

What is a Therapy Pet?

Therapy Pets, Service Dogs, and Emotional support animals are different.

THERAPY PETS are certified with their owners as a team to provide comfort and stress relief to others in a variety of situations. They are welcome anywhere they are invited.

SERVICE DOGS are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for a person with a disability. They have a legal right to be in all public places with the person they are assisting and may live with their owners regardless of pet policy. Businesses can ask two questions:

1. "Is the service dog required for a disability?"
2. "What task or work has the service dog been trained to perform?"

Visit www.ada.gov for more information.

EMOTIONAL SUPPORT ANIMALS are prescribed by a licensed mental health professional to a person with a disabling mental illness. They may live with their owners regardless of pet policy but are not legally entitled to be in all public places.



Get Involved

Do you have a pet you enjoy sharing with other people?

Therapy pets may be any breed or size. We welcome all well-behaved, healthy dogs, cats, and rabbits that are at least one year of age and have a friendly temperament.

To learn more about volunteering as a certified Love on a Leash® Pet Therapy Team visit our website or contact us.

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Sharing Furry Comfort
Happiness and Healing



ABOUT LOVE ON A LEASH®

Love on a Leash® is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to providing an avenue for volunteer teams to engage in meaningful and productive pet therapy.

Our volunteer organization provides an accessible certification process that allows qualified teams to provide pet therapy in their communities.

Our mission is to bring comfort, happiness, and healing to more people nationwide by increasing public awareness of pet therapy.



HOW WE BEGAN

Love on a Leash® was founded by early enthusiasts of pet-provided therapy in San Diego County in 1984 and was incorporated in 1995 as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.

Still headquartered in San Diego County, thousands of Love on a Leash® members volunteer nationwide, with chapters across the United States.

Search for a chapter near you:
www.loveonaleash.org/list-of-chapters

What We DO

A therapy pet's primary function is to brighten someone's day. Studies have shown that reading to animals builds confidence and encourages learning. Snuggling a furry companion brings back cherished memories for many seniors who can no longer care for a pet of their own. Individuals experiencing physical or mental health struggles benefit tremendously from spending time with our sweet pets. It's heartwarming work that truly makes a difference in the lives of everyone involved.

Our volunteer visits are always free of charge and all certified teams and teams in training are covered by our general liability policy. Therapy teams visit wherever they are invited, including nursing homes, hospitals, schools, and libraries; we are proud of our service in communities across the country. To inquire about Love on a Leash® Therapy Pets visiting your facility, please contact us.

