

Prison Greyhounds Volunteer Application (12/2022)

Prison Greyhounds adoption group is a 501c3 nonprofit organization dedicated to placing former racing greyhounds & lurchers (greyhound mixes) in permanent loving homes.

In addition to fostering dogs in volunteer homes, we encourage the adoption of greyhounds that might get overlooked; perhaps because of color, age, special needs, or past injury. We find them loving, responsible homes simply by telling their story. Greyhound adopters have big hearts!

Our volunteers are our most important resource. Without your help we will not fulfill our mission. Thank you for choosing to spend your time volunteering with Prison Greyhounds.

Volunteer Opportunities

We operate as a TEAM. Teams accomplish more. Know that we value your time, your resources, talents, expertise and friendship. These are the ways you can volunteer:

Donors – We need money! We are an official 501(c) 3 nonprofit. We are funded entirely through generous donations, adoption fees, and fundraising efforts.

Adoption Representatives– This team is entrusted with the responsibility of approving adoption applications. Adoption Representatives do not have to be greyhound or lurcher savvy. We try to assign according to area. Approval starts with a phone call, followed by a visit to the applicant’s house (inside and outside). We provide scripted questions to guide these conversations. There are written reports to turn in after your home visit. The goal is that the application is processed within 2 weeks or less, if possible. Adoption Reps are authorized to approve an application on site. However, if the rep feels the application should be denied, or delayed, they will send their report to the board (thru the Adoption Coordinator.) Only the board can officially refuse an application, and the board will be the ones to notify the applicant. (The board makes the final decision, so that you don’t ever have to feel like you are the one bearing the weight of responsibility.) After the greyhound has gone home to his adopter, the Adoption Rep checks in with their new adopter ‘on or about’: day 2, week 2, and then at the 2nd month. (More frequently if necessary.) With this follow-up communication, we can catch issues earlier, allowing us to offer suggestions and supportive advice. Despite all the great information provided to adopters before they take their greyhound home, it is nearly impossible for them to ‘take it all in’. It’s also great fun to hear how the hound is settling in, and what new personality traits are coming out. We are NOT asking you to be a professional canine behaviorist, and we can suggest further resources if necessary. We are NOT asking you to match them with a specific hound; we leave that to someone else who knows the available hounds better. You are just to approve (or not) the home for adoption. If you are joining this team, please request the “Adoption Representatives Best Practices” document for further instructions. The Adoption Coordinator is Jan Hulett, mobile (586) 530 7952, ewww0419@gmail.com

Vet Tech Type of Assistance – On occasion we’d like a volunteer to trim dog nails, or someone to assist by microchipping the newly arrived foster dogs.

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Foster Homes – If you think you are interested, and need more information, please complete a separate **Foster Home Guidelines & Application**, found on the website under the VOLUNTEER tab. After you have reviewed this document, additional questions may be sent to Foster Home Director Erin Jesswein, mobile (317) 919-7441, erin.jesswein@gmail.com The application must be submitted to Prison Greyhounds address as directed on the form.

Meet & Greet Team – Each location has a designated **Host**, who oversees their own small team. This team brings their own (adopted) hound(s) to be an ambassador to visitors who want to inquire about adoption. You do not NEED to bring your own hound, but there must be at least one greyhound or lurcher in attendance. Hounds must be of appropriate temperament and nicely groomed! Donations are collected thru dog vests & donation jars. We also have a current opening for an Events Coordinator to oversee this team.

Local Transportation Team – This team helps on occasions when we need to transport a dog (or crate) from one site to another. Often the foster/adoption teams just need help getting a dog from one place to another! If interested, maybe a Transport Volunteer could bring a foster dog to a Meet & Greet Location. We are especially seeking a Transport Director who is detail oriented, good at coordinating directions and schedules, as well as developing a team.

Communication Team – We are exploring the possibility of newsletters, featuring articles and photos of interest. (Not to replace the E-news, but to serve a different purpose.) We need a Newsletter Director, photographers, writers/editors. The newsletter could be of varying lengths, and monthly, bi-monthly or quarterly. These frequency and length are at the discretion of the Director. We are also thinking of expanding our Social Media Team (beyond the current Facebook Team) to Instagram, with a separate person to oversee that.

Online Silent Auction Teams – Once a year we have an online auction, utilizing Charity Auctions Today. To do this, we seek a Silent Auction Director, who will need a team to gather/store auction items, to create both good quality photographs and the scripts to be posted, then to run the auction and notify winners, and ship the items to winners. (A lot of the notifications are done automatically through Charity Auctions Today software.)

Our Leadership Team:

The Board –The board determines solely among itself who to appoint for each position, when an opening arises, and as the need dictates. We do not have a ‘membership’ that votes the board into position. We have no term limits. When there is a vacancy on the board, the remaining board members appoint the next new board member. We are open to self–nominations from our volunteers, and we sometimes advertise for any vacant position. We are informal. We always welcome expressed interest for a future date. The board is headed up by the Founder and President, Mary Loudon. Current board members are Mary Loudon, Jeff Loudon, Carol Hulett.

Keep pages 1 & 2; Please RETURN PAGES 3, 4, 5

(Either mail your application, or email a good quality scan. Please do NOT send a phone photo. We do not have a fax number.)

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Date _____

I have reviewed the **Prison Greyhounds website** for an understanding of who we are_____

Name(s)_____

Address _____

City_____ State _____ Zip_____

Phone(s) _____

Emai(s)_____

Please attach additional sheets if necessary to answer the questions. The questions are designed to help us determine your best fit, so we can maximize your talents and desires.

1. Do you / have you ever, owned a greyhound or lurcher? _____
2. How many greyhounds or lurchers have you adopted (or fostered) and over how many approximate years? From what adoption groups?
3. Have you watched the 30-minute video "Introduction to Lurchers" on our website? _____
4. Tell us about past involvement as a volunteer **with animal groups**.
5. Are you currently involved with any other dog adoption groups? If so, which ones and in what capacity?
6. Tell us about your current or past involvement as a volunteer **other than** with these animal groups mentioned in question # 5.

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7. Please list any expertise that you have, which you feel is relevant to this volunteer opportunity.
8. What do you see as your greatest strengths, skills, or talents?
9. What is your least favorite or least productive skill area? What should we NOT ask you to do? 😊
10. After reading the description of each team, check the team(s) you are volunteering for.
- Foster Home (Please return the separate application for this team)
- Adoption Representative Meet & Greet Team Communication Team
- Local Transportation Online Silent Auction Vet Tech Team

Other – If your expertise or interest is not mentioned, you may enclose/attach a ***description of your proposed volunteer role***. We'd love to hear your ideas & experience.

Volunteers are our most important resource. Without your help we will not fulfill our mission. Thank you for choosing to volunteer with Prison Greyhounds. Our insurance company requires every volunteer sign a "Hold Harmless Waiver". Even our board signs!

Hold Harmless Waiver

In consideration for being allowed to volunteer with Prison Greyhounds, I hereby assume all risk of injury and/or loss of property that may result to me. I hereby hold harmless; and I release and forever discharge Prison Greyhounds, Inc., its board, volunteers, foster homes, and any veterinarian treating the dog at the request of Prison Greyhounds, from any and all claims and actions, including, but not limited to losses, liabilities, damages, costs, and expenses arising from bodily injury or property damage resulting from volunteering, whether personal injury to me, my family members, third parties, or other animals.

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I acknowledge and accept that:

- Animal behavior is unpredictable and animals may injure people, other animals or property.
- There is no way to write a complete list of all possible risks of volunteering and caring for any animal, including our greyhounds.

Volunteer's Signature (**all parties must sign individually**):

Volunteer Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Volunteer Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Thank you!

- **Keep pages 1 & 2;**
- **Return pages 3, 4, 5 of this Volunteer Application Form to:**

Prison Greyhounds, 2952 Haverhill Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46240, or scan and email to prisongreyhounds@comcast.net (We do not have a fax and do not receive texts. Please do not send a photo made by your phone.)

All Volunteers must please subscribe to E-news on the website! (Look for the subscription link on the bottom.) This is a local communication to volunteers, information that you will not see on Facebook or elsewhere.