



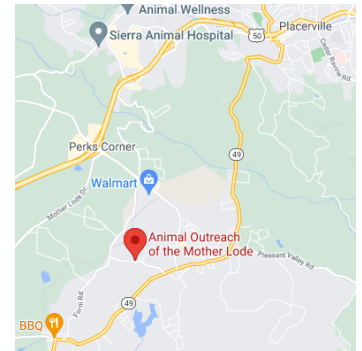
AO Board Member Recruitment

September 28, 2021 for immediate distribution

Animal Outreach of the Mother Lode has been in business for nearly 28 years. We have served the community with low cost spay/neuter, low cost vaccines, reduced costs to 501(c)(3) rescue groups, training and education on animal welfare, and the rescue and adoption of nearly 2,000 cats and kittens per year.

We are located in a small community in the foothills of the Sierra Mountain range near Placerville, California. We have grown from humble beginnings to an organization known for its service to animals and its rescue of felines.

Like all nonprofits, we struggle daily to remain productive and relevant to our surrounding community. For the past four years, we have been searching for people passionate about animals and with a background in business to become Board Members in our organization.



While many nonprofits operate under what is called an “Advisory Board” model, Animal Outreach has for several years operated using a “Cooperative Governance” model. This means we have been very hands on in the operations and maintenance of the organization. We are currently transitioning from that cooperative governance model to an advisory board model. That transition, however is still underway. Accordingly, Board Members are still required to put in more time than would be typical for an advisory board. As such we have specific needs for new Board Members, and are providing this information in the hope that we reach people ready to give back and have the time to do so.

1. It is important to note we serve a limited geographic area we established long ago as our community. While we get customers from outside our community, the area we serve directly includes El Dorado County, Placer County and Sacramento County. Potential board members should reside in this community area or within a 45 minute drive of the facility. We need individuals that know and understand the area, people, politics and economy by living in it, shopping in it and enjoying the opportunities available in this area.



2. We are looking for people with a recognizable background in business and a passion for animal welfare. We need people with a proven business acumen that understand budgets, leadership, networking, project management and planning, communications, income analysis, personnel issues, profit and loss, capital outlay projects, and problem solving.

3. As previously noted above, we are moving to an advisory board model but that process is still underway. These positions will require several hours a week (particularly in the beginning) at the facility interacting with employees and volunteers, and becoming familiar with our daily operations. This time is critical in order to be able to move into the advisory model as quickly as we can. We also need individuals willing to commit to a minimum three-year term.
4. At least three of the four individuals recruited, or existing, must be willing to serve as officers of the organization. These positions include Board President, Board Vice President, Board Secretary and Board Treasurer. We can provide more details about what these positions entail during the interview process.
5. We have remote Board meetings at least once per month but sometimes more if a team assigned to a particular problem or task needs full board involvement. As we move into the advisory model, we expect the meetings to become quarterly. Additionally, we assign board members committees or work groups to accomplish specific tasks, and those may require additional meetings.

The economy, COVID, and wildfires in California have hit us hard, but we remain a vital and dynamic organization and resource for pet owners, rescue groups, and the public as a whole. While the task of recruiting and involving this number of Board Members is daunting, we are convinced that the people and resources we need are out there.

At the end of 2021 we are losing at least three existing members of the Board, each with twenty years of service to Animal Outreach. Without qualified replacements for these positions, we cannot continue.

Please recognize this opportunity to give back to the community and the animals we serve. We desperately need your help to continue with our goals and mission. If you are not available for these positions, please forward this document to others who you think may be interested. We appreciate your interest and help with Board recruitment.

Respectfully

Animal Outreach of the Mother Lode Board

For questions regarding this information, please contact: Carol Croyle, Board President at (916)600-2152 or email your letter of interest and a resume to board@animaloutreach.net.