



## **PET THERAPY VOLUNTEER POSITION DESCRIPTION**

### **Purpose**

Caring for families with children who are ill or injured

### **Mission**

We provide essential services that remove barriers, strengthen families, and promote healing when children need healthcare.

### **Service description**

Pet Therapy Volunteers and their certified therapy animals provide friendly, welcoming visits with our families and children currently staying at the House. Visits occur in our common areas or outside, and at our special events. All breeds are considered, but animals must be healthy, friendly, obedient, and excellent with children.

### **Requirements for All Volunteer Positions**

- Be at least 18 years of age and pass a criminal background check
- Demonstrate a commitment to the RMHC NEO mission
- Be able to both take direction and work independently
- Maintain confidentiality regarding family information, be able to work effectively and sensitively with diverse populations, and maintain healthy boundaries (not take on families' troubles as one's own)

### **Additional Requirements for Pet Therapy Volunteers**

Pet therapy animals and handlers must have:

- Copies of current license and vaccination records.
- A current membership and certification with a registered and accredited pet therapy organization, such as, [Therapy Dogs International \(TDI\)](#), [Bright & Beautiful](#), [Riley's Angel's](#), or Delta Society, **and** must be covered by that agency's general liability insurance.

Pets must:

- Be in good health, clean, and well-groomed.
- Remain on a leash and under your control.
- Be respectful of guests' reactions to the presence of an animal.

*Note:* You are responsible for cleaning up after your pet.

### **Require tasks**

Visits with families and children who are currently staying at our House during volunteer shift.

### **Schedule**

- A minimum of one visiting session per month. Schedule is flexible.
- Must be able to commit to three (3) months of service.

### **Supervisor**

Volunteer Manager or supporting staff.