



To Shelter and Rescue staff and volunteers and Animal Control Officers –

AniMatch, a Massachusetts Animal Coalition program, invites Animal Shelter staff and volunteers who work directly with dogs, ACOs, AniMatch Receiving Organizations and Sending Organizations to a special FREE training seminar on Canine Body Language and Behavior Observation on **September 26, 2016!**

We'd like to invite you and/or members of your staff (including volunteers) that work hands-on with dogs to participate in the next round of training classes. Because we know you are busy and we respect the time constraints you are under, we have structured the first two training modules into one full-day session.

For those of you who are not involved in the AniMatch program we invite you to consider signing up. AniMatch's mission is to help MA animal welfare organizations with limited resources transfer adoptable dogs to other Massachusetts animal welfare groups that have more resources available to find the dogs a "forever home." Check us out at macanimatch.org.

To date 369 animal welfare workers in MA have participated in these training workshops, including staff from T J O'Connor Adoption Center, Animal Protection Center of Southeastern MA, Second Chance Animal Shelter, Forever Home Rescue, Rainbow Rescues, Berkshire Humane Society, ACOs from Agawam, Mansfield, Foxboro, Springfield, Brockton, Boston and North Attleboro, to name a few. We welcome and encourage all ACOs, shelter staff and rescue organizations to participate so that AniMatch can better serve the animals of MA.

Class Information

Modules 1 & 2: Behavior Lecture and Observational Training

Video presentation of Kelley Bollen*, facilitated by AniMatch volunteers

The morning video lecture will provide trainees with a foundation of dog behavior knowledge consistent with our evaluation of shelter dogs for the AniMatch program. Attendees will learn to read and interpret dog body language and perform the AniMatch Behavior Observation procedure.

The afternoon observational training video will allow attendees to view Kelley handling and evaluating several dogs using the AniMatch Behavior Observation procedure. Attendees will be asked to comment on the various body language and behavioral reactions displayed by the dogs during the observation process.

Module 3: Hands-On Training

In person training with Kelley Bollen *

Under Kelley's supervision, each trainee will have the opportunity to practice cage presentation testing and directly handle dogs in performing the steps of an AniMatch Behavior Observation. The dogs you will practice on have already been evaluated by the hosting shelter.

Modules 1 and 2 must be completed before you are able to attend module 3. Those interested in becoming AniMatch Behavior Observers must complete all three modules. Those interested in becoming AniMatch Transporters must complete modules 1 & 2.

Date - Modules 1 and 2

Monday, September 26, 2016

Time

10:00 am to 4:00 pm

Location

MSPCA Boston
350 S Huntington Ave
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
617-522-5055

Directions

<https://www.mspca.org/adoption-centers/boston-adoption-center/>

Cost - \$0

Please rsvp for the Sept 26 training via the link below: (Click the green arrow under "sign up" in the green bar)

<https://www.volunteersignup.org/PCW9T>

Invites for module #3 will be sent out after the September 26 modules 1&2 training.

Date – Module #3

Monday, October 10 – module 3

OR

Monday, October July 17 – module 3

You pick one day

Module 3 is reserved for AniMatch participating organizations, those wishing to become AniMatch participating organizations, those wishing to volunteer as an AniMatch Behavior Observer or Scribe, and any MA Animal Control staff or volunteers regardless of their AniMatch status.

Time

11 am - 4 pm

Location

MSPCA Boston
350 S Huntington Ave
Jamaica Plain, MA 02130
617-522-5055

Important details

- Please plan to bring your own food and drinks to the training. We will take a half hour break for lunch
- Please bring a chair for yourself
- Please - no dogs unless they are your personal service dog
- Please plan to be a little early so we can start at 10 am sharp!

In the event the training has to be cancelled a notice will be posted on our website (macanimatch.org) by 9 pm the day before each training date. We will also send an email notice of the cancellation. If you'd like us to utilize an email address different than the one to which this letter has been sent, please forward us your preferred email contact information.

We hope you can attend! If you have any questions, please email us at volunteercoordinator@macanimatch.org

Thank you,

Anne Lindsay
Alice O'Connor
AniMatch Operations Committee Co-Chairs
macanimatch.org

** Kelley Bollen, MS, CABP has a Master's Degree in Animal Behavior, is a Certified Animal Behavior Consultant (CABC) and a professional member of the International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants (IAABC). She is also a professional member of the Association of Pet*

Dog Trainers (APDT). Kelley served as the behaviorist for the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (MSPCA) and is the former Director of Behavior Programs for the Shelter Medicine Program at Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine, teaching shelter medicine residents, interns and veterinary students about animal behavior. Kelley is the owner and Director of Animal Alliances, LLC and she consults with animal shelters across the country in the design and implementation of comprehensive behavior programs to address the behavioral health of the shelter animals during their stay.



Massachusetts Animal Coalition

**Working together to decrease the number of homeless,
neglected, displaced and abused animals in Massachusetts.**