**What Does It Take to Be a Flight Volunteer?**

A flight volunteer accompanies an animal(dog/cat) that is heading to the United States for care and adoption.  If you already have planned travel to the United States and you are interested in being a flight volunteer, here are some FAQ’s:

**1.  Am I responsible for getting any medical or other necessary paperwork ready prior to flight departure?**

Cartagena Paws will take care of getting all the medical work, paperwork and bank deposit taken care of before departure.  We do recommend for flight volunteers to attend a short Colombian government appointment with the animal the morning before the flight, where they issue the final stamped paperwork.  We always have a volunteer accompany the flight volunteer during the appointment in order to help translate if necessary.  It can last anywhere from 15minutes-1 hour. If the flight volunteer is unable to attend, we will get the paperwork for them on the morning before.  We highly recommend volunteers to attend this quick appointment not only so that they have time to meet the animal that they will be traveling with, but also so that they have all the required paperwork turned over to them the day before travel.

**2.  When will I take over care for the animal?**

Volunteers do not have to take over care for the animal until the day of their flight when they are about to check in.  We do recommend they meet the animal the day before the flight, however, it is not always necessary.

**3.  Where will the animal sit while traveling on the plane?**

If the animal is traveling in-cabin, it will be in a carry-on pet bag, provided by Cartagena Paws. If the animal is flying out of Medellin or Bogota, it will be in a Crate underneath the plane.  If the volunteer is flying the animal as an emotional support animal, the animal would be able to fly out of any airport and fly in-cabin on the lap of the flight volunteer or at their feet.

**4.  Who will meet me once we arrive?**

Depending on the destination, we will have state-side volunteers ready and available to pick up the animal at baggage claim at the time of arrival.

**5.  Is it a problem to get the animal through customs?**

Cartagena Paws only flies animals that are healthy and have all required medical records and vaccinations and therefore there should never be a problem in customs.  We provide all flight volunteers with a folder which contains international health certificates, vaccination card and any other additional paperwork that may be required for the country of entry.

**6.  Is there any extra cost involved?**

Cartagena Paws will take care of all necessary fees involved for paperwork.  We will also cover any fees for the animals that need to stay in the airport clinic the day prior to travel.  Flight volunteers are only expected to pick the animal up there and continue on to check-in at the airport.