



# MDBA PACERS

**Prevention of Animal Cruelty  
In Emergency Response Situations**

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

1ST JULY, 2009

## Getting it all together

Now we have arrived at the start of a new financial year we're eager to get on with the jobs of helping domestic animals and their owners who are in trouble, promoting ourselves, fundraising and training our volunteers.

We most certainly need a huge amount of help in this regard.

We will try to keep the forum updated for daily issues which arise and where we are up to.

If you haven't done so already please call into our forum at [www.mdbapacers.org.au](http://www.mdbapacers.org.au).

Much of what we do is disaster and hardship preparedness and having people already trained and available to act as a safety net for our pets. We think that this is preferable to having people not having a clue about how

they can help or where they can get help. The foster care program, the equipment availability register, the volunteer register and the camps are aimed at us being prepared and to prepare people for what they may face in helping someone in hardship or natural disaster such as domestic violence, sickness, fire, flood, cyclones, chemical spills, earthquakes etc. This way we can have trained people who know the protocols and what to do to help animals as it is all about being prepared. This way when we hit a problem we have more chance of making a positive difference for the people who own domestic animals. To this end we have begun putting several things together.

## Volunteer Registry

We have launched a register for those people who feel they may be able to help us now or at a later date with animal foster care and other volunteer positions.

Putting your name in the hat doesn't mean we're going to push you to take animals if it's not right for you at the time we need someone. You will always get the option to say when you need to sit on the back burner.

Much of this is about getting an army of people ready to help so we have reserves and people who are ready to be utilised when we need someone in their area.

Because the demand is so high, and we are working Australia wide, it is not good management to have to call for someone we don't know, we haven't trained and who hasn't done our induction course every single time we have to look after an animal for someone who needs help. If we train hundreds, even thousands, of people Australia wide then we at least have a start point and we know you are part of the safety net. Even if you can only care for an animal for a day or two in

## Volunteer Registry (continued from page 1)

ten years it is still preferable for us to know you have done the induction course, that you know us and we know you and we know you are prepared when you say "I'm O.K. to do that this week". If we don't do it this way it means we are going to have people who haven't done the training and the induction and who don't know about our network which is available to help them etc being grabbed and asked to help as we have had to do to date. If we go like mad and promote ourselves which is what we want to do so everyone knows we're here to help - based on what we have seen and been called on for over the last few months - having to call for help each time and put people in who have no idea of who we are or what's expected of them is not only let-

ting them down but its time consuming and places us all at more risk of upsetting each other. So even if you think you won't be able to help for a while or you probably won't be able to help very often its still good for you to register and go through our process.

There's no point in us telling everyone we can help them if we have no one ready to help them

Go here to register

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=HCtguQGmk3JOWjeT2FyEaw\\_3d\\_3d](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=HCtguQGmk3JOWjeT2FyEaw_3d_3d)

## Equipment Availability Register

There is also a register for anyone who has equipment which we may need to call on if there is a disaster of any kind. These include trailers, horse floats, hydro baths, portable pens and fencing, crates, cages, trucks, storage sheds etc.

Please go here to Register

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=ixlo2vjvMaZczbrlcm39zw\\_3d\\_3d](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=ixlo2vjvMaZczbrlcm39zw_3d_3d)

## Bumper Stickers and Metal Badges

Our thanks go to all of our members who gave us some input into the designs for the Bumper stickers and the metal badges. These are now on the table of our graphics people and should be ready for production in the next week or so.

## Come Join Us

### Ganmain, NSW Showground – Oct 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>

You are invited to join us in a 2 day workshop designed to prepare people for being able to help owners of domestic animals in the event of an emergency or disaster.

Our two day training is packed with detailed, practical and field tested information for our volunteers.

Following are just some of the broader topics that will be discussed:

**Foundation** - Giving volunteers a solid foundation of knowledge about disaster relief

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## Come Join Us (continued from previous page)

**Realities** - Presenting the realities of what volunteers will most likely face at a disaster response site.

**Safety** - Helping volunteers understand why safety is always the top priority.

**Skills** - Providing training on specific skills sets needed to achieve a professional level of service during disaster deployments.

**Teamwork** - Understanding why teamwork is vital to an organized and coordinated approach to disaster response. Working with other agencies.

**Values** - Recognizing that people have differing values for animals.

**Please note:** Training is designed to simulate the conditions that you may experience during a disaster or emergency deployment, therefore we require you to be self-sufficient for the entire training period. This means sleeping at the training location - and bringing enough supplies to carry you through Saturday and Sunday though exemptions are available for those with a disability.

**Attendance is open and those under 18 to be accompanied by a responsible adult.**

**Further information and enrolment - [Julie@mdba.net.au](mailto:Julie@mdba.net.au) or phone 0269276706 or mobile 0427015152 – Enrolment closes Sept 10<sup>th</sup> 2009**

**Zero Tolerance Policy - No illegal drugs, Alcohol or firearms are permitted during deployment or workshops.**

## Fundraising

Needless to say we won't be able to do what we're aiming to do if we don't have methods of raising funds.

Much of this has been put on hold until we can be sure our website is doing all that it needs to do and as many of you know we've had a couple of false starts.

Our mate Jim Byers who has been on the board for both the MDBA and Pacers and, who has worked tirelessly for no reward as our webmaster, sadly elected to leave us because of time and personal responsibilities which were pressing on him. Jim did a great job in getting the basics going on the Pacers site and we are forever grateful for the endless hours he donated

to us to take us to lift off stage. He's still around giving us advice and a hand when we get stuck. We also have had Shane Oats working for us to try to get it all in place so we can begin using it to make it work for us the way it needs to.

Hopefully, any day now, this will be ready for us to be able to go ahead and seek advertisers, sponsors, and donations.

We also need it to be saying what we want it to say to apply for deductible gift recipient status with the taxman and to apply for each state's approval to fundraise.

There will be much activity in this regard as soon as the new site is up and running and much we will be calling on each and every one of you to help.

## Our Shop

We have purchased several PACERS merchandise articles that will be on sale in our shop which is also part of the new website. These include red hats, turbans, and bandanas for people and dogs, lanyards and stacks of dog related products such as beds and blankets etc.

We're eager to involve our members in this, give them opportunities to sell their own products and promote them. To this end we're putting a system in place where we will list your products on drop shipping terms.

If any of you have anything you feel you would like to allow us to sell for you in this on-line store please don't hesitate to contact us.

# Positions Vacant

We have many positions available.

On the whole these are unpaid voluntary work positions, though some will be on a commission basis for payments but we're hoping that several of them will, in the near future, become paid casual, part time and full time positions. All out of pocket expenses will be covered.

Over the next week or so there will be dozens of positions advertised. The first three are listed below and on the following pages.

## **1. National, State and Regional Volunteer Recruitment Co-ordinators**

MDBA Pacers has several recruitment co-ordinators positions vacant needed to implement and monitor the volunteer recruitment and retention strategy within MDBA Pacers.

### **Duties:**

- To promote and encourage the use of volunteers to all teams throughout MDBA Pacers
- To co-ordinate the recruitment process including advertising, responding to enquiries and applications, making requests for references, arranging interviews, tracking applications, and undertaking checks
- To maintain records and prepare reports and provide management statistics and information required
- To implement programs to encourage high volunteer retention, training and satisfaction

### **Desirable:**

- Experience of working with volunteers or paid employment in a supervisory role
- Knowledge of legislation relating to volunteering, proven experience of sourcing and devising a wide range of successful recruitment and retention initiatives
- Experience of developing volunteering resources
- The ability to communicate in a proactive and positive manner
- The ability to develop effective presentation and relevant recruitment materials
- The ability to work as part of a team

### **Key competencies and behaviours:**

- A person who is excited by challenges and is motivated to find solutions that work for all parties
- An ability to deliver consistent excellent results
- Displays the highest levels of integrity and commitment
- Flexible and adaptable through organisational growth
- Resilient and positive through change
- Passionate about the cause
- Demonstrates enjoyment in their work
- Values inclusiveness and diversity in all its forms
- A willingness to work in a spirit of partnership
- Supportive and reliable team member
- Highly collaborative team player
- Loyal and self-motivated
- Friendly and approachable

Please apply with resume to [info@mdbapacers.org.au](mailto:info@mdbapacers.org.au)

P.O. Box 31 Ganmain NSW 2702

Applications close 31.7.09

## Positions Vacant Continued

### **National Client Services Manager [Sponsorship]**

The National Client Services Manager will be responsible for building and optimising the relationships with a number of key partners. Your key focus will be to deliver unparalleled activation and operational excellence, working with State Client Services Managers to ensure we maximise return on investment for all parties for both the MDBA Pacers and their sponsors. As a primary point of contact, you will be proactively communicating important and up-to-date information, developing confidence and trust with our partners and sponsors while enabling challenges to be managed effectively.

#### **Key responsibilities/accountabilities:**

- Delivery of first-class client service to the branch supervisors, partners, sponsors stakeholders and non-commercial third parties
- Support the Client Services Team to deliver unparalleled leverage of MDBA volunteer activation to maximise return on sponsorship investment
- Planning, project management and delivery of key Client Services programmes (including those requiring delivery at events)
- Co coordinating operational delivery of contractual rights and marketing programmes for partners and sponsors
- Assist Senior Client Services Managers to identify and manage activation opportunities for partners to world-class levels
- Support the integration programme of new partners via detailed account planning and jointly developing and delivering against key performance indicators
- Assist state Senior Client Services Managers to deliver partner contractual rights
- Support the communication and marketing strategy between MDBA Pacers and commercial sponsors and partners
- Act as a facilitator between the state Client Services departments and all other internal departments, external stakeholders and third parties
- Support the Client Services team to ensure MDBA Pacers partners work together, identifying opportunities for collaboration to optimise return on investment

#### **Key knowledge, skills, experience and qualifications required:**

- Extensive and comprehensive experience and expertise in client service roles, preferably in a sponsorship environment
- Broad understanding and experience in the operational delivery of sponsorship rights at major events
- An excellent ability to build and maintain relationships with all levels within our partner organisations
- A strategic thinker who is able to support the MDBA Pacers vision
- The ability to communicate in a proactive and positive manner and work as part of a team
- The ability to develop effective presentation and relevant marketing materials

#### **Key competencies and behaviours:**

- Leads projects successfully with emphasis on project delivery within time and financial budget
- Communicates effectively internally and externally to optimise service and project delivery
- A person who is excited by challenges and is motivated to find solutions that work for all parties
- An ability to deliver consistent excellent results
- Displays the highest levels of integrity and commitment
- Flexible and adaptable through organisational growth
- Resilient and positive through change and passionate about the cause
- Demonstrates enjoyment in their work and values inclusiveness and diversity in all its forms
- A willingness to work in a spirit of partnership
- Supportive and reliable team member and a highly collaborative team player
- Loyal, self-motivated, friendly and approachable

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P.O. Box 31 Ganmain NSW 2702  
Applications close 31.7.09

## Positions Vacant Continued

### Foster Carer Co-ordinators – National, State and Regional

Foster Carer Co- coordinators will be responsible for ensuring our Foster Carers are having their needs met and building team spirit, organising social activities and minor fundraisers within our foster Carer Network.

#### Duties:

- Recruit, screen and train prospective foster carers
- Regularly communicate with caregivers and respond to their needs for animal care and supplies
- Authorise appropriate veterinary care for animals in care
- Liaise with adoption counsellors, MDBA Pacers team members and community groups
- Supervise branch foster care managers
- Collect and collate data and report compilation

#### Experience and skills:

- High level of communications skills
- Basic PC skills
- Ability to work as a team
- Effective listening skills
- Conflict resolution skills and an ability to handle large and emotional charged situations with empathy and sensitivity
- Superior presentation skills
- Excellent time and priority management and risk management skills
- High level project management competence
- Skills and or knowledge of foster care requirements of small and large animals

#### Key competencies and behaviours:

- A person who is excited by challenges and is motivated to find solutions that work for all parties
- An ability to deliver consistent excellent results
- Displays the highest levels of integrity and commitment
- Flexible and adaptable through organisational growth
- Resilient and positive through change
- Passionate about the cause
- Demonstrates enjoyment in their work
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## Our Recent Work

We have been fairly busy providing some diversified assistance in several areas.

We are establishing relationships with other welfare agencies and as such we have been able to provide safety nets for some who have been the victims of domestic violence and who couldn't leave their abuser because they had no way to do so and also keep their animals.

We are also working closely with some other welfare agencies in the bushfire affected areas where we are still providing much needed on going help to those who have been most affected by this disaster.

We have been able to help in providing fencing, penning, crates, and cages and with the generous help of Eukanuba we have been able to feed hundreds of dogs and cats.

Because of the donations made by Eukanuba we have also been able to help many drought affected families and several in temporary hardship through unexpected events to feed their animals until they can regain a steadier position. We can't thank this company loudly enough for their on going support.

## Our Rescue Services and Shelters

Sometimes it's necessary for us to take on the ownership of animals, assess them and find new homes for them e.g. the case of Cindy a little dog whose owner has had to move to a medical facility which they will never come out of and which doesn't allow animals. This little dog is now housed at one of our shelters and will be re-homed when we are sure its user friendly.

Sometimes these shelters will also be used to house animals until we can find foster care or for when foster care isn't an option. So far we have signed leases on two properties which will be used for shelters.

Naturally these facilities will also be able to be utilised in the event of a natural disaster where animals are temporarily in need of shelter and vet care.

One shelter is in NSW and the other is in Queensland. The NSW one has an intensive care unit ready for use. Because we're starting these from scratch and also because they are the first of many which we will have all over the country, donations of anything which can be used to operate these facilities effectively will be most welcomed.

Whilst we are discussing these shelters it is important to understand that although MDBA Pacers came into being [in part] because we had a desire to keep homeless pet numbers down and we are eager to help anyone who finds themselves in hard times from events they couldn't anticipate until they can stand on their feet again, MDBA Pacers encourages responsible pet ownership and we exist to help people keep their animals not to make it easier for people to discard their animals. We will only accept animals for re-homing when their owners have experienced an event which has unexpectedly placed them in a position where they are no longer able to keep them and where temporary help would not provide a solution.

## Sponsorship and advertising

We have several options available for advertisers on our website and on brochures and flyers as well as the course and promotional material for our induction courses and Animals in Disaster camp.

We are also seeking sponsorship for our first camp to be held in Ganmain NSW in October this year. This is an opportunity which will give coverage and be distributed nationally and also on a local level in the Riverina region and surrounding areas.

All enquiries should be directed to [info@mdbapacers.org.au](mailto:info@mdbapacers.org.au) or 0269276706

# Registry of Business services and Goods

MDBA Pacers needs to establish a register of businesses which are able to provide goods and services to our clients in order to cut down on the work involved in having to go searching each time we need to provide goods or services to those who need it in a timely fashion. We are not seeking promises of free or discounted goods or services but we are simply building a data base to enable us to operate more efficiently.

Because we cover all domestic animal owners Australia wide who are suffering hard ship it will eliminate many of the issues we face in trying to help them if we can have a ready list for goods and services available to purchase and use when and where we need it.

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=2RqAhTN7QKye6eLrmS05Gw\\_3d\\_3d](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=2RqAhTN7QKye6eLrmS05Gw_3d_3d)

## We need you

There's a list a mile long of things people can do from the comfort of their homes to give us a hand and make some short cuts for us. There are only a couple of us working at this so any help you can provide is great.

We will begin our list of things to do in our forum so as someone takes up each challenge to do one of them for us we can mark them off as being dealt with and completed when the job is done.

## Please Consider Joining Us

### Member benefits for Basic Membership

- Being part of a coordinated voice on animal cruelty prevention issues
- Helping MDBA Pacers provide assistance in emergencies
- Influence research, policy, regulations and best-practice issues
- Ability to act in minor volunteer positions
- Ability to attend seminars and workshops
- Access to PACERS forum

### Member Benefits for Top Dog Memberships

- Being part of a coordinated voice on animal cruelty prevention issues
- Help MDBA Pacers provide assistance in emergencies
- Influence research, policy, regulations and best-practice issues
- Network and share ideas with others working in the field of domestic animal safety and injury prevention
- Ability to attend seminars and workshops
- Receive assistance to establish, operate and participate in meeting groups & networks to exchange information, promote good practice and build partnerships
- Participate in MDBA Pacers development workshops and retreats for group leaders
- Involvement in committees on particular topics to respond to technical issues and assist the Board to lobby State and Federal governments
- Have the chance to take part in a range of initiatives that develop the educational, personal and social benefits that come from preparedness and caring for self, and the community
- Invitations to special shopping events, with "Members Only" specials
- Ability to act in a minor and major volunteer position
- Access to PACERS Top Dog forum

*The MDBA Pacers Team*