

Our mission statement

The purpose of Pets for Life, Inc. is to enhance the care and treatment of people in local hospitals, nursing homes, shelters for domestic violence, mental health programs, treatment centers for youth and corrections facilities through the use of certified therapy teams of pets and volunteers.



You can tell by their smiles they look forward to the monthly visits.

ASHTON COURT

What does PFL do?

- Kids with a history of violence learn to treat animals and people with respect.
- Withdrawn patients come on their own to join the activity.
- Head injury patients open their eyes to focus on the pets.
- Alzheimer's patients calm down, speak more clearly in coherent sentences.

You can help...

We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, and we rely on tax-deductible donations and grants. Gifts may be given in memory of or in honor of people or pets.

You may also support us through the purchase of:

- Note cards featuring pictures of Pets for Life pets drawn by children we visit and children of our volunteers
- Pet quilts - a variety of sizes, colors, & patterns
- Hand-painted walking canes in a wide range of designs and colors

Special Thanks

Almar Printing • Hecker Animal Clinic
Jack O'Hara-logo
Veterinary Specialty & Emergency Center
Webster Veterinary Supply
Westwood Animal Hospital

Photography

Mary D Buford
Dick Hodgman
Karen Peters
Shirley Schowe
Amy Wurst



RAINBOW MENTAL HEALTH FACILITY

We observe many therapeutic benefits during the visits:

depressed patients become more expressive and talkative; we see the softer side of patients who have difficulty expressing their feelings constructively; kids participate cooperatively, taking their turns to play with the pets.

This brochure is dedicated to the memory of

Aileen Callaway

For her many years of service

PETS FOR LIFE, INC.



Pets helping people



Celebrating the healing bond between humans and animals

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ROYAL TERRACE

The people we serve

- Hospital patients-cardiology, oncology, neurology, pediatrics, physical therapy, burn units
- Mental health clients; youth in behavior management institutions
- Nursing home residents-skilled and intermediate care units; Alzheimer's and dementia units; AIDS facilities
- Clients in shelters for domestic abuse-children, youth, mothers
- Adults and youth in correctional facilities
- Special needs youth-severely and multiply handicapped students and daycare clients



HOLMESDALE

How we began

In 1984, after learning of the value of animal assisted therapy through a news documentary, William D. and Harriett M. Snyder founded Pets for Life in order to offer this valuable service to those often forgotten individuals in Kansas City area institutions.



**Mr. and Mrs. Wm. D. & Harriett M. Snyder
Founders**

How to be a visiting Volunteer Team

Pets - healthy; calm, friendly, well-behaved
People-healthy; compassion for special needs people; and various ages, economic, & ethnic groups

Prospective Volunteer Process Required

- Annual Medical Evaluation by veterinarian
- Temperament Test
- Written Volunteer Manual Test

Optional

- Orientation
- Observation
- Pre-Test Class

Mary D. Buford, CVM, Program Director

See our website under How to Volunteer

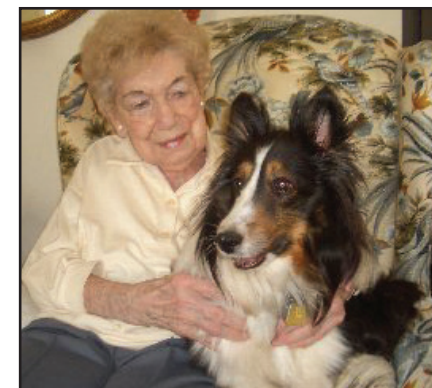


Reading Education Assistance Dogs

Our certified PFL volunteer teams earn additional certification to work in R.E.A.D. at libraries and schools in the metro area.

Hospice

Our certified PFL volunteer teams take many hours of additional training to serve through North Care Hospice at nursing homes as well as private homes.



NORTH KANSAS CITY HOSPITAL

“Pets for Life is a ray of sunshine for patients, helping decrease depression.”