



# Mini Camp Humane Parent Handbook

## Summer 2022



SAN ANTONIO  
**HUMANE  
SOCIETY**





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# **Introduction**

## **About the San Antonio Humane Society**

The San Antonio Humane Society (SAHS) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, no-kill organization that has served Bexar County and its surrounding areas since 1952. The SAHS shelters, medically treats, and rehabilitates thousands of dogs and cats every year. Many of the dogs and cats in our care have been abused, injured, surrendered by their owners, or found as strays. As a no-kill organization, every treatable pet in our care stays in our care until they find a home or necessary placement with another limited intake organization. No pet in our care is ever euthanized to create space. Thousands of dogs and cats in San Antonio and its surrounding areas are saved from euthanasia every year due to the mission and practices of the SAHS.

Through our adoption, volunteer, foster, spay/neuter, and educational programs, we inform and educate the public on the importance of responsible pet ownership. We serve as one of the largest dog and cat adoption organizations in San Antonio, Texas, helping to decrease the community's large pet overpopulation problem in a humane manner. As a local nonprofit, we are not affiliated with the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). We do not receive funding from the federal government, the HSUS or the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA).

*Our Mission is to protect and improve the lives of dogs and cats by providing shelter, care, adoption, rescue, spay/neuter programs, and community education.*

*Our Vision is to end pet overpopulation and to create a community where every dog and cat is treated with respect and compassion and has a permanent and loving home.*

## **About Mini Camp Humane**

Mini Camp Humane is a shorter 2-day version of the San Antonio Humane Society's week-long summer camp program, Camp Humane. This program will give campers the opportunity to go behind-the-scenes of the SAHS to learn more about its mission and role in the community. We will focus on encouraging empathy, compassion, and respect for people, animals, and the environment as well as recognizing the connection among these. In addition, each camp session will have a unique theme for specialized learning. This program is available for campers in grades 1-12.

Please note that the SAHS Camp Humane Programs are not licensed by the Texas Department of State Health Services.

# **Camper Drop-Off and Pick-Up**

## **Check-In and Pick-Up Location**

Campers will be checked in and dropped off at the entrance of the Education Building located at 4804 Fredericksburg Rd, San Antonio, TX 78229.

## **Check-In Process**

Check-in will run from 8:45 AM - 9:00 AM. Upon arrival, please ring the doorbell and wait for a SAHS Humane Educator to greet you. A SAHS Humane Educator will then escort your camper into the building. Please allow approximately 10 minutes for check-in.

## **Pick-Up Process**

Pick-up will run from 2:45 PM - 3:00 PM. Upon arrival, please ring the doorbell and wait for a SAHS Humane Educator to greet you. Once you've been greeted, a SAHS Humane Educator will verify the identity of the pick-up person. Any person attempting to pick up a child from camp will be required to show a valid state or military-issued photo ID. This person must also be listed on the authorized pick-up list provided during registration. Upon verification, a SAHS Humane Educator will escort your camper out to you. Please allow approximately 5-10 minutes for pick-up. Campers whose parents have not checked in for pick-up by 3:00 PM and have not previously purchased Extended Care will be charged the daily fee of \$15. Please refer to the Fees, Rescheduling, and Cancellations section.

## **Late Drop-Off, Early Pick-Up, and Absences**

If you are running late to drop off your camper, please call as soon as possible at (210) 226-7461 ext. 136 or 140. Camp may already be in progress and your camper may miss activities or presentations that cannot be made up. If you need to pick up your camper early, please communicate your pick-up time with the SAHS Humane Educators upon drop-off in the morning. In the event of an emergency that will require your camper be picked up early, please call as soon as possible. If your camper will be absent, please call as soon as possible. There is no refund or rescheduling for a missed day of camp. If it is determined your camper can no longer attend the program prior to its start, the SAHS will make every effort to reschedule your camper into another session. However, rescheduling is subject to availability. Please refer to the Fees, Rescheduling, and Cancellations section.

## **Extended Care**

Extended Care will be available to purchase for all campers at a rate of \$15/day or \$25/session. Extended Care will run from 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM. A late pick-up fee will be assessed in 15 minute increments for campers who are picked up after 4:30 PM. Campers whose parents have not checked in for pick-up by 3:00 PM and have not previously purchased Extended Care will be charged the daily fee of \$15. Please refer to the Fees, Rescheduling, and Cancellations section.



# Fees, Rescheduling, and Cancellations

## Late Pick-Up Fees

Campers whose parents have not checked in for pick-up by 3:00 PM and have not previously purchased Extended Care will be charged the daily fee of \$15. A late pick-up fee will be assessed in 15 minute increments for extended care campers who are picked up after 4:30 PM.

Please refer to the following chart for late fees:

Late Arrival	Fee
< 15 Min	\$10.00
16 - 30 Min	\$15.00
31 - 45 Min	\$30.00
46 - 60 Min	\$60.00

## Rescheduling and Cancellations

Cancellations made no later than four (4) weeks prior to your scheduled camp session will receive a full refund. Cancellations made within four (4) weeks but no less than two (2) weeks prior to your scheduled camp session will be subject to a 50% cancellation fee. Cancellations made within two (2) weeks but no less than one (1) week of the scheduled camp session will be subject to a 75% cancellation fee. Cancellations made within one (1) week of the scheduled camp session will be subject to a 100% cancellation fee. Camp sessions may be rebooked whenever possible; however, rebooking is subject to availability. Each rescheduled reservation will be subject to a \$15 rebooking fee.

At the discretion of the SAHS, your program may be cancelled due to events including but not limited to inclement weather, low enrollment, electricity or water issues, or any other unforeseen circumstances. In the event that the SAHS cancels your session, a full refund may be issued.



## **Camp Policies**

### **Camp Regulations**

- While at camp, weapons and firearms are strictly prohibited.
- The use of alcohol, drugs, and smoking is prohibited.
- Pets are not allowed at camp. This includes dogs, cats, hermit crabs, lizards, birds, etc.
- Personal sports equipment, such as bats, balls, etc., is not allowed at camp. If sports equipment is to be used in an activity, it will be provided.
- Campers are never permitted to ride in any vehicles unless accompanied by their parents or an SAHS Humane Educator. At NO time are personal vehicles used.
- Campers should stay with their group at all times.
- Cell phones should not be used at camp. Campers will be asked to keep their phones off and put away throughout camp hours. The San Antonio Humane Society is not responsible for theft or damage to cell phones at camp. Please notify an SAHS Humane Educator if a camper needs to carry a cell phone.

### **Code of Conduct**

- Campers will be respectful of all other campers, volunteers, and SAHS staffs as well as their ideas and their opinions.
- Campers will be polite and courteous to all other campers, volunteers, and SAHS staff at all times.
- Participants will respect the personal information and privacy of other participants, volunteers and SAHS staff.
- Campers will be mindful and follow additional directions from SAHS staff while on campus.
- Campers will not engage in bullying or aggressive behavior toward any other campers, volunteers, or SAHS staff at any time.
- Campers will not threaten or intimidate, nor engage in any behavior that may cause injury or harm to the physical or mental well-being of other campers, volunteers, or SAHS staff.
- Campers will not write, use, or display any information that is hostile, insulting to others, obscene, threatening, or otherwise offensive.
- Campers will not engage in cursing, inappropriate, or vulgar language.



## **Attire/Dress Code**

Campers should wear their Camp Humane t-shirt, closed-toe shoes with rubber, non-slip soles, and pants or shorts of at least knee-length. Campers will receive their Camp Humane t-shirt on the first day of camp and will be allowed to change into their shirts in the bathroom.

Please keep in mind that some activities throughout the day may cause damage to your child's clothing. Clothing or headwear containing images of violence, profanity, or discrimination are not permitted.

## **Behavior Concerns**

Upon arrival to the program, SAHS may review examples of acceptable and unacceptable behavior and campers are expected to adhere to these guidelines. If a behavior problem arises, a SAHS Humane Educator will

first discuss the problem with the individual. If the problem continues, the camper may forfeit participation in future program activities. If the problems are severe, the parent will be contacted to discuss the problem. Finally, if the problem is not rectified, the parents are responsible for returning to the shelter to pick up the camper from the program. A refund will not be issued.

A SAHS Humane Educator may wish to discuss your camper's behavior during the day (positive and negative) at pick-up. Please help us in enforcing all camp rules and let us know if there is anything we can do to help your camper be the best that they can be while at camp.

## **Camp with Siblings or Friends**

At the time of registration, please include the name of the other participant(s) that you are hoping to group with. It is strongly recommended that campers who wish to participate together be registered at the same time. Please note that space is limited within each session. We will make every effort to accommodate your group request.

## **Hydration**

It is strongly recommended that campers bring a reusable water bottle to camp. Refilling stations are available throughout the shelter and campers will be given several opportunities to refill throughout the day. Please make sure that water bottles are clearly labeled with your camper's name.



## **Medication**

The SAHS Staff and volunteers are unable to administer medication to any child. The SAHS is not responsible for any lost or stolen medication, or ensuring that your child takes their medication. This is the sole responsibility of the child and the parent/guardian.

Should your camper be diagnosed with or exposed to COVID-19 and their scheduled session falls within their designated quarantine period, please contact the SAHS Education Team immediately to discuss your options. You can email [education@SAhumane.org](mailto:education@SAhumane.org) or call (210) 226-7461 ext. 136 or 140.

## **Parent/Guardian Notification**

It is our policy to keep the parents or guardians of our campers informed of camper health concerns and behavior during their child's camp experience. SAHS will notify you for the following health reasons:

- Any minor injury that requires more than a small adhesive bandage.
- Any illness or injury resulting in the SAHS transporting the camper to a doctor's office, clinic, or hospital emergency room.

SAHS will also notify parents or guardians in the case of behavioral or social problems while at camp. Some of these behavioral concerns might include:

- Flagrant disregard or breaking of camp rules and regulations.
- Any behavior that endangers or harms any other camper, volunteer, staff member, guest, or animal.
- Behavioral or disciplinary problems for which the camper has been pulled aside and counseled by the SAHS Humane Educator.

We will contact the parent or guardian by phone, in presence of the camper, to discuss the situation and conditions for remaining in camp or arrangements to end the camp experience.

## **Lunch/Snack**

Campers will get a 30 minute lunch break each day during the program. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to provide lunch for their camper each day. Lunch must be packed in a lunch box or disposable bag. Refrigerated space is not available at camp. A 15 minute snack break will be scheduled each day for campers in Grades 1-5. It is strongly encouraged that parents provide a snack for their camper in this age group. Products containing nuts are strictly prohibited from Camp Humane. We cannot guarantee that some items may have been packaged within a factory that handles nut products. Accommodations will be made for campers with allergies. Campers with allergies are encouraged to bring their own snack. If your camper has any severe allergies, please disclose this when registering and in discussion with a SAHS Humane Educator.



## **Staff to Camper Ratio & Etiquette**

The SAHS will have a 1:8 staff to camper ratio. In the event of an emergency, camp groups may be combined so that one of the SAHS staff members can respond to the emergency. Campers will be under the supervision of a SAHS staff member at all times.

## **Weather Protocol**

Weather conditions are monitored closely by our management team, and our enjoyment of any outdoor activities is contingent upon the proximity and nature of weather factors such as lightning or high winds. Rainstorms are common in Texas and a SAHS Humane Educator will determine if activities need to be moved inside or rescheduled due to rain. SAHS will follow company policies regarding seeking shelter for lightning, high winds, or tornados in the area. Any decision to cancel a program will be decided in a timely manner and a SAHS Humane Educator will notify all parents/guardians.

## **COVID-19 Cleaning and Safety**

- All staff, volunteers, and campers are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings over the nose and mouth throughout the duration of camp, the only exception being breaks for snacks and lunch.
- Extra disposable masks will be available should your child's mask get wet or soiled, if you choose to have your child wear a mask.
- Parents should monitor their camper for any symptoms of COVID-19 each day prior to camp, and campers who are expressing any of the following symptoms should stay home:
  - Any elevated temperature of 100.4°F (CDC recommendation)
  - Cough
  - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
  - Chills, or repeated shaking with chills
  - Muscle pain
  - Headache
  - Sore throat
  - Loss of taste or smell
  - Diarrhea
  - Known close contact with a person who is confirmed to have COVID-19 (if unvaccinated)
- Campers who are unvaccinated and have been exposed to COVID-19 or are experiencing any symptoms will not be permitted to attend camp until symptoms are no longer present. Rescheduling your camper's session will be subject to availability.
- Campers who may begin experiencing symptoms while at camp will be sent home. Refunds will not be issued for missed time; however, every effort will be made to reschedule your child's session.
- Check-ins at morning drop-off and check-outs at afternoon pick-up will be done outside of the Education Building. We ask that guardians and campers queue up maintaining a distance of 6ft between other parties. Staff will need to see photo identification that matches

a name on the approved pick-up list before allowing a child to leave or be picked up at the end of the day. Masks are strongly encouraged, but not required, while on SAHS grounds.

- Campers will be escorted into the building after check-in. Guardians will not be permitted to enter the building at this time.
- Activities will take place throughout the shelter grounds, including kennels, behind-the-scenes areas, the education room and adjacent outside play yard. The education room and adjacent play yard are not accessible to the public. Activities outside of the education room and adjacent play yard will only be accessed prior to public opening. The majority of camp will take place inside of the education room and adjacent play yard.
- Each child will be provided their own designated area for lunch boxes and water bottles.
- Spaces will be cleaned and high-touch surfaces will be sanitized frequently by staff each day.
- Reusable water bottles are strongly recommended for each camp participant and will only be refilled by a designated staff member at the Education Building water dispenser. Use of the drinking fountain will not be permitted.
- We will reduce the number of campers from 30 to 15. Campers, volunteers, and staff will practice social distancing as much as possible while on campus, except in the situations of first aid or emergencies.
- When materials must be shared, they will be sanitized between groups and everyone will wash hands and use sanitizer immediately after use.
- Campers will be placed into a small group or “pack” for group activities throughout the week. They will be with their same pack for the week.
- Game equipment will be sanitized after each day’s use.
- We will remind campers to refrain from touching their faces.
- Frequent hand washing breaks will be conducted throughout the program and prior to lunch. Participants will be asked to wash their hands for at least 20 seconds.
- There will be hand sanitizer available at all times within the education room.
- No food sharing will be allowed. Campers will be seated according to the CDC’s recommendations for social distancing.

\*All cleaning will be done with Rescue™. Rescue™, formulated with Accelerated Hydrogen Peroxide®, is approved for use against some of the world’s most dangerous pathogens under the EPA’s Emerging Viral Pathogen guidance, including SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. Rescue™ Wipes, Ready-to-Use Liquid, and Concentrate can be used effectively against the virus that causes COVID-19 when used in accordance with the directions for use.

# **Disease Prevention Reminders Prior to Camp**

- Guardians are asked to monitor their campers for any symptoms of COVID-19 each day prior to camp. Additionally, each camper will need the new COVID-19 camp waiver signed and returned prior to visiting camp.
- Staff, volunteers, and campers should not come to camp if they show signs of respiratory illness (a new cough, complaints of sore throat, or shortness of breath). If a child, volunteer, or staff member has a new cough, they should not come to camp even if they have no fever.
- Students, volunteers, and staff will continuously be encouraged to always cover their mouth hand nose with a tissue or use the inside of their elbow when they cough or sneeze. Tissues will need to be thrown in the trash immediately and they will need to wash hands with soap and water for a minimum of 20 seconds
- Parents will be informed: By coming to camp this summer, you are recognizing the risks associated with participating in group activities. San Antonio Humane Society in no way warrants that COVID-19 infection will not occur through participation in our programs or accessing our facilities. If your child's camp session has to be cancelled prior to its start due to changes in the current COVID-19 status, you will be issued a full refund. If your child comes to camp, and the session has to be shortened due to suspected COVID-19 exposure, no refunds will be issued.





# **Camp Activities**

**1st - 2nd Grade**

## **Humane Heroes**

What does a hero look like to you? In this session we'll meet some of the heroes at the SAHS and learn how we can be heroes for pets too!

Sessions Available: *June 6-7, July 7-8, August 1-1*

**3rd - 5th Grade**

## **Barks and Crafts**

Get ready to unleash your creativity! This session will be full of fun pet-themed art projects. Scissors and glue and pawprints, oh my!

Sessions Available: *July 14-15*

**6th - 8th Grade**

## **Career Days**

Have you ever considered a career working with animals? In this session, we we'll learn about some of the careers available at an animal shelter and meet the folks who do those jobs!

Sessions Available: *June 20-21*

## **Shelter Helpers**

Spend two days completing service projects around the SAHS. We'll clean kennels, prep enrichment, and more! Campers will receive credit for 8 hours of service work for the 2-day session.

Sessions Available: *June 23-24, August 4-5*

**9th - 12th Grade**

## **Mini Service Camp**

Spend two days completing service projects around the SAHS. We'll clean kennels, prep enrichment, and more! Campers will receive credit for 8 hours of service work for the 2-day session.

Sessions Available: *June 9-10, July 11-12*

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

## ***What is included in my registration fee?***

Your registration includes admission to one (1) two-day Mini Camp Humane session. This includes guided behind-the-scenes access and specialized activities between the hours of 9:00 AM-3:00 PM each day. Registration also includes one (1) Camp Humane t-shirt.

## ***What is your cancellation policy?***

Cancellations made no later than four (4) weeks prior to your scheduled camp session will receive a full refund. Cancellations made within four (4) weeks but no less than two (2) weeks prior to your scheduled camp session will be subject to a 50% cancellation fee. Cancellations made within two (2) weeks but no less than one (1) week prior to the camp session are subject to a 75% cancellation fee. Cancellations made within one (1) week of the scheduled camp session will be subject to a 100% cancellation fee. Camp sessions may be rebooked whenever possible; however, rebooking is subject to availability. Each rescheduled reservation will be subject to a \$15 rebooking fee. At the discretion of the SAHS, your program may be cancelled due to events including but not limited to inclement weather, low enrollment, electricity or water issues, or any other unforeseen circumstances. In the event that the SAHS cancels your session, a full refund may be issued.

## ***How has COVID-19 impacted Camp Humane?***

Mini Camp Humane is here to provide the same experiences that you know and love from years past. We have reduced the number of participants per camp session. We have also reduced the number of days per camp session. Our aim is to reduce the risk of exposure while also being accessible to the same number of campers we have seen in the past. Our new model allows us to provide social distancing between participants and to provide a deep clean of our facilities between each scheduled session. Parents should monitor their camper for any symptoms of COVID-19 each day prior to camp. Additionally, face masks are strongly encouraged to be worn on campus at all times, unless eating or drinking, by campers and staff.

## ***What if my camper gets COVID-19 before camp?***

Should your camper be diagnosed with or exposed to COVID-19 and their scheduled session falls within their designated quarantine period, please contact the SAHS Education Team immediately to discuss your options. You can email [education@SAhumane.org](mailto:education@SAhumane.org) or call (210) 226-7461 ext. 136 or 140.

## ***What will my camper be doing throughout the day at Camp Humane?***

Each camp theme will have its own unique schedule for each day. This day may include animal socialization and interactions, arts and crafts, guest speakers, service projects and more. Activities may vary by session and schedules are subject to change. All campers will have a lunch break, and campers in grades 1-5 will also be provided with a snack break. For the safety of your child and our pets, no participant will be permitted to handle any pet while attending the program. Any animal interaction will be led by and under the supervision of a SAHS staff

member. It should be noted that while this program takes place at the San Antonio Humane Society, your child should not expect to spend the entire day working with pets.

***What should my camper bring with them each day?***

Each participant will need to bring their lunch in a lunch box or disposable bag and a reusable water bottle that is clearly labeled with their name. Please note that refrigerated space is not available. It is also strongly encouraged that each participant wear or bring a face mask. Campers should also remember to wear their camper t-shirt for each day of camp.

***What should my camper wear each day?***

Participants should wear their camper t-shirt, closed-toe shoes with rubber, non-slip soles, and pants or shorts of at least knee-length. Participants will receive their camper t-shirt upon arrival to the program and will be allowed to change into their shirts in the bathrooms. Please keep in mind that some activities throughout the day may cause damage to your child's clothing. Clothing or headwear containing images of violence, profanity, or discrimination are not permitted.

***Can I buy an extra shirt for my camper?***

Yes! Additional shirts will be available for purchase. A t-shirt add-on will be available during the registration process. If you decide after registration that you would like to purchase an additional shirt, please coordinate with an SAHS Humane Educator. You can email [education@SAhumane.org](mailto:education@SAhumane.org) or call (210) 226-7461 ext. 136 or 140. Inventory is limited.

***What are the hours of operation for Camp Humane? Is there an extended care option available for working parents?***

Camp Humane will run from 9:00 AM-3:00 PM each day. Extended Care will be available to purchase for all campers at a rate of \$15/day or \$25/session. Extended Care will run from 3:00 PM-4:30 PM. A late pick-up fee will be assessed in 15 minute increments for campers who are picked up after 4:30 PM. Campers whose parents have not checked in for pick-up by 3:00 PM and have not previously purchased Extended Care will be charged the daily fee of \$15. Please refer to the Fees, Rescheduling, and Cancellations section.

***May I drop my camper off late or pick them up early?***

We ask that families adhere to the scheduled drop-off and pick-up times as much as possible to minimize disruptions from scheduled activities and lessons. If you are running late to drop off your camper, please call as soon as possible at (210) 226-7461 ext. 136 or 140.





Camp may already be in progress and your camper may miss activities or presentations that cannot be made up. If you need to pick up your camper early, please communicate your pick-up time with the SAHS Humane Educators upon drop off in the morning. In the event of an emergency that will require your camper be picked up early, please call and let us know.

***May I stay and attend camp with my child?***

Only SAHS staff, official SAHS volunteers assisting with the program, and registered campers are permitted to attend Camp Humane.

***How many campers and counselors are there in each session of Camp Humane?***

The SAHS will have a 1:8 staff to camper ratio. In the event of an emergency, camp groups may be combined so that one of the SAHS staff members can respond to the emergency. There is a maximum of 15 campers per session. Campers will be under the supervision of a SAHS staff member at all times.

***Can my child get COVID-19 from the dogs and cats at the shelter?***

According to the Center for Disease Control, “In the United States, there is no evidence that animals are playing a significant role in the spread of COVID-19. Based on the limited information available to date, the risk of animals spreading COVID-19 to people is considered to be low. However, because all animals can carry germs that can make people sick, it’s always a good idea to practice healthy habits around pets and other animals.” We will continue to have campers sanitize hands after animal interactions.



## **Contact Information**

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