

Volunteer Position Description

State District Leader Volunteer

	icts management's right to assign or reassign duties and responsibilities to this position at any time.
Work Location	State legislative district of residence
Position Grade	1; background check not required
Purpose of the Position	As part of The Humane Society of the United States' (HSUS) volunteer leadership, state district leaders' efforts help to build an even stronger platform of protection for all animals and advance The HSUS' state animal protection legislative and policy agendas. State district leaders may also be asked to assist on local and federal advocacy efforts. State district leaders are at the forefront of HSUS efforts to celebrate animals and confront cruelty.
Volunteer Responsibilities	 Actively participate in ongoing state legislative advocacy and policy work. State district leaders will be asked to engage in local and federal legislative priorities as time and energy allow; Establish and maintain strong and effective professional relationships with appointed and elected lawmakers. Politely, clearly and consistently relay The HSUS' animal protection positions to them and urge their support/co-sponsorship, and thank them for their efforts; Recruit a network of HSUS allies who will take action on behalf of animal protection issues, especially legislation at the state level; Serve as an HSUS ambassador in your state legislative district, communicating our mission, approach and positions while fostering a greater animal protection presence in your state and community; Participate in Humane Lobby Day at your state capitol and help organize grassroots outreach, such as an in-district lobby day, and other campaign-related initiatives; Track and report your hours of service and activities on behalf of The HSUS in the volunteer database (Volunteer Hub) and update your HSUS state director as requested; and Optional: Under the guidance and advice of your HSUS state director, develop and implement a local animal protection project in an area of your choice. Sample projects include promoting the adoption of a Meatless Monday resolution by your city council and/or school district, or assisting a local pet store in adopting the Puppy Friendly Pet Store model. Please note: we strongly encourage state district leaders to work with their HSUS state director on a project that is most relevant to the needs of
	their state legislative district.
Level of Difficulty 1=easy/5=demanding (physical, mental, emotional)	 Physical difficulty is level 2; state district leaders will likely have minimal physical activity related to their work, aside from gathering for meetings or setting up for/attending outreach events. Mental difficulty is level 4; requires strategic thinking and the ability to work well independently and use good judgment; must have strong verbal and written communication skills. Emotional difficulty is level 3; volunteers will be exposed to some emotionally-distressing issues at a minimal level; any contact with the

	public can result in interactions with people in a heightened emotional
	state because of their connection with and commitment to animal
	protection.
Expected Environmental	Home office or field work setting.
Conditions	Florite of field work setting.
How Often Volunteers Work	Most of the work will be done remotely at the state district leader's home
On-site	office. Periodically, state district leaders will need to attend events and
GII SILC	meetings in person and may need to travel to the state capitol.
Orientation/Training	State district leaders will become highly trained and effective volunteer
Orientation/Training	leaders in the rapidly growing animal protection movement and will receive
	advanced training and ongoing support in effective animal advocacy from
	staff of the largest animal protection organization in the country.
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	State district leaders will be provided with an orientation and background
	information, including information on The HSUS's policies, programs and
	campaigns through an online, self-paced training course titled, "The Role of
	The HSUS in the Animal Protection Movement" (HSUS 301) and a Toolkit with
	local animal protection project ideas.
Learning Opportunities	Develop or strengthen your legislative advocacy, leadership, networking,
	and strategic thinking skills;
	Opportunity to share your expertise and experiences with others in your
	community while collaborating with HSUS staff;
	Gain ideas and real world experience on how to be a more effective
	animal advocate and how to advance animal protection priorities in your
	state;
	Join a community of others who are deeply committed to advancing
	compassionate and powerful efforts on behalf of <i>all</i> animals;
	Learn in-depth about your state's legislative process;
	Possibility of learning or strengthening abilities to guide, acknowledge,
	and deliver feedback to volunteers; and
	Learn about The HSUS' major campaigns, programs, and mission.
Position Start Date	Ongoing; upon receipt of a confirmation email from your HSUS state director.
Initial Minimum Commitment	State district leaders commit to work an average of 1-3 hours per week for a
	minimum of one year. Time commitment varies by week. Ongoing
	participation is preferred.
Scheduling Guidelines	Flexible; attendance on monthly national conference calls is preferred (calls
	are held the 2 nd Monday of the month in the evening), as well as participation
Overliff and an affirmation and a	in regular state calls.
Qualifications/Requirements for Volunteer Applicants	• Commitment to the mission of The HSUS;
for volunteer Applicants	Eagerness to learn and understand The HSUS' guidelines, policies, and actions recording animal protection issues and chility to appropriately.
	positions regarding animal protection issues and ability to appropriately
	and accurately represent those policies when interacting with the public or otherwise representing The HSUS;
	 Willingness to take an active role in cultivating strong relationships with
	appointed and elected lawmakers and leaders in your state legislative
	district, submit letters to the editor to publicly thank state officials, and
	urge state and local lawmakers to advance the animal protection
	positions;
	Strong leadership skills and experience;
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	 Eagerness to develop positive relationships with animal protection groups in your state (i.e. members of city councils and county boards of supervisors, shelter directors, leaders of nonprofits, etc.); Participate in your state's Humane Lobby Day; Able to be discreet, keeping in mind the confidential nature of some aspects of the work; Strong interpersonal skills and able to communicate with a variety of people effectively and without judgment; Strong computer literacy and online research skills and proficiency in Microsoft Office, Word and Excel; Willingness to recruit, cultivate and communicate with HSUS allies, effectively engage community members, and/or participate in HSUS development and awareness-building events; General knowledge of social media and a willingness to maintain and post relevant content on social media accounts, including Facebook and Twitter; Willingness to learn volunteer management skills; Commitment to a high level of accountability and integrity, as well as professionalism in attitude and appearance; Able to adapt to sometimes rapidly changing priorities; Able to think strategically to help shape the state district leader volunteer program; Able to initiate and lead a variety of projects; and Able to work on a team and as an independent self-starter.
Restrictions	Must be a current HSUS member or have provided a greater philanthropic
	 commitment; Must be a minimum of 18 years of age and willing to register to vote, if
	not already registered;
	Must be able to learn and follow all HSUS guidelines and policies and
	follow directions given by staff;
	Access to a computer with Microsoft Office and internet capabilities, a
	phone and reliable transportation;
	Court-ordered community service not accepted; and
Tools/Equipment Provided	Must submit the required paperwork before being assigned. n/a
Tools/Equipment Provided (including Personal Protective	n/a
Equipment)	
Optional Tools/Equipment	n/a
Supervisor(s)	State director in assigned state
Number of Concurrent	Varies by state
Volunteer Openings	
Additional Information	State district leaders will be reimbursed for specific, related expenses such as
	any tabling fees at HSUS-sponsored events. We are unable to reimburse for
	out of pocket expenses related to other volunteer activities with HSUS such as
	fuel costs to drive to your state capitol for Humane Lobby Day.
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