

“The same joy my dog brings to me, he can bring to others - just with his eyes, his touch, and his presence. It’s one of the small pleasures in my life to bring comfort to hospice patients and their families.”



hospice | palliative care | home care

Trustbridge Volunteer Services

5300 East Avenue, West Palm Beach, FL 33407

561.227.5138

trustbridge.com/volunteers



Licensed since 1981. Accredited by The Joint Commission.
501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.
Jewish Accreditation by the Palm Beach County Board of Rabbis, Inc.

A partnership with



You and Your Dog Can Make a Difference

Become a Pet Therapy Volunteer



When Cathy and her dog Pearl arrived to visit a hospice patient, the patient's grandson was sad.

“Pearl went over to him (as if on cue) and put her head into his lap. He started petting her, then he hugged her and started to cry. Afterwards, he looked at me and said, ‘My heart feels better now.’ That’s what volunteering means to me.”



Cathy Dash and her dog, “Pearl”
Hospice Pet Therapy Volunteers

What is pet therapy?

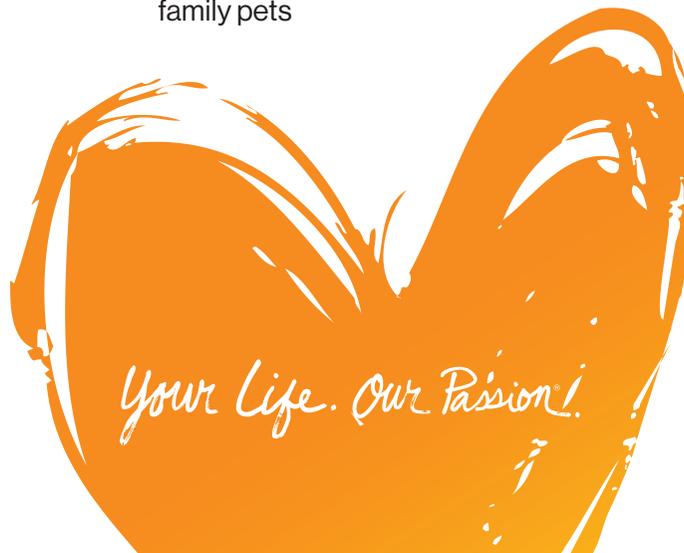
The companionship and unconditional love we receive from a loving pet touches our hearts and makes us feel good. This is **wonderful** medicine for hospice patients and their family members.

A simple visit from a calm, gentle dog can provide **significant health benefits.**

- Reducing blood pressure
- Releasing calming endorphins
- Relieving pain
- Decreasing stress
- Increasing relaxation

The emotional benefits are just as important.

- Reducing depression, anxiety, and loneliness
- Encouraging communication
- Providing an uplifting break
- Creating a physical connection through touch
- Sparking memories of beloved family pets



Pet therapy enhances the quality of life for Hospice patients and their families.



Want to volunteer?

Call **561.227.5138** for information on volunteering for Trustbridge.

Want to learn more?

Call **Canine Assisted Therapy (C.A.T.)** at **954.990.5175** or visit **catdogs.org** to find out about pet therapy training and certification.

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