



TDI

THE THERAPY DOGS INTERNATIONAL



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Ways To Give 

Our Programs

- Assisted Living
- Children Reading to Dogs (Tail Waggin' Tutors)
- DSRD (Disaster Stress Relief Dogs)
- Home Visits
- Hospice
- Hospitals (Children's)
- Hospitals (General)
- Libraries
- Nursing Homes
- Schools
- Shelters
- The Final Visit

And wherever else therapy dogs are needed

Connect With Us



Nursing Homes



Nursing homes were one of the first settings to graciously open their doors to the concept of Pet Therapy, which was developed by Therapy Dogs International over 30 years ago. Today, it continues to be a heartwarming experience to visit nursing homes and share our Therapy Dogs with the elderly, their families, and all other residents who live there.

It is profoundly moving to see how dogs have the ability to help calm and soothe agitated individuals while lifting the spirits of those who are sad and lonely. They provide a medium for physical touch and display affection for those who have lived isolated lives. The mere presence of a dog raises the spirits of a person and the petting and touching of the fur allows one to have a wonderful object toward which to express their affection.

Therapy Dogs elicit responses from some nursing home patients who are typically withdrawn and limited in their abilities. Stroking the back of a dog leads to more movement from the patient and consequently, increased physical activity. The introduction of dogs increase interaction among individuals and promote a positive change in self-esteem.

Therapy Dog volunteers and their dogs have contributed significantly over the years in bringing warmth and joy to residents of nursing homes. Residents learn, in the company of dogs, to overcome loneliness and fear. The residents are delightfully entertained by the dog's tricks and antics and warmed beyond words by their unconditional love and acceptance. In nursing home settings, where care and treatment is crucially needed, Therapy Dog intervention is truly one of the most effective types of therapy achieved.

