

**WHAT ARE THE
BENEFITS OF THIS
PROGRAM?**

The emotional benefits are difficult to measure. There is enough data to prove that visits lower blood pressure. Your visit will provide a source of entertainment and joy and a welcome change in routine. Your pet yields a distraction from pain and monotony. This interaction encourages the use of hands and arms as well as stretching and turning. Put a little love in your life and join our pet therapy program.



CONSIDERATIONS

- *Your pet must have current rabies vaccinations.*
- *Your pet should be friendly, well behaved, and comfortable with unusual sounds and sights (wheelchairs, walkers, buzzers).*
- *Animals should be brushed and well groomed; nails should be short with sharp edges filed.*

REMEMBER

Animals pay little attention to age and physical abilities or disabilities. They accept people as they are. The most familiar animals visiting are cats, birds, dogs and rabbits - however, special arrangements are made for unusual animals such as horses, farm animals, reptiles, etc.

PET THERAPY PROGRAM



**GREATER DERRY
HUMANE SOCIETY, INC.**

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WHAT IS A PET

THERAPY PROGRAM?

The GDHS, Inc. sponsors visits to local nursing home for pets who are well behaved, and current on all vaccinations.



HOW DOES THE GDHS, INC.

PROGRAM WORK?

New volunteers with pets will meet with a GDHS volunteer for the initial visit. We generally plan visits that work well with the normal nursing home schedule. The staff of the nursing home or facility is cooperative in accommodating volunteers' schedules.



THE MISSION

- The GDHS, Inc. wants to provide pets/owners the opportunity to visit area nursing homes/facilities.*
- Our program is a resource for any facility interested in pet visits. There is no charge to the facility or to the participants and pets.*

Please call or e-mail for additional information, or to make an appointment to start your visiting with pets experience.

HOW MUCH OF A TIME COMMITMENT MUST

I MAKE?

Pet owners are asked to commit to minimum of two hours a month. We are generally welcomed any day of the week year round.

