



PPRC Care Team - Volunteer Expectations

Thank you for your interest in joining the Pearland Parvo Recovery Center (PPRC) Care Team! The efforts of the Care Team are vital to the survival of our vulnerable Parvo patients. You will be in the trenches fighting the Parvovirus. The work may be difficult, often messy and sometimes heartbreaking, but it will always be rewarding. More importantly, you will be making an immediate, significant difference in the lives of the dogs and puppies in our care.

Requirements:

- Complete a Pearland Parvo Recovery Center volunteer application.
- Attend a Care Team training session.
- Because of the highly contagious nature of Parvo, please ensure that any dogs or puppies in your home are up to date with their boosters. If you are fostering young puppies, you must be extremely careful about following PPRC protocols so that you don't bring the disease into your home.
- Care Team Volunteers are required to work one 4-hour shift a week during the first 6 months.

Care Team Main Responsibilities:

- **Laundry:** There is LOTS of laundry. Start laundry as soon as you come in. Fold and put away clean laundry. Keep the laundry going throughout shifts.
- **Clean up patient area:** Pick up feces, change out bedding. Let the Medical Volunteers or Mona and Jeanette know if you observe vomit, diarrhea, blood, etc. in the room and mark it on the chart. Your observations are critical for tracking the medical progress of each patient, so please provide detailed documentation.
- **Provide food and water:** Ask Medical Volunteers what and how much food and/or water to offer patients. This will vary from dog to dog depending on how sick they are. You may need to hand feed or force feed the sicker puppies. Procedures are included in the Feeding Protocol section of the PPRC Handbook
- **Assist in administering medications:** Medical volunteers will be administering medications, although they may ask you to help if you feel comfortable doing so.
- **General cleaning:** Wash dishes, help with recycling, fold laundry and generally keep the PPRC facility clean and organized.
- **Discharge:** Discharge patients from PPRC when ready (requires a negative Parvo test and two solid stools). Follow the Discharge Protocol in the PPRC Handbook.

Expectations for Care Team:

- **Prevent spread of Parvo outside of PPRC:** The Pearland Parvo Recovery Center is an isolated, quarantined space dedicated only to dogs and puppies that have been diagnosed with Parvo. While in the facility you must abide by all procedures/protocols to prevent the spread of Parvo outside of PPRC including washing hands, disinfecting crates, equipment and anything else that leaves the facility, changing clothes/shoes when entering and exiting, etc. All shoes worn in the PPRC facility must remain in the facility so there will be shoes or shoe covers available at the center; however, if you wish you may bring your own and leave them at the center.
- **Avoid cross-contamination within PPRC:** Wash hands between treating patients (or litters). Clean and disinfect bowls, toys, crates, etc. between patients/litters. Rescue disinfectant is your best friend in the Pearland Parvo Recovery Center.
- **Be Reliable:** Show up to the shifts you have committed to
- **Safety, safety, safety!:** Keep yourself safe (know correct holding techniques for helping with treatments, especially with squirmy or aggressive dogs), and watch out for safety hazards in the PPRC facility, such as keeping all wires off the floor in case of washer/water leaks.
- **Treat all puppies with love, compassion, and respect.** They are frightened and sick. Your attention and care can make a difference.
- **Be Honest:** We all make the occasional mistake. If you do, please notify the Medical Team.
- **Be Willing to Learn:** If you're unsure about anything or flat out don't know, just ask someone! Feel free to text/call any Parvo volunteers, ask the vet techs or a doctor. There's no such thing as a stupid question in the Pearland Parvo Recovery Center.