PAWS FOR COMPASSION®

Building awareness of the one-of-a-kind support animals can provide to those coping with illness

www.MagnoliaPawsforCompassion.com
Living with a seizure disorder can be physically challenging and can take an emotional toll resulting in feelings of depression, isolation and loneliness for the person living with the condition. Stress, worry, and anxiety are also common in the family members and caregivers of these individuals. That’s where Magnolia Paws for Compassion comes in.

This one-of-a-kind program aims to raise awareness of the beneficial impact that animals can have on people living with certain illnesses, helping them to feel more relaxed, positive and connected with their community. Magnolia Paws for Compassion, created by Eisai Inc. in partnership with Epilepsy Foundation and 4 Paws for Ability, seeks to increase access to animal assistance for those coping with a seizure disorder, such as epilepsy.

ABOUT MAGNOLIA PAWS FOR COMPASSION®

At Eisai Inc., human health care (hhc) is our goal. We give our first thoughts to patients and their families, helping to increase the benefits health care provides. Magnolia Paws for Compassion embodies Eisai’s hhc mission by integrally involving our employees in helping to bring animal support to patients.

In addition to our partnerships with key community and advocacy organizations to raise awareness of the benefits of animal assistance, Eisai employees are fundraising to support animal assistance and are encouraged to have their own pets trained as therapy dogs. Once trained, employees and their dogs visit and spend time with patients, helping to alleviate some of the emotional and physical stresses associated with illness.

To learn more about Magnolia Paws for Compassion, please visit us online at MagnoliaPawsforCompassion.com.
Therapy dogs are trained to provide psychological or physiological therapy to individuals and are commonly used in schools, nursing homes and hospitals.

Therapy training is not as extensive as programs for service dogs, and typically includes an obedience class, exposing dogs to a variety of situations they might encounter in a therapeutic setting and a certification class. It is important to note that the special rights afforded under the ADA do not apply to therapy dogs and their handlers.

For more information about therapy dogs, see the enclosed infographic.
Therapy dogs are compassionate and friendly companions and often are wagging their tails.

EARS
A therapy dog can lend a nonjudgmental ear to children who need to improve their reading skills.

EYES
Therapy dogs have warm and soft glances. They voluntarily approach strangers and make eye contact to try to develop social and emotional relationships.

VOICE
Therapy dogs love interacting with people. They do not bark at strangers or in unfamiliar settings.

BODY
Therapy dogs are accustomed to being touched and petted by people who may act differently than others due to illness or a disability.
BOOST THE BENEFITS OF ANIMAL ASSISTANCE WITH THESE TIPS

Dogs and humans have helped each other for more than 12,000 years as loving friends, faithful companions and working partners.

Research suggests interaction with dogs can promote health and general well-being by providing companionship, emotional support and comfort. Interaction with dogs can improve blood pressure, heart rate, stress, depression, anxiety, pain, fatigue and social functioning.

Use your furry friend as motivation & establish a routine
Something as simple as a daily brisk walk can help you live a healthier life, and the more frequently you walk, the greater the health benefits.*

Emotional health benefits
Walking with your dog will provide companionship, which has been found to decrease feelings of loneliness and isolation. Spending time with dogs can also help reduce stress and anxiety.

Socialize with your dog
Go to the park with your dog, and you may find that you’re chatting with more people than you would otherwise. Dogs are a great way of breaking the ice.

NO DOG? YOU CAN STILL BENEFIT FROM ANIMAL ASSISTANCE

- Offer to dog-sit for a friend
- Volunteer at a local shelter or animal hospital
- Join a friend or family member for a long walk with his or her dog. You can enjoy time with a loved one and the benefits of being around a dog while getting some great exercise.*

*Talk to your physician before beginning any change in exercise or activity level.
Service dogs are rigorously trained, starting as puppies, to perform tasks and provide support for people living with a number of different health conditions. Many different breeds can be trained as service dogs, including, but not limited to, golden retrievers, Labrador retrievers, goldendoodles and papillons. The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) protects the rights of people with disabilities to be accompanied by their service dog in public places.

**INTENSIVE TRAINING**

- **Puppy enrichment:** From birth, service dog puppies begin to experience the world and prepare for their job ahead.
- **Foundational skills and socialization:** During these phases, puppies learn basic commands, spend time with people and are introduced to different environmental settings, to help with socialization.
- **Advanced training:** Dogs will learn service dog skills and participate in activities related to the exact needs of their partners such as tracking, medical alert, retrieval and hearing. Based on where the dog excels, it will be matched based on the specific needs of an individual.

“The bond between Layla and her service dog, Harry, is a special kind of magic.”
– Larena R.

**ROLE OF SEIZURE ASSISTANCE DOGS**

Seizure assistance dogs undergo specific training to respond to a seizure in someone who has epilepsy or a seizure condition. They are trained to bark or alert an individual’s family when they are having a seizure. Others may learn to lie next to the person having a seizure. Being alerted when a seizure occurs may help provide comfort and peace of mind to families and caregivers as well as those living with a seizure condition.

Magnolia Paws for Compassion aims to raise awareness of the benefits animals can provide those coping with illness; however, we recognize there is no guarantee animals will provide a benefit to every child living with seizures.

For more information about service dogs, see the enclosed infographic.
Service dogs are remarkably trained and intelligent aides. They are also compassionate and friendly companions. Their tails work as a signal to indicate favorable conditions and a positive environment.

EARS
Service dogs may be trained to use a dog’s sensitive hearing to alert their partner to specific sounds inside and outside the home.

EYES
By using their vision, service dogs can find objects and take them to their owners. Seizure assistance dogs can alert to a seizure they see happening. Some service dogs for those with vision impairment can guide their owners around obstacles.

NOSE
Seizure assistance dogs are specially trained to alert caregivers to seizures when or even sometimes before they happen. Some reports suggest that dogs may be responding to a type of smell. Service dogs also may use their noses to get the attention of a deaf person.

MOUTH
By retrieving various objects or bringing medicines or a telephone, service dogs are trained to help in many ways.

VOICE
Service dogs use different sounds and barks to communicate their messages. Some dogs are trained to bark or alert family members when their owner is having a seizure.

BODY
Seizure assistance dogs may learn to lie next to a person having a seizure to comfort or protect them. Or they may use their body to steady or brace their partner.

PAWS
Service dogs use their paws to demonstrate friendliness and loyalty and create valuable reassuring bonds that can help introverted or withdrawn people. They may also use their paws to shut doors or operate light switches.
4 Paws for Ability strives to be the leading provider of service dogs for children regardless of disability as well as adult children with caregiver guardianship who cannot live independently. 4 Paws assists Veterans who have given selflessly to our country by providing service dogs which can assist with disabilities on a case by case basis as well as adults living with hearing loss, diabetes, or Alzheimer’s. 4 Paws for Ability relies on the generosity of individuals, as well as corporations, and accepts donations for operating expenses, training, food, toys, training supplies, medication, and our building fund.

The Epilepsy Foundation, a national non-profit with 48 affiliated organizations throughout the United States, has led the fight against seizures since 1968. The Foundation is an unwavering ally for individuals and families impacted by epilepsy and seizures. The mission of the Epilepsy Foundation is to stop seizures and sudden unexpected death in epilepsy (SUDEP), find a cure and overcome the challenges created by epilepsy through efforts including education, advocacy and research to accelerate ideas into therapies. The Foundation works to ensure that people with seizures have the opportunity to live their lives to their fullest potential.

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