



GIG
CYMRU
NHS
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol
Aneurin Bevan
University Health Board

WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR PET DOG TO MAKE A PATIENT HAPPY?

We need motivated and committed volunteers to carry out therapeutic visits to hospital patients with their friendly dogs.

This is a challenging and rewarding role which brings great enjoyment and comfort to patients.

We work with our partner organisations '*Pets as Therapy*' and '*Therapy Dogs Nationwide*' to ensure that our visiting dogs are of the right temperament to benefit patients.



 **Volunteering**
Aneurin Bevan

Will I and my dog be suitable for the role?

You will need the following:

- To be motivated, reliable and committed
- To enjoy visiting frail and/or unwell patients
- To have owned your dog for at least 6 months
- To become a member of Pets as Therapy or Therapy Dogs Nationwide (annual fee of £19 for individuals or £29 for joint membership)

Your dog:

- Can be any breed or size
- Must be at least 9 months of age
- Must be friendly and enjoy being stroked and petted by strangers
- Must be healthy and fully vaccinated

Becoming a Therapy Dog Volunteer

Patience is needed as the recruitment process is robust and is likely to take several months.

Stage 1

You will need to register with either Pets as Therapy or Therapy Dogs Nationwide, who will carry out reference checks for yourself and a temperament and behaviour check for your dog. This stage can take a few months.

Please contact **either** Pets as Therapy **or** Therapy Dogs Nationwide using the contact details below:

Website: <http://petsastherapy.org/>
Tel: 01494 569130
Email: reception@petsastherapy.org

Website: <http://therapydogsnationwide.org/>
Email: enquiries@therapydogsnationwide.org

Stage 2

When your membership of Pets as Therapy or Therapy Dogs Nationwide has been confirmed please get in touch with:

Rhian Lewis, Volunteering Development Manager, Rhian.lewis2@wales.nhs.uk,
01633 623812

At this stage an application form will need to be completed and Occupational Health and DBS checks will need to take place. This stage is likely to take at least 2 months to complete.

Following completion of stage 2, a placement will be agreed with you at the hospital of your choice and your volunteering can begin.