



## **COMFORT CARING CANINES THERAPY DOGS, INC.** **FACILITY VISITING REQUEST FORM**

We are pleased to extend an invitation to Comfort Caring Canines Organization (CCC) to visit our facility. CCC members can schedule visits through the contact person listed below. A facility employee will educate/instruct CCC volunteers on facility policies and guidelines as it relates to public health and safety precautions and protocols including COVID-19 protocols, if applicable. We have reviewed and understand the CCC member guidelines (attached hereto) and will communicate any facility additions to safety protocols. CCC will not be held responsible for any health-related event at our facility, including those related to COVID-19.

We understand that all therapy dogs visiting our facility need to be on leash at all times and under the control of the handler on record with CCC. Any violations of this rule will be reported back to the organization for appropriate action. Please feel free to contact the facility representative with any questions.

Please feel free to contact this individual with any questions. Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Facility Representative's Signature and Title

Please complete the information below and return to: [facilityrequests@comfortcaringcanines.com](mailto:facilityrequests@comfortcaringcanines.com)

Facility Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Facility Contact Person Name and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Attached CCC Guidelines have been received and reviewed (initial): \_\_\_\_\_

Is this a one-time event? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, please provide specific details (like date, time, type of event, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Is this an ongoing visiting opportunity? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, please provide specific details (like monthly/weekly/type of event, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Is parking available free of charge for CCC volunteers? \_\_\_\_\_

Additional helpful information: \_\_\_\_\_



## **COMFORT CARING CANINES THERAPY DOGS, INC.** **VISITING POST PANDEMIC**

Comfort Caring Canines (CCC) is an all-volunteer non-profit organization which evaluates and certifies dogs to provide Animal Assisted Intervention at Hospitals, Nursing Homes, Schools, Courthouses, Libraries, and Business establishments. We also are a clearinghouse for opportunities for our members to share their dogs with the general public in those locations.

CCC does not assign volunteers to any specific visiting opportunity. It is the sole discretion of each volunteer if they choose to visit with their CCC therapy dog or not. If interested, a volunteer will contact the facility directly to make the arrangements. The facility contact will then be able to determine the number of volunteers expected, and can provide them with any additional information, including whether your facility has any specific volunteer requirements/guidelines. ALL CCC volunteers MUST follow all facility rules and CCC guidelines when visiting. Volunteers take full responsibility and assume any associated risks.

As of May 11, 2023, the Federal COVID-19 Public Health Emergency was ended. For the most up-to-date information on COVID-19 guidance, please refer to the Center for Disease Control's Information page at:

[Updated CDC Guidance | WECANDOTHIS.HHS.GOV.](https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2023/s0511-covid-19-guidance.html)

### **Visiting and Safety Guidance for CCC Therapy Dog Visits:**

- CCC therapy dog volunteers must be in good health, not tested COVID positive, and not recently exposed to COVID or to someone ill with the virus. Therapy dogs must not be showing any symptoms of illness.
- CCC therapy dog volunteers should review the updated COVID-19 Guidance before visiting any facility and follow any additional guidelines provided by the facility they are visiting.
- CCC therapy dog volunteers must not enter rooms designed by the facility as "no contact" rooms.
- Before and after every interaction, it is recommended that the CCC therapy dog volunteers wash hand or apply hand sanitizer. Anyone wishing to pet the therapy dog should be encouraged to do the same.
- Likewise, between interactions, the therapy dog may be wiped with baby wipes or hand wipes. ***(The therapy dog should never be wiped with chemical disinfectants, alcohol, hydrogen peroxide, or other products, such as hand sanitizer, counter-cleaning wipes, or other industrial or surface cleaners.)***
- If the therapy dog will be placed on facility furniture, a barrier, such as a sheet or towel that is not shared between patients/residents, must be used.
- If possible, visits should be conducted in outdoor spaces or in conference rooms that allow for greater air flow.
- Do not let other people handle items that go into the dog's mouth, such as toys, treats, leashes, harnesses, therapy vests, scarves, and food/water bowls.
- ALL therapy dogs must be on a 6' leash or shorter at ALL times and under the therapy dog handler's control when visiting at a facility.
- If there are several therapy dog teams visiting in a small area, therapy dog volunteers should keep at least 10 feet apart to avoid any stressful situations.
- If a therapy dog is not behaving appropriately, the therapy dog volunteer must remove him/her from the situation immediately.
- It is essential that all therapy dog volunteers wear or display CCC credentials when representing CCC at an event. If the facility has their own specific credentials that therapy dog volunteers and their therapy dogs are obligated to wear when visiting, all therapy dog volunteers are still required to have their CCC identification available in order to be covered by CCC's liability insurance policy.