

**MONONGALIA GENERAL HOSPITAL  
VOLUNTEER SERVICES PLACEMENT DESCRIPTION**

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**TITLE:** Pet Therapy Volunteer  
**DEPARTMENT:** Volunteer Services  
**REPORTS TO:** Director of Volunteer Services

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**Placement Summary:**

- 1) Individual volunteer accompanied by their pet will visit patient room with the permission of the patient for divisional activity and companionship.

**Duties and Responsibilities:**

1. Pet Master will check in at nursing unit prior to beginning visit and receive feedback if necessary i.e. precautions if applicable. Pet Master must knock on door prior to visitation and ask, "May my dog and I visit with you today?" Respect the decision made by patient.
2. Dogs will not be allowed in any diagnostic or treatment area or on units during meal time.
3. Never leave the pet unsupervised or off leash.  
Always travel with a bag in case of accident (bag to be turned inside out place hand into the bag and remove the feces...then turn the bag back right side out). Waste must be disposed of immediately (flushed. *Only feces, bags are not to be flushed*). The floor will be cleaned with 10% bleach solution by Environmental Services (have staff phone contact for immediate cleaning).
4. The pet can relieve himself (or herself) in the back of the hospital. The location determined will be on the first floor directly off the loading dock (small grass area). Pets should not go on plants, shrubs, or flowers and owners must pick up after pet.
5. Report any incidents, accidents or concerns voiced by patients to Director of Volunteer Services.
6. If female dogs are "in season" they must wait until complete and be cleaned appropriately. If dog is a new mother she must wait a minimum of two months after whelping (giving birth) prior to resuming volunteer role.

**Training Required:**

1. Volunteer Orientation
2. Orientation of hospital layout.
3. Pet (dog) must have successfully completed obedience class (record must be provided). Must have completed Canine Good Citizenship class (CGC). Must complete Therapy Dog Certification Course and provide documentation of successful completion.
4. Pet (dog) must meet the Director of Volunteer Services and prior to beginning their placement.

**Qualifications:**

Dependable, gracious person with a sunny pleasant manner and the ability to interact with patients, visitors and staff. The pet (dog) must also possess a sunny and pleasant manner, must follow master's commands, have no history of bad behavior, must not exhibit excessive barking, must have up to date shot records on file at the hospital. Pet (dog) must be well

groomed and clean with nails trimmed appropriately.

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DVS Signature and Date

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Department Signature and Date