Wildlife Rescue & Rehabilitation Inc.
Domesticated and Companion Animal Apprentice Program

**History:** Established in 1977, Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation (WRR) is a non-profit organization that receives approximately 10,000 wild animals per year for rehabilitation and release. WRR also provides permanent sanctuary for over six hundred non-releasable native animals and non-native wildlife including large mammals, primates, reptiles, birds and farmed animals. Wildlife Rescue has two locations; the main sanctuary and rehabilitation hospital is located on 212 acres in beautiful Kendalia Texas, our other facility is the Sherman Animal Care Complex located in the heart of San Antonio.

**Description:** This program is designed as an introduction to domesticated and companion animal care. The program is designed for individuals who have previous experience in animal care and are interested in developing the basic and novice skills required when pursuing a career in domestic and companion animal care. The six-month program combines hands-on training and classroom instruction during which participants will learn practical skills and general knowledge required to succeed in the fields of companion animal care. The domesticated and companion animal apprentice concentrates on the care of domesticated and companion animal residents at the Kendalia sanctuary. Wildlife Rescue is a sanctuary for over sixty cats many of whom are adoptable and dozens of permanent resident farmed animals. The companion animal apprentice will also fulfill a supporting role during the adoption process.

**Participant Duties and Responsibilities:**

- Learn the natural history, diet, daily care and housing requirements for a variety of companion animals in sanctuary, including but not limited to: cats, dogs, rabbits, guinea pigs and rats.
- Learn the natural history, diet, daily care and housing requirements for a variety of farmed animals including but not limited to: goats, sheep, cows, donkeys, llamas and pigs.
- Maintain paper medical and daily care records for companion and domesticated animals.
- Become proficient in WRMD web software in a manner that supports the record keeping of domesticated and companion animals in sanctuary.
- Carry out demanding and substantial animal care duties consisting of feeding, cleaning, maintaining enclosures, providing enrichment activities all while maintaining exceptional standards of care.
- Undertake basic medical work including administration of prescribed medications and treatments.
- Conduct behavioral observations and maintain detailed caretaking records.
- Demonstrate proper understanding and practice of safety procedures.
- Develop written and interpersonal communication skills.
- Participate in public education in person and through the WRR hotline service.
- Undergo training and perform duties related to the WRR hotline service including answering phones on assigned overnight shifts.
- Participate in the adoption process under the supervision of the Above Sanctuary Supervisor.
- Complete an individual project that will leave a positive lasting impact on the lives of the animals in sanctuary.
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Requirements:
• Minimum six months previous professional animal care experience is required
• Bachelor’s degree required, animal-related field preferred
• Commitment to completion of the six-month program
• Willingness to work evenings, weekends, and holidays
• Ability to work long hours (40-70 hours per week) in all weather conditions
• Ability to lift 50lbs, twist and bend, and spend long periods of time on your feet
• Capable of handling physically, mentally and emotionally stressful situations
• Competent in working independently and as part of a team
• Possess a strong personal work ethic, positive attitude and high level of integrity
• Meningitis and Tetanus vaccines are required
• Valid driver’s license and clean driving record are required

Availability: Start dates for the WRR Companion Animal Apprentice Program in Kendalia are as follows:
The session start dates are January, April and August.

Stipend: A monthly stipend of $350 dollars is granted. On-site housing is provided at no cost with a
signed housing agreement and deposit.

To Apply: If you are interested in applying email a cover letter, resume, three references and any letters
of recommendation to: Education@wildlife-rescue.org

Wildlife Rescue & Rehabilitation
Attn: Apprentice Supervisor
P.O. Box 369 Kendalia TX. 78027
Fax: (830) 336-3733