



NC Department of Corrections

“A New Leash on Life” is a program that allows minimum and medium custody state prisons to partner with local animal shelters, animal welfare agencies, and/or private non-profit agencies to train dogs in preparation for their adoption. In turn, the inmates are given a chance to serve the community by training dogs to be well-behaved pets.



Selected dogs are placed with inmate trainers in a prison setting for eight to twelve weeks. The inmates teach basic obedience, house training, and socialization through positive reinforcement and repetition. Dogs are taught to walk on and off the leash and to respond to basic commands.

Each prison facility partners with a local partner or sponsor, a volunteer animal trainer, and local merchants or civic organizations that can support the program with needed supplies and services.

As of March 1, 2009, 735 dogs have completed the program. 683 have been adopted immediately following completion of the program for a 93% rate of adoption. The dogs not immediately adopted are returned to the community partner for adoption at a later date.



For more information contact:



New Levels Dog Training
Linda Monico - Owner/Trainer
(252) 752-2120
www.newlevelsdogtraining.com



HUMANE SOCIETY
OF EASTERN CAROLINA

Humane Society of Eastern Carolina
Callie Clements - Executive Director
(252) 413-7247
www.HSECarolina.org



Greene County Animal Partners
Debbie Mooring - Coordinator
(252) 814-7560

New Leash On Life



**A Program of Eastern
Correctional Institution**

“Making
better
men one
dog at a
time.”



Maury, North Carolina



Eastern Correctional's New Leash on Life program is the only one in NC that utilizes clicker training exclusively, and the only program that educates the inmate trainers on the science behind animal learning, canine communication signals and learning theory!

The 'New Leash on Life' dogs are:

- Between 1-2 years old
- Have pleasant temperaments
- Friendly to both people and other dogs
- Fully vaccinated, spayed/neutered, and on heartworm prevention
- Housebroken and crate trained
- Know basic obedience commands such as sit, down, stay, and leave it.

About Our Program

- Adoptable dogs from the *Humane Society of Eastern Carolina* and the *Greene County Animal Shelter* are placed with inmate trainers at *Eastern Correctional Institution*.
- *New Levels Dog Training* works weekly with the inmate trainers to train and socialize the dogs using positive rewards-based training.
- Each dog has a primary trainer and assistant trainer assigned to them for a 10 week period.
- Our program is beneficial to not only the dogs, but also the animal rescue groups involved, and the inmate trainers.
- The inmate trainers learn dog ethology, applied animal science, and how to use force-free methods to teach the dogs basic obedience, house training, socialization, agility and family manners.
- Eastern Correctional's 'New Leash on Life Program' has a **100% adoption rate**. Meaning every dog that has entered the program has had a family waiting on graduation day.



Training Methods

The dogs in the New Leash On Life program at Eastern Correctional Institution are trained using rewards-based training and clicker-training. These methods are modern, humane methods that do not use (or need!) punishment to train a dog. They are firmly supported in science and are the recommended training methods of animal behaviorists, veterinarians, professional trainers and are strongly endorsed by the American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior and the American Veterinary Medical Association.



Helpful Links

American Veterinary Society of Animal Behavior
www.AVSABonline.org

Clicker Training for Animals
www.clickertraining.com

Dog Star Daily Training and Behavior
www.dogstardaily.com

Animal Behavior Resource Institute
www.abrionline.org