Animal Welfare Officer

About the organisation and department
The mission of Animal Aid Unlimited is to rescue and treat the un-owned street animals of India who have become ill or injured, and through their rescue inspire a community to protect and defend the lives of all animals.

We operate one of India’s most active rescue services, responding to more than 70 calls on our helpline every day and involving thousands of Udaipur residents in the process of rescuing street animals every year. Our hospital and sanctuary (located in Badi, 10km from Udaipur) house a total of more than 600 animals (dogs, cows, donkeys, cats and other animals).

Designation – Animal Welfare Officer

Reports to – Animal Welfare Manager

General purpose of the role
The AWO is responsible to oversee the general welfare of the animals in the care of Animal Aid, whether temporarily and permanently, and train caregivers in animal welfare practices. The AWO works under the supervision of the Animal Welfare Manager, following the organizations’ protocols for the care of the animals.

This role requires several months of the training on the job, even for candidates with previous experience in a similar role.

Key area of responsibility

1. Animal welfare:
   a. Ensure the welfare of all animals in accordance with the internationally recognized Five Freedoms, enforcing and monitoring the implementation of the related protocols:
      i. The nutritional needs of the animals are met according to species and age;
      ii. The physical and psychological needs of the animals are met, specific for species and age;
      iii. Animals receive appropriate and timely treatment in coordination with the medical team (including physio and hydro therapy);
      iv. Animals have appropriate shelter at all times and in all weather conditions.
   b. Timely report to the AWM or to the medical team if any animal shows signs of illness or distress.

2. Staff coordination: coordinate the staff members in the areas performing the above tasks and ensure they follow the schedule and their assigned area’s schedule.

3. Staff training: Train the staff members performing the above mentioned tasks. As the majority of the new employees have no previous experience with animals, the AWO’s role is of the utmost importance for the
successful training and operations of the rescue centre. For the safety of both staff and animals, the AWO is equally responsible for training and monitoring of appropriate animal handling techniques.

4. Outreach & Education:
   a. **Visitors**: welcome visitors and give tours of the rescue centre (in coordination with the Volunteer coordinator)
   b. **Volunteers**: onboard, training and supervision of volunteers assigned in the area in (in coordination with the Volunteer coordinator)
   c. **Events**: participate to outreach events, at the centre or external (schools, community meetings etc), to promote the respect of animal welfare and work of Animal Aid, encouraging the community to take an active role; to educate the community about animal behaviour, dog-bite prevention and coexistence.
   d. **Adoption**: identify the animals who can be adopted, screen potential adopters, implement adoptions protocols.

**Experience, education and skills**

1. Graduate of any field.
2. Fluency in English. Fluency in Hindi is a big plus.
3. 2-3 years work experience in any field.
4. Good IT skills (Microsoft office, Google Tools)
5. Previous experience with animals (volunteering, community animals, pets etc)

**Personal attributes**

1. Understanding and passion for Animal Aid’s mission
2. Attentive and highly reliable
3. Good communicator and coordinator
4. Able to work independently as well as with a team
5. Compassionate and comfortable with animals