

LEARNING GOALS

You will learn to set up and maintain a complete in-shelter training and enrichment program for dogs and cats that will increase enrichment and reduce stress.

Upon completing the course, you will be able to:

1. Build relationships among shelters and trainers
2. Overcome common challenges to setting up a shelter training program, such as time, money, and space
3. What clicker training is, how and why it works, and how to use it effectively with your own dog at home (or a borrowed dog)
4. Get behavior started: capturing, targeting, and shaping, using your own dog at home
5. Train with a marker and reinforcers, without the need for corrections
6. Select appropriate cues and add cues to behaviors you teach
7. Read canine body language accurately, including signs of happiness, stress, and aggression
8. Recognize stress in both dogs and cats within a shelter environment
9. Train behaviors that will help make shelter animals more adoptable, reduce their stress, and improve their quality of life
10. Reduce the level of barking in a kennel
11. Maximize limited space for a shelter training program
12. Organize training volunteers and keep them motivated
13. Set up, acquire the materials for, and maintain an enrichment program in a shelter
14. Enrich all five senses of shelter animals in your care
15. Offer food enrichment, social contact, toys, and exercise/play for shelter dogs and cats at a low cost
16. Identify and help solve some behavior issues commonly seen in shelters
17. Identify and address special needs of shelter puppies

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18. Facilitate greetings between animals and adopters
19. Help boost the number of successful, permanent adoptions and reduce the number of animals being returned
20. Give tips to new pet owners to ease the transition for their pet from shelter to a new home