



VOLUNTEER TEAM DESCRIPTION

Client Relationship

Help reduce the sense of isolation for long-term care residents, and bring the residents an opportunity to enjoy a pet.

- Visit assigned facility as coordinated with the facilities activities director, for a minimum of one hour with approved pet.
- Develop a rapport with the residents. This involves being reliable and respecting a resident's and staff's choice of not having a pet visit.
- Be a good listener and maintain confidentiality.

Program Guidelines

Obtain and disseminate appropriate information about the program and obtain required pet approval criteria.

- Interview with Pets on Wheels volunteer coordinator at agreed scheduled time and place.
- Make initial contact to schedule first meeting with the facilities activity director (preferred) within (2) two weeks of being provided with facility contact information.
- Comply with participating facilities policies and guidelines.
- Maintain regular contact with the facility activities director and Pets on Wheels volunteer coordinator.
- Prepare animal for visit to nursing home; groom pet and see that it has been exercised adequately.
- Visit with residents, taking time to let them enjoy the pet's company. Be prepared to clean up after animal, if necessary.
- Contact nursing home staff person immediately if there are any problems.



Program Accountability

Maintain records of time spent and activities participated in to document program impact and insure that all requirements of the program with regard to pet certification are current.

- Report volunteer time spent with residents during the regular visit on form in Pets on Wheels Sign-in log sheet.
- Notify Pets on Wheels coordinator of any changes in the status of self or pet which might impact continued visitation.
- Have any/all pets examined on an annual basis by a veterinarian to insure that pets are disease and parasite free and required immunizations are current.

Volunteer Qualifications

- Enjoy working with older and sometimes frail people.
- Able to control and handle pet at all times.
- Able to promote your friendly pet to residents and staff.

I have read the Volunteer Team Description and can meet the above statements.

Volunteer Signature

Date