



Humane Heroes



Humane Heroes is select, service-based educational program for students in grades 6-12 that provides hands-on experience with animal care, humane education, and animal shelter operations. Participants learn how to care for animals, work alongside shelter staff, and learn the skills necessary for being advocates for responsible pet ownership. The students we select for this program must show a desire to better animals' lives, take direction well, and work hard.

Humane Heroes dates: Four-week session runs August 7th-September 1st

Only 40 students will be selected. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until the deadline.

Participation Requirements

- Participants must be available to attend:
 - Virtual orientation with a parent/guardian: August 1st or August 3rd, 6-7 p.m.
 - In person orientation Monday August 7th or Tuesday August 8th.

Shifts are available Monday-Friday. Participants may choose from morning shifts (9:00 am-12:30pm) and afternoon shifts (1:00 pm-4:30 pm), **with the exception of Friday evenings**. Participants do not have to come for the same shift every week. Choosing to participate more frequently (all 4 weeks, full days, or multiple shifts each week) is an option and depends on space availability during any given week. Each shift will be capped at 8 individuals. Participants will sign up for shifts ahead of time, and each shift week will close on the Friday prior.

Registration Deadline: Wednesday, May 31st

Registration Cost (includes t-shirt): \$200

Participants will be expected to follow current MHHS COVID-19 protocols

Coming with your sibling? Have your parent ask us about our family discounts!

Email HumaneEducation@mohawkhumanesociety.org with questions.



Humane Heroes

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

CONTACT INFORMATION

- Phone: (518) 434-8128 ext.350
- Email:HumaneEducation@mohawkhumanesociety.org

CAMP SCHEDULE

- Monday through Friday, from 9:00 am-12:30pm, 1:00pm-4:30pm (**except Friday evenings**)

DROP-OFF/ PICK-UP PROCEDURES

The Humane Heroes entrance is located at 3 Oakland Ave. ***This entrance is where both drop-off and pick-up of campers will take place.*** Parents/guardians are required to escort children into camp during orientation week only.

Anyone who has not been authorized to pick up a camper will not be allowed to check that camper out until we have cleared that person with the camper's parent/guardian/approved custodian.

If an unavoidable delay arises and you arrive late, call our camp (518-434-8128 ext. 350) to alert us. ***Please note that a penalty late fee may be assessed if you are late.*** Please ensure that your child has all of their belongings before leaving.

CAMP CURRICULUM

Humane Heroes is designed to be a service focused program. Participants will be expected to work hard and get their hands dirty. Participants may also expect to learn about a variety of humane education topics concerning animal care and animal behavior. Topics such as animal cruelty, positive reinforcement, and community advocacy will be covered. The camp curriculum emphasizes collaboration, critical thinking, and the exchange of ideas with fellow Humane Heroes. Participants are encouraged to find solutions to many of the challenges animals face in our society today. Sessions may also include crafting enrichment items such as snuffle mats or cat Kongs. Participants should be prepared to potentially interact with animals such as dogs, cats, guinea pigs, rats, chinchillas, birds, reptiles, and rabbits. Humane Heroes is designed to foster respect for animals and help nurture future community leaders.



WHAT TO BRING TO A SHIFT

- A face mask (optional)
- A large, labeled bottle of water
- A snack and lunch if desired
- Layers of clothing for indoor and outdoor activities, or foggy/cold weather
- Closed-toe shoes for walking & working with animals
- Sunscreen and/or a hat
- Any medications (labeled with a signed medication form)

WHAT NOT TO BRING TO CAMP

- Electronic toys, mp3 players, or video game devices
- Heely's (shoes with wheels on the sole), open-toed or slip-on shoes
- Personal pets
- Umbrellas
- Knives or other weapons
- Vapes or Jules

ALLERGY INFORMATION

Many of our campers have a variety of food allergies, some of which may be life-threatening. Allergens that may be encountered in the facility may include but are not limited to dog, cat, rabbit, and small animal dander as well as peanuts and other potential food allergens. This facility makes extensive use of peanut butter, and there are no areas that may be presumed to be free of peanuts.

CAMP DISCIPLINE POLICY

To help maintain the safety and wellness of campers, staff, volunteers, animals, and the general public, the following discipline policy has been established.

Disciplinary action may be taken if a camper displays undesirable behavior that interferes with or disrupts the camp program. Examples of this behavior include inappropriate language, making fun of or insulting others, bullying, using profanity, harming or frightening the animals, physically harming others, not following directions, or unwelcome actions that make other Humane Heroes feel uncomfortable.



Consequences to undesirable behavior are as follows:

- First offense: Verbal warning from staff
- Second offense: Call to parent/guardian
- Third offense: Discipline report filed; meeting with parent/guardian
- Fourth offense: Removal from camp; no refund will be given
- *In the event of extreme infractions, MHHS reserves the right to remove a camper from the program immediately without prior warnings, and no refund will be given.*

Every effort is made to accommodate campers with special needs, including campers with behavioral challenges. Parents/guardians of children who need special attention or have behavioral challenges must notify us of the issue in the “additional notes” section of the online registration form. Camp staff is trained to manage many common health and behavioral disorders; however, campers with severe behavioral disorders that may continuously interfere with or disrupt the camp program must have an aide present.

HANDS-ON ANIMAL INTERACTIONS

We strive to provide an enriching learning experience and ensure the safety and comfort of all animals and participants in our care. As such, participants should not expect to spend the entirety of camp directly interacting with animals. We have a limited number of animals with which our campers may interact, and the animals need time to relax and recuperate from the excitement of our hands-on sessions. Camper interactions with animals may include feeding, grooming, and training.

A note about animal safety: Campers will interact only with animals that have been approved for safety and disposition by MHHS animal welfare professionals. Campers will not interact directly with adoptable adult dogs in the shelter due to safety and liability restrictions. Instead, campers will interact with dogs belonging to staff and volunteers.