

## **Texas Transport Driver Volunteer Description**

***\*\*Must be at least 21 years of age to volunteer with this opportunity\*\****

**Reports to: Laura Cox, Shelter Collaborative National Strategist**

### **Organizational Impact:**

- Volunteer transport drivers move us closer to our goal of No-Kill 2025 by helping move animals from overpopulated Texas shelters to transport hubs or veterinary clinics within Texas. This enables the animals that are transported to quickly find their forever homes, as well as ensures that shelters in the overpopulated regions have more resources to devote to the animals that need help in their area. It also ensures animals can receive proper medical care in a timely fashion.

### **Position Function/Goals/Deadlines:**

- Either one driver or a team of two transport drivers will pick up healthy, adoptable dogs or cats from a predetermined shelter location and transport them to a receiving partner organization or veterinary clinic.
- Volunteers might be asked to drive the transport carriers back to originating location at the end of the transport trip.

### **Time Commitment and Location of Work:**

- Transports will depart from various shelter locations across Texas year-round.
- Time commitment will depend on the departure location and destination. With added travel time to the originating shelter location, transports could require 1-3 day commitments.
- Each transport will be planned to consider drive time, adequate rest time, overnight stays, and walking breaks for the dogs, if needed.

### **Core responsibilities:**

- Safely and successfully drive personal vehicle (alternating every few hours with other driver onboard – if applicable) from the departure location to the receiving partner organizations.
- Assist with unloading of all dogs or cats and appropriate paperwork upon arrival at receiving partner location.
- Cleaning crates during transport. This could include changing soiled bedding and paper and/or walking dogs at a stop.
- Track and input hours worked into the Best Friends volunteer database.

**Qualifications/Requirements:**

- Ability to drive your personal vehicle with animals secured in crates (crates will be provided)
- Successful completion of transport volunteer safety training
- Completed motor vehicle record check
- Must be at least 21 years of age with satisfactory driving record to drive under Best Friends insurance policy
- Proof of valid/current driver's license & insurance
- Must be able to safely drive and work in all weather conditions
- Must be able to bend, stoop, walk, kneel, and lift
- Must be able to lift at least 30 pounds at a time
- Dog handling experience is a plus

***Please email [nationalvolunteers@bestfriends.org](mailto:nationalvolunteers@bestfriends.org) if interested in volunteering for this lifesaving opportunity!***