



## VISITING TIPS

The following are general guidelines when visiting with your pet. Your assigned facility may have additional information for you.

- Let your pet get acclimated to the environment. It may take a couple of times for your pet to feel comfortable visiting in a nursing home or assisted living facility. You know your pet best and can understand if it is a stressful situation for them. If there is an incident, remove the pet immediately to avoid any potential or further harm to the residents or your pet.
- Exercise your pet prior to your visit.
- Bring a water container for your pet as nursing home facilities are generally warmer year round in temperature than your home.
- Be respectful of the emotions of residents and staff. Not all residents and staff like animals and may be fearful of them.
- Understand that your pet may be offered food by residents. As an option, bring your own treats to have the residents give to your pet. Be aware of any medication accidentally dropped on the floor.
- Please keep the grounds of the nursing homes clean by bringing your own bags for picking up after your pet and if there are any accidents in the facility.
- Most of all have fun. This is a time to share the love of your pet and build special relationships with people who need to have their day brightened. Listen to the residents stories of their pets that they used to own. We all have a special bond with our past pets. Show the resident any special tricks that your pet can do.