



**HUMANE SOCIETY**  
— of Indianapolis —

7929 Michigan Road, Indianapolis IN 46268 | 317.876.2420 | [ssims@indyhumane.org](mailto:ssims@indyhumane.org) | [www.indyhumane.org](http://www.indyhumane.org)

# **Pat's Paws Teen "Trainor" Club**

## **A Service & Mentoring Club for Young Teens**

Pat's Paws is a program that allows teens to help the homeless animals in our community by donating time and love to animals at IndyHumane, complete service projects to spread the word about IndyHumane around the community, and work with younger teens to make a difference.

This club was developed in memory of Patrick Trainor (1990-2010).

Patrick Trainor volunteered at IndyHumane as a Mentor in our Paws & Claws Club which is a junior volunteer program for young teens. He was very passionate about animal welfare and was planning to have a career in vet medicine.

Our hope is that this club will help young people learn that giving back is important and necessary to keep our community moving in a positive direction. We also hope that when sharing that passion of service with younger students in the form of mentoring, we are sparking a cycle of service that will benefit animal welfare for generations to come.

## **Club Details**

### **Club Components**

#### **Volunteering**

Pat's Paws Club Members must donate a minimum of 4 hours each month caring for the animals housed at IndyHumane.

#### **Service**

Pat's Paws Club Members must participate in service projects to spread the word about IndyHumane and to raise funds for the thousands of animals IndyHumane houses each year. Pat's Paws Club Members meet monthly to plan and execute these service projects.

#### **Mentoring**

Pat's Paws Club Members are encouraged to participate as Camp Staff with one of our Summer Camp Programs.

### **Club Requirements**

- Student must be 13-15 Years Old
- Student must attend and complete required training
- Club Members must meet the minimum monthly requirement of 4 hours each month in order to stay eligible for the club.
- Club Members need to attend monthly meetings in order to stay eligible for the club. Members are only allowed 2 excused absences from meetings each year. Meetings do not count toward monthly volunteering requirement.
  - Example: Planning 'Movie Nights' at IndyHumane for children where we provide animal interaction time, snacks, incorporate education, and play a movie for entertainment
  - Students are encouraged to launch at least 1 individual service project
  - Example: Holding a donation drive at your school gathering items from the IndyHumane Wish List
- Pat's Paws Club Members are encouraged to participate as Camp Staff with one of our Summer Camp Programs.

### **Membership Fees**

\$15.00 due at Basic Training (2nd Step of Training)

Fees go toward our scholarship fund, pay for t-shirts, and help with other program expenses.

### **Pat's Paws Meetings**

Pat's Paws Meetings are scheduled for the last Saturday of each month from 11am-1pm. Meeting times are subject to change based on room availability, holidays, and prep time for Service Projects. You may start attending meetings as soon as you complete Volunteer Training.

### **Patrick Trainor Award**

The Patrick Trainor Award will be given out each year to the student who excels in the areas of service, mentoring, and attitude. This award will include recognition on a plaque displayed at IndyHumane and a financial prize.

## **How to Join the Club**

- Complete and submit a Pat's Paws Club Volunteer Application
- Attend an Orientation
  - You will need to attend this 1 hour orientation with a Parent/Guardian.
  - This orientation will help you and your Parent/Guardian understand club requirements and expectations.
- Complete Training

## **Training Steps**

**There is 1 step of training offered each week for 4 weeks.**

**Parents/Guardians, outside of the orientation, are not required to attend Training Steps with you.**

- Week #1: Orientation – You need to attend this step of training with a Parent/Guardian. We will cover Shelter Facts, Pat's Paws Details, and answer any questions you may have about the club.
- Week #2: Basic Training – General Information, How to Sign In, How to Read Kennel Card, Full Tour of Facility
- Week #3: Intro to Shelter Canines or Felines Course – Handling Skills and How to Avoid/Deal with Problem Situations
- Week #4: Shadow Day – Spend a Shift with an Experienced Volunteer/Staff Person and Learn Tasks Specific to Your Volunteer Position
- There is a training round offered each month
- If member does not start training within 2 months of completing the orientation, their application will be removed from our database.

**Pat's Paws Members are eligible for the following Shelter Volunteer Positions:**

### **Canine Companions (CCs) – Must be at least 16 years of age**

Responsible for making sure adoptable dogs held in our Big Dog Room are exercised, trained, and given quality time. These Volunteers also make sure kennels, play yards, and walking areas are kept tidy and organized.

### **Puppy Partners (PPs)**

Responsible for making sure puppies and small adult dogs are receiving quality care. These Volunteers make sure customers are aware of animal interaction policies, dog kennels are kept clean, organized, and stocked. These Volunteers also make sure small adult dogs are walked.

### **Feline Friends (FFs)**

Responsible for making sure adoptable cats are given quality time and their cages are kept clean. These Volunteers also make sure kennels are kept tidy and organized.