



Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center Partners with SPCA Cincinnati to Undertake a Dog Therapy Program

Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center Announces Innovative Dog Therapy Program in Partnership with SPCA Cincinnati

CINCINNATI - Feb. 29, 2024 - Cincinnati Children's is pleased to partner with SPCA Cincinnati to undertake a robust and successful dog therapy program. As a medical center, Cincinnati Children's is dedicated to exploring different therapeutic methods, and dog-based therapy has been identified as one of the best methods for both mental and physical health. The cooperation with SPCA is worthwhile and will be fruitful.

Cincinnati Children's CEO, Michael Fisher, emphasized that animal-based therapy is one of the best therapeutic methods available and hence the need to explore it. Owing to the importance of dogs in the arena of animal-based therapy, Cincinnati Children's has committed to donating \$35,000 to SPCA Cincinnati so they can undertake the Paws at Play Program, which will ensure that the 150 dogs adopted from locals can effectively undertake the therapeutic program.

In this project, the American Kennel Club (AKC) will play a pivotal role by providing training programs for 150 dogs. Since the hospital lacks the space to accommodate all these dogs, we aim to enlist the support of 75 community members to assist in their upkeep.

Members of the community are therefore encouraged to apply to volunteer for this program, and they can do so online on the Cincinnati Children's Hospital website, cincychildrenspaws.health.gov. Cincinnati Children's Hospital encourages those who have dogs as pets at home to apply to help in this program. The partnership between Cincinnati Children's Hospital and SPCA will undertake an effective Paws at Play Program that will ensure that dogs are effectively trained to undertake perfect animal-based therapy that will help with the healing and recovery process for patients at Cincinnati Children's Medical Center. People are encouraged to apply towards this endeavor.

About Cincinnati Children's Medical Center:

Cincinnati Children's Medical Center is a reputable medical organization that is committed to ensuring that children are provided with the best healthcare services and that every therapeutic approach is applied to expedite the healing and recovery process of its patients.

About SPCA Cincinnati

The SPCA Cincinnati, with 150 years of service, offers pet adoptions, veterinary care, and community support to promote animal welfare. They strive to prevent pet overpopulation and enhance the human-animal bond with education and social service partnerships.

About American Kennel Club Therapy Dog Program

The AKC Therapy Dog program recognizes and bestows titles upon dogs and their owners who volunteer to enhance the well-being of others, unlike service dogs, which are specially trained to assist individuals with disabilities.

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