

Dog and Handler (Community Visiting Dogs)



Job Title:	Community Visiting Dog and Handler Team
Position Type:	Volunteer Job Share
Department/Group:	TDS Inc Services and Programs
Location:	Visitation within various SA Service Provider Facilities Adelaide
Applications Accepted By:	E-MAIL: therapydogs@tdsinc.com.au MAIL: Recruiting Manager TDS Inc, Villa Saint Hilarion Centre, 21 Farncomb Rd, FULHAM 5024
Location:	SA Service provider facility
Dress Code:	Business Casual or supplied uniform
Travel Required:	Metro Adelaide
Age Requirements:	None
Will Train Applicant(s):	Training for this position will be provided. In addition, supervisor will be available for questions and assistance. Mandatory volunteer training provided.

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File: Position Description: [Community Visiting Dog Team.doc](#)

Job Description

PURPOSE AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Therapeutic Dog Services is the scientific and systematic use of animals as a therapeutic medium for the mentally and physically ill. Dogs are used for therapy and are an integral part of the treatment process. These animals undergo special training to be therapy animals. Therapeutic Dog Services is designed to promote improvement in human physical, social and emotional and or cognitive functioning.

Key Responsibilities:

Volunteers who are interested in being "community visiting volunteers," with their dog, to visit residents/patients and clients in nursing homes, aged care, disability and hospitals.

- 1: Undertake to visit your allocated partner facility on a scheduled weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis.
- 2: Conduct your visit in a professional, competent and caring manner, having regard to TDS Incs high standards of quality assurance and the rules and request of the partner facility.
- 3: Report to a nominated responsible person on arrival at the partner facility you are visiting and sign the attendance book.
4. Submit monthly 'visiting reports' on the due dates (end of each month)
- 5: Notify TDS Inc coordinator if you must miss a scheduled visit or if you are likely to miss three or more consecutive visits for illness, holiday or whatever reason.
6. Whenever you are representing TDS Inc, you must wear your photo identification badge and the polo shirt or t-shirt. Dog needs to wear the TDS Inc bandanna or harness vest.
7. Ensure that the dog is clean, healthy and parasite free prior to each visit.
8. Recognize the signs of stress in the dog. To never work the dog beyond it tolerance level.
9. Attend up to eight hours of additional in service training per year as requested by TDS Inc.
10. Participate in promotional and sponsorship activities related to the program. Be prepared to assist with fundraising and local program coordination, if TDS Inc's request for such participation are reasonable and related to your skills, experience and availability.

QUALIFICATIONS AND PREFERRED SKILLS:

Pleasant manner, patience, problem-solving ability, dependability.

- Dog: Great sound temperament and General Dog Obedience

Dog must have an outstanding temperament, this means that the dog should be outgoing and friendly to all people, men, women and children. The dog should be tolerant of other dogs (of both genders) and non-aggressive toward other pets.

LENGTH OF APPOINTMENT:

Is assigned to 1 1/2-hour visitation shift, one day per week, one day per fortnight, or once a month for a period of three months. After three months, Dog and handler may be reappointed for another three months at the discretion of the supervisor. After six months, the person who is serving may rotate to another position within the organisation.

TIME COMMITMENT:

- One day per week (Monday-Friday) for 1 1/2 hours (Saturdays/Sundays are also available) Or one day per fortnight, or once a month
- We are flexible in time commitment, but must be dependable to show up for your preferred times.
- Weekend times are also available.
- For a minimum of three months.

ADDITIONAL NOTES

- Development opportunities: Training for other positions
- Security checks are required: criminal history check
- Benefits: certificate of service and insurance whilst working