

A Call for Volunteers!

Paws'itive Teams



We are a local not-for-profit (501c3) organization operating mostly with an **all-volunteer** staff. Our mission is to train service dogs to assist mobility-limited persons in achieving greater independence and, through educational presentations and animal assisted therapy, enhance the lives of persons living in San Diego County.

We welcome volunteers who can bring a variety of expertise to enable us to fulfill our mission. Below is a sampling of our current areas of need. If you have other ideas about how you could help us, please give us a call so we can talk about it.

HANDS-ON DOG HANDLING

SERVICE DOG TRAINER: Train dogs to be a service dog for a wheelchair-bound individual or person with balance problems. Trainers should have some dog training experience as well as an interest in learning to train with operant conditioning and must be willing to devote 2 years to working with a dog in your home and in public places, then assist with transition of dog to disabled partner. For more details about this opportunity, check out our website at http://www.pawsteams.org/service_dog_trainers.php

THERAPY DOG PROGRAMS

THERAPY DOG PREP SCHOOL: We offer a 6 week Therapy Dog orientation class for pet dog owners interested in volunteering with their pet in the community. The class is offered 4 times a year.

PAAT (Paws'itive Animal Assisted Therapy): Volunteers are certified with personal pets and assigned to work in a goal-directed therapy setting within the community. Must take PT Therapy Dog Prep School first or have equivalent therapy dog volunteer experience.

PERSONAL PAWS THERAPY PROGRAM: Clients are partnered with therapy dog teams for one-on-one, on-going, therapy visitations. Visits may take place in the client's home, a nearby park, or perhaps the Paws'itive Teams Training Center. The unique approach to therapy dog volunteering enables therapy dog teams to provide the consistency in a relationship that is so important to many individuals. Must take PT Therapy Dog Prep School first or have equivalent therapy dog volunteer experience.

TEAM MANAGER: Each client Personal Paws visit includes 2 volunteers and one dog. In addition to the dog handler, we need a person without a dog to facilitate the visit. Team Managers are partnered with individual handlers and clients. Team Manager roles include serving as liaison between Dog/Handler Teams and Clients, coordinating the schedule for follow-up visits, participating actively in each visit, and submitting a short visit report after each visit.

ADMINISTRATIVE ROLES: To efficiently operate our therapy dog programs, we need volunteers willing to serve as Team Leaders for the PAAT Sites, make periodic phone calls, follow up on paperwork related assignments and join various planning committees.

MARKETING

Join PR/Marketing Committee and assist with development of a marketing plan to present the many facets of Paws'itive Teams to the public.

**We'd love to meet
with you!**

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