



2024 Protocols for Pets & People Member Teams

Team Representation

- Pet may wear P & P therapy vest or P & P bandana only at an approved Pets & People facility or event. **You must contact the Director of Volunteers before bringing your pet to any new facility or Event.**
- Only authorized patches can be on the vest, these include: Pets & People, CGC, Therapy Dog, all others must be approved by the Director of Volunteers.
- Please always have your ID badge with you and your dog in the vest or bandana with Pets & People patch when visiting. Cats are exempt from wearing a vest. Pets & People bandanas are now acceptable to wear on visits.
- Pets & People does not certify active Service or Emotional Support Animals.
- Only you and your pet have been certified as a Therapy Team. Do not allow anyone else to take your pet on a visit as a therapy pet or hold the leash while on a visit.
- Members agree to make **at least 10 therapy visits** per year to remain active. These can be in the community OR at Events.

Health

- Rabies vaccination is a state law. Be sure to send in your pets' updated rabies vaccination **before it expires**. Scan and email it to Director of Volunteers at volunteers@petsandpeoplefoundation.org. Titers are not acceptable for Rabies Certification.
- Always keep your pet clean, coat and teeth brushed and nails clipped when going on a visit.

Safety

- Visits should be ideally 50 minutes to 1 hour. Our pet therapy visits **cannot exceed 2 hours**.
- Always have control of your pet. You, as the certified handler, must hold leash at all times.
- Dogs must always be on loose lead and walking in control next to their handler.
- All Pets & People dogs and cats are required to be on a 4-6 foot leash at all times. No retractable leashes or gentle leaders. No prong or e-collars. Cats must be on harness and leash at all times.
- Always ask if anyone, including residents and staff, wants to pet your dog or cat. Do not assume that everyone wants a visit.
- **Pets cannot interact with any other pets while visiting at a facility or event.** This includes other Pets & People Teams. You were tested to see that your pet was not distracted by other dogs and this behavior is expected to continue on visits.
- Several volunteers are certified with multiple pets. Still only one pet per volunteer is allowed to visit at any one time.



- Members are to immediately update Director of Volunteers should any situation arise at a visit, such as a negative interaction, an uncomfortable encounter, or any situation causing distress between a member pet, member person, resident or facility staff.

Confidentiality

- Be respectful of the privacy of those we visit. Do not mention names of those you visit to anyone else.
- ***Always check with your facility about their photo policy before taking ANY photos.***
- Always respect the facility or event's photo policies before sharing or posting any pictures on your social media pages.
- Be respectful of any identifying features including faces and anything with names if you do not know that person is comfortable with posting. This includes people in the background of your photo.
- Pets & People requires a signed photo release form before posting any photo of a person with recognizable features on our Website, Facebook or Instagram. Alternatively, a photo without faces may be used without a photo permission form.

• Donations

- Individual Pets & People teams cannot accept payment for visits. Donations to Pets & People can be mailed to our office or be made through our website.

Pets & People Foundation may not be mentioned or used for any profit-making business.

Pets & People Foundation is a Service Mark.