CARROLL HOSPITAL and HOSPICE – POLICY and HOW to Get STARTED

(updated July 2024)

PREREQUISITE:

* Handler and dog must have done, at least 20 hours of MCP visits, prior to getting started in the hospital/hospice. This experience is important to ensure safety and understanding.
* Read the Hospital Policy for additional details about rules/cleanliness.

Carroll Hospital

1. TO GET STARTED:
2. Connect with Hospital Volunteer Coordinator Anna Collins <ancollins@lifebridgehealth.org>
   1. Georgeanne is the My Caring Paws lead (mistt01@comcast.net)
   2. Hospital Orientation needs to be attended (new 2024)
   3. Additional Considerations:
      1. Immunizations, flu shots … is no longer done at Occupational Health but needs to be done by regular doctor office.
      2. Training – annual powerpoint
      3. Quick Tour – Georgeanne
      4. Badge – picture taken
      5. Get login id with hospital volunteer hour tracking
3. ONGOING:
   1. Log hours in Hospital system – MyImpact
   2. Only 1 dog is typically allowed to visit rooms at the same time. Exceptions are the “special events”.
   3. Please do not allow dogs bigger than 30 lbs on the beds, this can be unsafe.
   4. If you are scheduled – ask guards to contact 4th floor to see if they will allow a visit that day.
   5. Limit your visit to about one hour – monitor your dog for signs that he/she is ready to leave.
   6. Visiting areas ( South Wings)
      1. Cancer building
      2. ER
      3. Pediatrics
      4. Critical Decision Unit
      5. Critical Care Unit (2nd floor)
      6. Patient rooms (3rd floor)
      7. 4th floor Adolescent Mental Health – 1 dog per day

Carroll Hospice Homes/Facilities + Dove House

1. Connect with Hospice Volunteer Coordinator - Kathy Barna <kbarna@lifebridgehealth.org>
   1. Immunizations, flu shots … is no longer done at Occupational Health but needs to be done by regular doctor office.
   2. Training (4 sessions 2-hr in person, 8 hr video online)
   3. Annual volunteer agreement form
   4. Quick Tour
   5. Badge specific to Hospice
   6. Get login id with hospital sysem
2. Log hours in Bridging Life - Hospital system – MyImpact
3. Assignment of Facilities, In-home, Dove House … EMAIL list will send details of new visits.

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**From:** Amy Bloomberg <abloomberg@lifebridgehealth.org>  
**Date:** September 22, 2023 at 10:29:37 AM EDT  
**To:** Georgeanne Trummert <misst01@comcast.net>  
**Subject:** **RE: Question**

﻿Hi Georgeanne;  
  
I found our Pet Visitation Policy that states that volunteers must be with an approved Pet Therapy Organization.  
  
Best,  
Amy  
  
  
VI. Special Guidelines approved Pet Organizations:

A. Visitation in all areas is with a dog only.

B. All dogs must be temperament tested through their agency.

C. All dogs must be at least one year old.

D. All pet owners must go through the volunteer application process which includes an application to be a volunteer, interview with volunteer services and hospital  
orientation.

1. Pet owners are encouraged to bring their pet to the interview to provide  
the hospital the opportunity to observe the pet in the hospital environment.

E. When arriving for visitation the pet owner will sign a certification that the pet was  
groomed and is considered free of fleas and ticks within the past 24 hours.

F. Security will maintain a log of all volunteers and pets that have been approved to  
provide visitation within the hospital. Volunteers or pets not approved and who are  
not the patient’s personal pets will be denied visitation. This does not include service  
animals.

G. The pet owner will be responsible for all feeding, water and clean-up of mess  
including pet hair.

H. Loud barking or other behavior that would make nearby patients uncomfortable will  
immediately terminate the visit.

I. Any incident involving pet visitation will be entered into the event reporting database.  
All incidents and/or complaints will be trended and reported to the Grievance  
Committee.