

Meet the **PAWS** ATLANTA Camp Counselors

Lila Hunter



Lila Hunter was raised in Alabama, on beautiful Lake Martin. This is where her love for both wild and companion animals started. She also loves children, and it was this passion that guided her to study special education and psychology at Auburn University.

After college, Lila moved to Anchorage, Alaska, where she met and married her husband, George. There, Lila served as director of a day care center.

The Hunters moved to Georgia in 2001. Lila has taught preschool at Simpsonwood United Methodist Church for 18 years, a job she loves. Lila has been volunteering with animal causes in some capacity since 1998, when she and George took in their first foster dog. The Hunters' concern with the tethering ordinance, passed in early 2015, connected them to a group of dedicated and effective animal advocates who understand the link between the humane treatment of animals and safe, fiscally responsible communities.

Lila currently serves as co chair of Animal Alliance of Georgia, an animal advocacy group and spay/neuter charity. She is also active with Canine Pet Rescue, serving as foster coordinator and fostering German shepherd dogs. Lastly, Lila works on humane animal legislation, at both state and local levels. George and Lila live in Duluth with their six rescued dogs. This is her fourth summer as a counselor at PAWS Pals Camp. Lila loves her summers at PAWS!

Jen B. Crosson



Jen Crosson is a school psychologist and licensed professional counselor who works at PAWS Atlanta during summers to help children ages 8-13 learn about humane education, responsible pet ownership, occupations associated with animals, and the duties and challenges related to shelter work. Jen started her career 27 years ago as a Gwinnett County Public School middle school interrelated special education teacher and center-based high school psychoeducation teacher before transitioning in 2000 to her current position as a school psychologist for the DeKalb County School District.

After spending 20 years as a school psychologist, Jen missed direct student educational interaction. Therefore, when a position as a PAWS Atlanta camp counselor came available, combining two of Jen's interests, she jumped at the chance to be part of a team working with students and helping shelter-bound dogs and cats.

In addition to her extensive teaching, school psychology, and professional counseling experiences, Jen is working towards becoming a registered play therapist and registered integrated sandtray therapist. Jen holds a PhD in Health Psychologist from Walden University, EdS in School Psychology from Georgia State University, MEd in Elementary Education and Mild to Moderate Special Needs Education from Boston College, and BA in History and Classical Archaeology from the University of Michigan. Jen lives in DeKalb County with her husband Dan and their two rescue dogs, Jack a protective sweet 7-year-old shepherd mix and Maggie, an energetic friendly 4-year-old collie spaniel mix.