



Going to the Dogs

Canine Lessons in Volunteer Engagement

Top 5 Lessons

- 1 The other end of the leash ... the alpha sets the tone.
- 2 The pack is best when all now their jobs.
- 3 There is a place for everyone in the pack.
- 4 Distractions are everywhere—focus on the pack, not the distraction.
- 5 Fancy equipment not required.

How do you get them all to walk together so nicely!?

Best Practices to a well-functioning pack

Note: Modeled on MAVA's Volunteer Leadership Training Series created by Betty Stallings.

- 1 Know your breed (Capturing Motivation)
- 2 Integrate wisely into the pack (Conducting Effective Interviews)
- 3 Where they fit in the pack (Designing Positions)
- 4 Squirrel!!! (Risk Management)

5 My dog could never do that! (Recruiting)

6 Who's a good doggie?! (Supervision/Recognition/Retention)

7 He's much better at home! (Positioning for Success)

8 Being one with the pack (Measuring Impact)

Application

1 How is "your pack" walking well? What volunteer engagement practices are most effective for you and your programs?

2 Do you have "breeds" you don't understand and have in roles that are not helping the pack?

3 If you were a breed of dog, what would you be? What breed is your best volunteer? What breed is the volunteer you struggle with?

