



Job Title: Assistance Dog Trainer

Reports To: Director of Canine Operations

Overview: Canine Partners of the Rockies (CaPR) is a 501 (c)(3), service dog school, accredited through Assistance Dogs International (ADI). CaPR has been enabling people with disabilities in Colorado to live more independent and fulfilling lives with support from highly skilled assistance dogs since 2002. As CaPR expands its programs, it is looking for a knowledgeable and skilled individual to coordinate and expand the puppy program, work with volunteer raisers and assist in the advanced training dog program.

CaPR believes learning should be motivating and fun. Canine Partners of the Rockies uses positive reinforcement to build trusting and respectful relationships between dogs and people. This position is responsible for the day-to-day coordination of the puppy program, working with puppies, volunteers (puppy raisers and sitters) and with other trainers to teach advanced skills to dogs selected for assistance dog careers. As a trainer, this position also participates in training clients to work with their new assistance dogs.

Responsibilities:

- Plan and teach puppy group classes as needed
- Evaluate dogs for readiness into Advanced Training (AT)
- Train advanced skills for assistance dogs in AT at facility and in public
- Participate in the process of matching assistance dogs with clients
- Create/update training procedures, reports & annual surveys
- Participate in and teach clients during Team Training
- Coach clients with their dogs after placement.
- Review client reports
- Assess and document dogs' skills in different locations
- Schedule and proctor certification and public access tests
- Set up and run canine evaluations as needed

- Maintain currency of assistant dog database (International Working Dog Registry)
- Coach clients with dogs (teams) as needed
- Participate in professional development, outreach and presentations
- Identify and assist with special programs (camp, prison program, campus programs)
- Utilize clicker training methodology in all training
- Assist with dog transport as needed

Requirements:

- Represent CaPR and the assistance dog industry to the general public in a positive and informative manner
- Collaborate with staff and other trainers throughout each dog's education and placement
- Teach, proof and fine tune all cues specific to each dog's placement using clicker training methodology and principles
- Maintain timely and accurate records
- Communicate clearly with staff and volunteers in a timely manner
- This position is required to balance, stand, bend, kneel, crouch, stoop, crawl, run and perform various physical motions with her/his hands, arms, shoulders and legs in order to train and test dogs.
- This employee must also be able to use all equipment required to train assistance dogs, as well as verbally communicate clearly with volunteers, staff and clients.
- The employee must also be able to lift and move up to 50 pounds. Must be fully vaccinated against COVID 19.

Qualifications:

- Outstanding verbal communications skills with people, our disabled clients and dogs
- Experience with solving complex problems ("critical thinking")
- Attention to detail and sound initiative
- Applied understanding of operant, classical and counter conditioning
- Attention to detail
- Good verbal and written communication

- Experience teaching group dog training classes

Preferred:

- At least 1 year of Clicker Training hands-on experience
- Experience with an accredited assistance dog school (ADI)

Benefits: Medical Insurance, Dental, ADD, LTD, 401k with match, paid time off, holidays

Hours: This is a full-time exempt position with some weekend and evening hours as needed

To Apply, please send cover letter and resume to
info@caninepartnersoftherockies.org