

About Paws 4 Healing & Pet Partners®

Paws 4 Healing, Inc. was founded in 2003 by a group of experienced animal-assisted activity/therapy teams for the single purpose of sharing our loving pets with people. Our one and only goal is to serve those we visit to try and make a difference in their lives. We visit hospitals, assisted living facilities, schools, rehab centers, and we participate in R.E.A.D.®, the Reading Education Assistance Dog program, founded by Intermountain Therapy Animals. We have teams in many areas of southern California. Please visit our website for our current chapter locations.

Paws 4 Healing is an affiliate group of Pet Partners® program. Pet Partners® is an international, non-profit organization whose mission, *Improving Human Health through Therapy and Service and Companion Animals*, is delivered through individual Pet Partners®, and its Pet Partners® affiliate groups like Paws 4 Healing.

Pet Partners® program evaluates and screens volunteers and their pets for participation in Animal-Assisted Activities and Animal-Assisted Therapy visiting animal programs.

For More Information Contact:

Mailing Address:

Paws 4 Healing, Inc.
912 N. Raitt Street
Santa Ana, CA 92703



Pet Partners
Touching Lives, Improving Health



Paws 4 Healing, Inc.
*An Affiliate Group of
Pet Partners®*
www.petpartners.org

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Paws 4 Healing



*Animal-Assisted
Therapy Teams*

www.paws4healing.info

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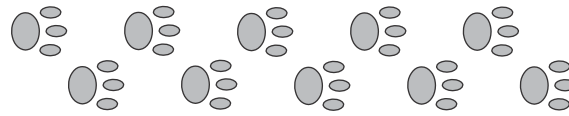
What is AAA/AAT?

Most visits made by our teams are considered to be Animal-Assisted Activities. This kind of visit might be at a hospital, assisted living facility, nursing home, school, or other kind of facility where we *meet and greet* people with our pet Partners. The purpose of this type of visit is to share our registered pets with people, in a non-structured way. This type of visit allows people to enjoy our pets in an open and freeform way.

Animal-Assisted Therapy is more structured, where specific goals for the visit are set to promote improvement in a person's physical, social, emotional, and/or cognitive functions. Typically, a professional guides the therapy team during this kind of visit.

What Are Some Benefits of AAA/AAT?

- Lowers blood pressure
- Lowers heart rate
- Reduces stress and anxiety
- Promotes a feeling of well-being
- Provides entertainment for confined
- Provides mental stimulation
- Helps socialization
- Safe physical contact and touch
- Motivation for movement
- Promotes communication
- Acts as a *bridge* for professionals



Who Can Participate?

Anyone with an approved kind of animal, who wants to volunteer to visit people in need, can participate. Take a look at how to get started on the next page. Please visit our website to learn more about all the requirements for participating in Animal-Assisted Activities and Therapy.



What Kind of Animals Can Be Registered?

Domesticated animals are allowed into the program, but wild or exotic animals are not. Typical animals are dogs, cats, rabbits, and birds. For more information, please visit our website.



Pet Partners
Touching Lives, Improving Health

How To Get Started With Paws 4 Healing

1. Decide if you and your pet have the right temperament for this type of volunteer work.
2. Complete a Pet Partners® Handler course. Visit Pet Partners® web site for detail information.
3. Train with your pet to prepare for the evaluation process. Visit our website for more information about the evaluations.
4. Contact the Paws 4 Healing team coordinator in your area to schedule an evaluation.
5. Once you and your pet have passed the evaluation, sent your application documents to Pet Partners®, received a cape and ID badge, you will be ready to schedule your first visit with your team coordinator. Email a team coordinator through the Paws 4 Healing website chapter pages.

When you become a member of Paws 4 Healing, you will be invited to join our intranet website so you can view and schedule visits at facilities we visit. And, it's *FREE!*

