



# PRISON PET PARTNERSHIP

SERVICE AND THERAPY DOG TRAINING PROGRAM



## OUR MISSION

Prison Pet Partnership enriches the lives of incarcerated individuals, animals, and the community through the human-animal bond.

## THREE-PRONGED MISSION IMPACT

Incarcerated individuals learn job skills to secure employment post-release.

Animals are rescued and placed in loving homes.

Persons with disabilities gain independence through the assistance of a service dog.

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## ABOUT US

Prison Pet Partnership (PPP), operating within the Washington Corrections Center for Women, has been a model for the nation in the rehabilitation of incarcerated individuals.

Studies on the human-animal bond have reached the not surprising conclusion that humans benefit from the unqualified love and acceptance that only animals can provide.

PPP provides incarcerated individuals (program participants) the opportunity to earn certification as Pet Care Technicians, Groomers, Dog Trainers, and Veterinary Assistants through in-class and hands-on vocational education to secure employment post-release.

As the first and oldest prison pet program in the world, Prison Pet Partnership has changed the lives of the program participants who work with the animals, the dogs who are given the chance to lead lives of service, and the individuals with disabilities who receive well-trained dogs to help increase their level of independence.

## RECIDIVISM RATE OF LESS THAN 3%

Less than 3% of program participants have recidivated (reoffended) within three (3) years of release compared to Washington State's recidivism rate of over 20%.

## OVER 700 DOGS AND CATS PLACED

Service, facility, therapy, and paroled pets are placed in loving homes and with those who require assistance for daily living due to a disability.

# SERVICE, FACILITY, AND THERAPY DOGS

PPP's vocational education programming includes service, facility, and therapy dog training. Purpose-bred puppies are identified, or dogs are rescued from shelters and live with Program Participants to receive daily training.

Service dogs are trained to assist those who experience mobility challenges, seizure-related disorders, and combat-related PTSD. Facility dogs are trained to provide service and support in clinical settings. Therapy dogs are trained to provide comfort and affection to ill, elderly, and trauma-impacted individuals.

Dogs earn certifications from American Kennel Club and Assistance Dogs International (ADI) while Program Participants earn certification to become ADI-accredited Service Dog Trainers.

When training is complete, service, facility, and therapy dogs are placed with community members at no cost.



## PAROLED PETS

Dogs who do not pass certification requirements to become a service, facility, or therapy dog join PPP's Paroled Pet Program - ultimately placed with loving families.

The Paroled Pet Program centers rescuing dogs (and cats) by utilizing partnerships with organizations such as Pierce, Kitsap, Mason, Thurston, and King County Humane Societies, Harbor Hope Cat Rescue, Hawaii Pet Program, and others. All pets receive basic handling and training before placed for adoption.

**APPLY FOR A SERVICE, FACILITY, OR THERAPY DOG  
OR ADOPT A PAROLED PET**

[prisonpetpartnership.org/placement-and-adoption](https://prisonpetpartnership.org/placement-and-adoption)

## FAQ

### HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO RECEIVE A SERVICE/FACILITY/THERAPY DOG?

While dogs are placed at no cost, there is a non-refundable application fee of \$150. If an application is approved, there is an additional non-refundable commitment fee of \$150. Those who receive a dog are expected to provide food, enrichment, and regular veterinary care.

### HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO RECEIVE A SERVICE OR THERAPY DOG?

Dogs require two (2) years of training before being placed, however, not all dogs pass their final exams to be certified. If this happens, PPP must start the process over again. It is not uncommon for individuals to wait three (3) to five (5) years before receiving a dog.

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Residents of Washington State who require assistance from a service dog due to a disability or plan to use a facility or therapy dog to assist individuals in their community may apply. Residents of Washington State may apply for a Paroled Pet.

### CAN PPP TRAIN MY DOG TO BE A SERVICE, FACILITY, OR THERAPY DOG?

Unfortunately, PPP does not train community pets to be service, facility, or therapy animals. Service dog training is only provided to dogs PPP identifies in shelters or as purpose-bred puppies.

### CAN I DONATE A DOG TO PPP?

Yes. PPP accepts donations of puppies and dogs. Please contact PPP's Service Dog Training Instructor at [sam@prisonpetpartnership.org](mailto:sam@prisonpetpartnership.org).

For more FAQs, visit  
[prisonpetpartnership.org](https://prisonpetpartnership.org)