

## Protocol for Pets & People Member Teams

### Team Representation

- Pet may wear therapy vest only at an approved Pets & People facility or event. *You must contact the Director of Volunteers before bringing your pet to any new facility.*
- Please always have your ID badge with you and your dog in the vest with Pets & People patch when visiting. Cats are exempt from wearing a vest.
- Pets & People does not certify active Service or Emotional Support Animals.
- Only you and your pet have been certified as a Therapy Team. Do not allow anyone else to take your pet on a visit as a therapy pet or hold the leash while on a visit.
- Only authorized patches can be on the vest, these include: Pets & People, CGC, Therapy Dog, all others must be approved by the Director of Volunteers.
- Members agree to make at least 10 therapy visits per year to remain active.

### Health

- Rabies vaccination is a state law. Be sure to send in your pets 'updated rabies vaccination before it expires. Scan and email it to Director of Volunteers at [volunteers@petsandpeoplefoundation.org](mailto:volunteers@petsandpeoplefoundation.org). Titers are not acceptable for Rabies Certification.
- Always keep your pet clean, coat and teeth brushed and nails clipped when going on a visit.

### Safety

- Visits should be ideally 50 minutes to 1 hour; they should not extend over 2 hours.
- Always have control of your pet. You, as the certified handler, must hold leash at all times.
- Dogs must always be on loose lead and walking in control next to their handler.
- All Pets & People dogs and cats are required to be on a 4-6 foot leash at all times. No retractable leashes or gentle leaders. Cats must be on harness and leash at all times.
- Always ask if anyone, including residents and staff, wants to pet your dog or cat. Do not assume that everyone wants a visit.
- Pets cannot interact with any other pets while visiting at a facility or event. You were tested to see that your pet was not distracted by other dogs and this behavior is expected to continue on visits.



- Several volunteers are certified with multiple pets. Still only one pet per volunteer is allowed to visit at any one time.
- Members are to immediately update Director of Volunteers should any situation arise at a visit, such as a negative interaction, an uncomfortable encounter, or any situation causing distress between a member pet, member person, resident or facility staff.

## Confidentiality

- Be respectful of the privacy of those we visit. Do not mention names of those you visit to anyone else.
- Always check with your facility about their photo policy before taking ANY photos.
- Pets & People requires a signed photo release form before posting any photo of a person with recognizable features on our Website, Facebook or Instagram. Alternatively, a photo without faces may be used without a photo permission form.
- Do not post pictures of any individuals you visit as a Pets & People volunteer team on your personal social media pages.

## Donations

- Individual Pets & People teams cannot accept payment for visits. Donations to Pets & People can be mailed to our office or be made through our website.

Pets & People Foundation may not be mentioned or used for any profit-making business.

Pets & People Foundation is a Service Mark.

***I agree that as a Pets & People Volunteer, I will represent Pets & People in a respectful and professional manner following all the protocols outlined above.***

***I understand that Pets & People covers therapy teams with Liability Insurance only when these protocols are adhered to.***

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_