



## **Animal Care Volunteer**

The Marine Mammal Care Center Los Angeles (MMCC) is a hospital for seals and sea lions located in San Pedro. Our mission is to rehabilitate marine mammals with the goal of releasing them back to their natural environment, and to educate the public about our patients and ocean conservation. The National Marine Fisheries Service depends on MMCC to carry out the important goals of the Marine Mammal Protection Act. As a non-profit organization, MMCC's primary funding is provided by individuals, charitable foundations, private businesses and corporations. MMCC operates with dedicated volunteers and staff working diligently to rehabilitate sick, injured, or malnourished seals and sea lions who are rescued on beaches from north of Zuma all the way to Seal Beach.

### ***Role Description:***

The Animal Care Volunteer will assist the husbandry staff with husbandry tasks and patient care. This volunteer reports to the staff shift lead(s) on their scheduled shift as well as the Husbandry Manager. This role is on-site at the hospital in San Pedro. Duties may include:

- Thawing and sorting frozen fish
- Making gruel for patients not eating whole fish
- Washing dishes
- Doing laundry
- Cleaning pen areas
- Assisting in feeding of patients

### ***Commitment:***

The Animal Care Volunteer will commit to one shift at the same time each week for at least one year. The shift will be selected during the on-boarding process based on the volunteer's availability and MMCC LA's shift needs. There is a morning and afternoon shift every day. The morning shift runs from approximately 6:00am-12:00pm in the slow season and 5:00am-1:00pm when patient counts are high. The afternoon shift runs from approximately 12:00pm-6:00pm in the slow season and 12:00pm-8:00pm when patient counts are high.



### **Requirements:**

The Animal Care Volunteer must be 18 years or older. They must have reliable transportation to and from the hospital in San Pedro. No previous animal care experience is required as training will be provided on-shift. The volunteer should be competent in all the following areas:

- Time Management
- Collaboration Skills
- Personal Effectiveness/Credibility
- Self Starter
- Flexibility
- Stress Management/Composure
- Communication Proficiency

The selected candidate will participate in a full volunteer on-boarding process including an interview, two-part orientation, background check and training.

### **Position Impact:**

The Animal Care Volunteer will play a vital role in the direct care for patients in our hospital, as well as providing a clean and safe environment during their rehabilitation.

This opportunity offers a high level of training for those interested in animal husbandry or wildlife rehabilitation. It is a unique opportunity to learn more about these protected species.

### **Contact:**

To apply for this important volunteer role, complete an application online at <http://www.marinemammalcare.org/volunteer>. For questions, contact the Volunteer Services Manager at [hturkes@marinemammalcare.org](mailto:hturkes@marinemammalcare.org).