



# Paws'itive Teams



Thank you for your interest in our **PAAT Goal Directed Therapy Dog Program**. Below are descriptions and requirements for each site we are currently serving.

## **CERTIFICATION:**

1. Please note that certification with PAAT is only in effect during Paws'itive Teams sponsored activities.
2. A Team is considered PAAT Certified after all the PAAT Required paperwork (including veterinary exam) and Site Specific Clearances have been completed. Certification will be current for 1 year (if the team meets the minimum volunteer hours and remains active with the program.)
3. Re-certification is required annually.

## SITE DESCRIPTIONS

### **ABRAXAS HIGH SCHOOL** (NOTE: Program not active during summer months)

**LOCATION:** Poway Unified High School District

**DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM:** The **Transition Students** (ages 18-22) have physical and/or developmental disabilities. For this group, we work one-on-one with students selected by the special education teachers who work with us in designing the goals. The dogs are not required to know a lot of "tricks" but must be responsive to the handler and able to take direction from a secondary handler. Some of the students are working on verbal skills, trying to speak more clearly. They give the dogs commands (such as sit, down, stay, come) and are reinforced for speaking clearly once the dog responds to the command. It would be helpful if your dog responds to hand signals so that he/she can follow the commands given by the child while the handler stands behind the child given hand signals. PAAT Teams work directly under the supervision of the Special Education teachers who set the goals for each student.

<b>SITE LEADERS:</b>	<b>TIMES AND DAYS:</b> Tuesday afternoons, from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm
Hank     hhbeck@sbcglobal.net Luanne   agood@san.rr.com	

### **CLAIREMONT HIGH SCHOOL** (NOTE: Program not active during summer months)

**LOCATION:** Clairemont (near Mission Bay)

**DECIPTION OF PROGRAM:**

- Variety! And eager staff members! As a team you can participate in goal-directed therapy with medically fragile students and/or with developmentally challenged students.
- **Medically fragile students** have an amazing classroom, full of visual and tactile stimulation. Our teams will participate in objectives helping these students accomplish goals such as opening their eyes in response to your visit or determining if the student relaxes when touching your dog. This environment will require very calm dogs willing to lie still while snuggling with a student who may have very limited abilities.
- The **developmentally challenged students** present a fast-paced environment for our teams. These students' disabilities range from autism to speech impairments, from severe phobias to selective mutism and many other conditions. These are active students and our teams must quickly and independently identify creative goal-directed activities to meet the objectives for the student.
- The teachers and staff members participating with our teams are enthusiastic and eager to bring the dogs into their environment.

<b>SITE LEADER:</b>	<b>TIMES AND DAYS:</b> Team visits will be scheduled and will be approximately one hour in the timeframe of mid-morning to 1:00 pm. The school schedule varies by day so the exact time will depend on the day, thus allowing some flexibility.
Shane shanegailrose@yahoo.com 619 298-9187	

**MISSION BAY HIGH SCHOOL** (NOTE: Program not active during summer months)

**Medically Fragile Students**

**LOCATION:** Pacific Beach

**DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM:**

The medically fragile students have an amazing classroom, full of visual and tactile stimulation. Our teams will participate in objectives helping these students accomplish goals such as opening their eyes in response to your visit or determining if the student relaxes when touching your dog. This environment will require very calm dogs willing to lie still while snuggling with a student who may have very limited abilities.

<b>SITE LEADER:</b> Myrna 858-505-8003 Myrnaten@aol.com	<b>TIMES AND DAYS:</b> Monday or Wednesday for approximately one hour (12:45-1:45). Schedule is flexible.
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**RINCON MIDDLE SCHOOL** (NOTE: Program not active during summer months)

**Medically Fragile Students**

**LOCATION:** Escondido

**DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM:**

This small group of medically fragile students attend junior high school at Rincon Middle school in Escondido They have a range of disabilities from very low functioning to autism with the ability to walk with the dog and play simple games. Our teams will participate in activities that help the child achieve their treatment objectives in cooperation with the staff. The objectives might include visual acknowledgement of the dog by looking at him and or/ smiling, reaching out to pet the dog or walking the dog on a double leash with the handler. This environment will require a calm dog that can tolerate petting, rough hugging and loud unexpected noises from the children. The handler will be creative in finding activities for the dog to do with the child. The handler will work closely with staff and will have supervised visits with the team leader until they feel comfortable in this environment. We will be going in a group to this facility.

<b>SITE LEADER:</b> Sallee salleeob@mac.com	<b>TIMES AND DAYS:</b> We meet on a weekday morning.
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**YWCA PASSAGES** (a transitional housing program for homeless women)

**LOCATION:** San Diego YWCA at 1012 C Street, San Diego

**DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM:** The Passages Program is a transitional housing program for single homeless women. The focus of the program is stabilization leading to independent living.

The therapists at Passages have identified the target problems of these women and how our PAAT teams can help the women overcome these challenges. In working with the dogs the women are building confidence, self-esteem and assertiveness skills, and learning to take and give instructions. Having the women work together with one dog is helping to foster teamwork and trust. These skills will help our clients to succeed in job interviewing and the workplace and improve interpersonal skills.

The women will learn basic handling commands and meet-and-greet therapy visit techniques with the ultimate goal of taking the dogs on therapy visits to their other house mates that live at the Y. The women in the program have asked to participate and are delightfully eager and motivated. Besides learning new skills, just the hour spent with the dogs seems to very therapeutic for them.

<b>SITE LEADER:</b> Elaine doc_snavely@yahoo.com 760-207-2958	<b>TIMES AND DAYS:</b> Tuesday evenings from 7 to 8 pm in six week sessions. Volunteers need to commit to one to four sessions per month for two months. A great opportunity for teams that work fulltime!
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**NOTE:** Parking is \$5 in the back parking lot. Street parking is sometimes possible.

## **MOUNTAIN SHADOWS OUTREACH**

**LOCATION:** Mountain Shadows Outreach Day Program, San Marcos

**DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM:** Mountain Shadows Outreach Services is a licensed adult day program striving to fuel the growth of each individual's abilities by enhancing life, leisure, and work skills.

The 'consumers are developmentally disabled adults ranging in age from 18-60. They have various disabilities including cerebral palsy, autism, traumatic brain injury and mental retardation. Our goal-directed therapy dog program is right in alignment with the Mountain Shadows philosophy. We work one handler team with three 'consumers' at a time, under the constant supervision of the outreach staff.

The dogs do various behaviors that encourage interaction with the consumers such as 'fetch' sitting to be petted, standing to be brushed, ring around the neck etc. Each dog brings a unique set of skills to the visit. Handlers will need to adapt to new situations throughout the visit. All handler teams will be supervised by Paws'itive Teams site leaders until they are comfortable in the environment.

<b>SITE LEADER:</b> Sallee 760 803-3326 <a href="mailto:salleeob@mac.com">salleeob@mac.com</a>	<b>TIMES AND DAYS:</b> Friday's 10:30 AM
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## **BALBOA REHAB PROGRAM**

**LOCATION:** Paws'itive Teams Training Center (Kearny Mesa)

**DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM:** Our therapy dog teams work with outpatient active duty injured service members (Marines, Navy, Air Force) from Balboa Navy Medical Center. We work specifically under the guidance of the Recreational Therapy Department who schedule monthly sessions at our Training Center. During the hour long session, individual therapy dog teams are assigned to work directly with participants (patients) on a one-to-one basis. The interactions are often opportunities to work with basic dog handling skills and social interactions with the handlers. Each session ends with an opportunity for the participants to demonstrate something they learned while working with the therapy dogs and with a discussion about the differences between service and therapy dogs.

<b>SITE LEADERS:</b> Myrna            Myrnaten@aol.com Rhannon        mommadogward@san.rr.com	<b>TIMES AND DAYS:</b> Monthly (weekday mornings) Specific dates vary.
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