters by providing assistance with education, preventative care, food, and spay/neuter services to those who would otherwise not be able to afford them.

- Your volunteer time, talent and commitment are valuable to Westside Rescue; and to our clients and their companion animals. We fully anticipate that your volunteer experience with us will be both fulfilling and meaningful for you.
- Please know that you are making a difference in the lives of those you are helping. Depending on your volunteer duties and length of service, you may or may not personally observe the direct impact of your efforts on the families served.
- The positions that volunteers fill are critical to Westside Rescue. If you are unable to attend a scheduled outreach; or if you will arrive late, please contact your supervising staff or the Volunteer Coordinator (through phone or email) in advance so your position can be covered.
- Volunteering with Westside Rescue is an at-will opportunity. We will do our best to meet your expectations by matching your skills and desire with the best volunteer opportunity available.
- If you are in direct contact with clients, we ask you to keep in mind that clients seeking services or support from Westside Rescue come to us in their time of need; often in crisis and desperation. Know that clients may not all react in a manner that you might anticipate and you may hear comments or observe behaviors that seem inappropriate. Many of our clients can find it difficult to graciously accept the caring and kindness of strangers. Given their state of crisis, this can be normal.
- All resources provided to clients and their companion animals come through Westside Rescue during outreach events or activities. Volunteers must not lend or give money at any time to clients.
- The foundation of Westside Rescue is built around our clients being treated with dignity and compassion. Volunteers must maintain a professional attitude in all dealings with clients and their families. ***To protect the confidentiality of our clients, volunteer cell phone use for photos or videos is not permitted; and while providing support for clients, electronic devices should be put away.***



WESTSIDE RESCUE

Volunteer Waiver and Release Form

Volunteer Name:

Check here if Volunteer is under age 18 _____

Contact E-mail:

Parent or Legal Guardian Email :

Address:

Phone:

Emergency Contact

Name:

Relationship to Participant:

Phone Number:

WAIVER AND RELEASE FORM

In return for participating in Westside Rescue volunteer activities and all related activities, including any activities incidental to such participation ("Volunteer Activities"), the under-signed Volunteer or Parent/Legal Guardian of Volunteer if Volunteer is under age 18 (hereafter referred to using "I", "me", or "my") releases and agrees not to sue Westside Rescue or its officers, directors, employees, sub-contractors, sponsors, agents and affiliates from all present and future claims that may be made by me, my family, estate, heirs, or assigns for property damage, personal injury, or wrongful death arising as a result of my participation in the Volunteer Activities wherever, whenever, or however the same may occur. I understand and agree that Westside Rescue is not responsible for any injury or property damage arising out of the Volunteer Activities, even if caused by their ordinary negligence or otherwise.

I understand that participation in the Volunteer Activities involves certain risks, including, but not limited to, serious injury and death. **I understand that I may be working in close proximity of members of the homeless community who may exhibit signs of mental illness and/or be under the influence of mind-altering substances. I understand that I will be working in close proximity of animals (primarily dogs and cats) that may or may not be vaccinated.** I am voluntarily participating in the Volunteer Activities with knowledge of the danger involved and I agree to accept all risks of participation. I also agree to indemnify and hold harmless Westside Rescue for all claims arising out of my participation in the Volunteer Activities.

I understand that this document is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the laws of the state in which the Volunteer Activities take place and agree that if any portion of this Agreement is invalid, the remainder will continue in full legal force and effect. I also acknowledge that Westside Rescue have not arranged and do not carry any insurance of any kind for my benefit or that of Volunteer (if Volunteer is under 18), my parents, guardians, trustees, heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assigns. I represent that, to my knowledge, I am in good health and suffer no physical impairment that would or should prevent my participation in Volunteer Activities. I also understand that this document is a contract which grants certain rights to and eliminates the liability of Westside Rescue.

(Signature of Volunteer)

(Date)

I am of legal age and am freely signing this agreement.

I have read this form and understand that by signing this form, I am giving up legal rights and remedies.

(Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian if Volunteer is Under 18)

(Date)

I am the parent or legal guardian of the Volunteer. I am of legal age and am freely signing this agreement. I have read this form and understand that by signing this form, I am giving up legal rights and remedies.

PHOTO RELEASE

I hereby grant Westside Rescue permission to photograph/video record me during events and community outreach and to use those photographs for Marketing, Fundraising or Social Media purposes. I understand I will not be compensated for the use of these photos/videos.

(Volunteer Signature)

(Date)

(Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian if Volunteer is Under 18)

(Date)