



## Role Description Pet Therapy Volunteer

### General description

Pet Therapy volunteers serve by indirect staff supervision for the enhancement of resident comfort. Pet therapy serves as a therapeutic intervention under the direction of the recreation lead or therapist.

Pet therapy volunteers must have completed a Good Samaritan approved Pet Therapy certification before providing direct resident support. Additionally, this role has a program guideline for support.

This role involves direct interaction with residents in public and private areas of the care home, as well as access to confidential information about residents contact information or health status.

All volunteers are responsible for conducting themselves according to the Volunteer Code of Conduct. Please connect with your Volunteer services staff with any questions, concerns or comments.

### Mission, Vision, and Values

**Our mission** is to extend Christian Hospitality through a continuum of care to those in need or at risk, regardless of race or religious belief.

**Our vision** is to grow in strength, excellence and creativity in caring for others.

**Our values** are to be in Healthy Relationships, Hospitable Environments, and Servant Leadership.

### Work Safety Commitment

The Good Samaritan Society is committed to achieving and maintaining excellence in health, safety, wellness and the Environment in all of its operations. Maintaining a safe working culture is everyone's responsibility. We must continually identify, assess, report and control possible risks to the health and safety of ourselves, our co-workers, volunteers, contractors, our residents and the public within the communities, which we operate.

**Tasks may include:**

- Visit with residents for their psychosocial wellbeing
- Communicate with residents, staff and visitors
- Support, encourage and value clients/residents
- Follow direction of staff

**Skills required:**

- Patient, flexible, desire to assist, encouraging and supportive
- Interest in supporting elders and/or persons with a disability
- Reliable team player, ability to follow directions
- Pet Therapy certificate

**Benefits:****To Client/Residents:**

- Develop relationships
- Enhance socialization and stimulation of physical and cognitive abilities

**To Volunteer:**

- Develop relationships
- Develop or improve skills in supportive environment
- Increase awareness of elders and/or persons with a disability
- Have fun

**To Staff:**

- Enhance programming
- Effective stewardship of resources

**Resources available:**

- Staff support
- Educational opportunities
- Appropriate handouts

**Other information/notes:**

Each time you come to volunteer, please:

- wear volunteer ID;
- sign-in/out for your service;
- use good hand hygiene; and,
- do not come for volunteer service when you are not feeling well.

Thanks for being a Good Samaritan!