

Who:

Animal Behavior College (ABC) has one of the largest Certified Dog Training Instructor programs in North America. They specialize in animal-related vocational career training and also offer a Certified Veterinary Assistant Training program.

What:

Students Saving Lives is a required portion of Animal Behavior College's Certified Dog Training Instructor program. Each student must volunteer a minimum of ten hours at a local animal shelter or rescue group.

Where:

The Certified Dog Training Instructor program is offered nationwide in all fifty states as well as in Canada. ABC has students all over North America and each one is required to participate in the Students Saving Lives program.

Why:

Research shows that 1.8 million dogs are surrendered to shelters every year by their owners. A high percentage of these surrenders can be linked to untreated behavior problems.

Shelter Statistics (Source: ASPCA):

- Approximately 8 to 12 million companion animals enter animal shelters nationwide annually.
- Every year, approximately 5 to 9 million of these animals are euthanized with 60% of them being dogs.
- Shelter intakes are essentially evenly divided between those relinquished by owners and those picked up by animal control.
- About 65% of pet owners acquire their pets for free or at a low cost.
- 10 to 20% of cats and dogs are adopted from shelters and rescues.
- Over 20% of people who relinquish their dogs to shelters adopted their dogs from a shelter.

Training does make a difference. These numbers are more than just statistics; they represent the lives of dogs, and ABC is dedicated to helping these animals.

How:

The Students Saving Lives program is embedded within the ABC coursework. All ABC Dog Training students must complete their volunteer work in order to continue in the course.

Results:

To date, over 3,100 students have graduated from ABC's Certified Dog Training Instructor program and are now Animal Behavior College Certified Dog Trainers (ABC DT). This means that ABC students have collectively donated over 31,000 hours of volunteer training at shelters all across North America and that number continues to grow with each new student. Not only does ABC require that students volunteer, but it also effectively teaches them that training does make a difference and that they can save lives. This is passed on from trainers to clients, thus assisting ABC in disseminating the message that training does save lives.

Websites:

www.AnimalBehaviorCollege.com
www.BecomeAVetAssistant.com