

Website Site Descriptions 1-13-20

On a MAC, use command F to search

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A-E

[Almaden Health and Rehabilitation Center](#)

Almaden Health and Rehabilitation Center is a 77-bed facility near the corner of Union Avenue and Los Gatos-Almaden Road. Patients may be recovering from surgery, injury, or stroke; some are there for long-term care. The staff is particularly friendly, not only welcoming our pets but also helping patients to interact with them. At present, only dogs are on this team. We hear that “doggie days” are big favorites with the Almaden patients and staff alike.

[Almaden Library – Reading Buddies](#)

Reading Buddies is a program where children read books aloud to pets, to help increase their confidence and reading ability. Interested children will sign up for the program at the library, first come, first serve. Pets of all types are encouraged; however, pets must be able to be calm for relatively long periods of time, maintaining a sit/stay or down/stay, while the child is reading to them and petting them. All pets must have passed the Reading Buddies evaluation class. The visits take place in a single large room so all pets will be in close proximity to other pets. This visit is about an hour in length. The team has a wonderful large room for our visit!

[Alum Rock Library - Reading Buddies](#)

The Dr. Roberto Cruz Alum Rock Branch of the San Jose Public Library is a Reading Buddies Site. The visits take place in the multi-purpose room which has a direct entrance from the outside. Children of all ages are invited to snuggle up on a blanket and read to our pets. All animals are welcome! Volunteers must be 14 years old.

[Apostles Lutheran School – Reading Buddies](#)

This is a Reading Buddies team and pets must have passed the Reading Buddies evaluation class. Apostles Lutheran School consists of all grade levels through high school. Our Reading Buddies visit is with the 2nd-grade class and is a one-on-one timed reading session with a Furry Friend. The students rotate their reading based on a 3-4 minute reading time-during the one hour visit time.

[Atherton Healthcare](#)

Located on a side street in downtown Menlo Park, this facility is a 24-hour skilled nursing and Rehabilitation service. They provide physical therapy, occupational rehab, and tailored activities, for temporary as well as long term care. There are 3 stories, and our visit is amongst the patients in a large hall; we also do some room to room visits.

[Atria Independent Living](#)

Atria Independent Living is a very nice senior and assisted living community; it looks like an apartment complex. The grounds are nice, with lots of trees and walkways. Parking is on the street. This Furry Friends team visits the great room near where residents eat their lunch. Many residents here are dog lovers and enjoy having a chance to stop by get some dog time in, as well as a visit with the human volunteers. This group is very low key and a great option for new and experienced volunteers alike. Dogs of all breeds and sizes are welcome.

[Atria Willow Glen](#)

Atria WG is a very nice senior living complex, it looks like an apartment complex. The grounds are nice, with lots of trees and walkways. Parking is on the street. Most of the facility is independent living. Furry Friends visits their Memory Care unit, which is in a single (locked) building in the complex. There are approximately 31 residents. The visits are held in the activities room, or, in good weather, in an outdoor courtyard.

[Bascom Library – Reading Buddies](#)

This is a Reading Buddies team and pets must have passed the Reading Buddies evaluation class.

[Bellerose](#)

Bellerose is a newly remodeled, small assisted living site with memory care. With only 15-20 residents, it has an intimate feeling. The FF visits are warmly greeted by both residents and all staff. From the activity area to individual resident's rooms much joy is spread around. Due to the smaller setting, it's requested that dogs are 40 lbs and under.

[Belmont Village Assisted Living - Sunnyvale](#)

Belmont Village of Sunnyvale is an Assisted Living Community that offers assistance with daily living. There is a separate, secured Alzheimer's neighborhood, all in a warm and comfortable environment. In a rather elegant although homelike setting, Furry Friends visits as a group with patients with memory loss (Circle of Friends) and with Alzheimer's residents. There is ample parking in front of the building.

[Bill Wilson Center](#)

Description pending

[Branciforte Library - Reading Buddies](#)

This is a Reading Buddies team and pets must have passed the Reading Buddies evaluation class.

[Cambrian Library - Reading Buddies](#)

This is a Reading Buddies team and pets must have passed the Reading Buddies evaluation class.

[Cedar Creek](#)

Cedar Creek is a 58-bed facility that offers specialized care to people with dementia, Alzheimer's, and other similar diseases. Their program is designed for people who cannot adequately care for themselves, and require a safe and pleasant environment in which to live. Residents are able to safely stroll both inside the building and outside on paths through the gardens and lawn area. The residents enjoy seeing and petting the animals brought to Cedar Creek.

[Channing House](#)

Channing House is a charming Life Care Facility in residential downtown Palo Alto. Channing House provides Independent Living, Assisted Living and Skilled Nursing accommodations for its residents. Most of the residents here are ardent animal lovers, many still regretting the animals they had to leave to move to Channing House. Furry Friends share smiles and laughs during the visit with the residents on the Skilled Nursing floor and the Activity Center Room in a big group setting.

[College of Adaptive Arts](#)

Description pending

[Cordilleras Mental Health Center/The Suites](#)

The Cordilleras Mental Health Center provides mental health services in the rolling hills of Redwood City for San Mateo County. The Suites are semi-private rooms. There is a very large fenced in area behind the main building, which is ideal for off-leash visits. Clients are adults between the ages of 18 and 60 who suffer from acute mental illness. The facility welcomes all kinds of animals. Visits will be off-leash in the fenced-in recreation area though on-leash dogs are also welcome! There is a small parking lot in front of the facility and plenty of street parking. Volunteers must be 18.

[Courtyard Care Center](#)

Courtyard Care Center provides skilled nursing care and medical rehabilitation services. It is a 75-bed facility located just off Stevens Creek Boulevard between San Tomas and Saratoga. Many residents there are unable to get out of bed easily, so our Furry Friends go from room to room. When weather permits, our Furry Friends go out on the patio to visit, and they always make a stop in the activities room. Many of the residents there are animal lovers, and the Furry Friends visits bring a smile to their faces.

[CreekView Health Center](#)

CreekView Health Center, adjacent to Stoneridge Creek retirement community, is

comprised of 73 Medicare certified beds to provide skilled nursing services with an adjacent 68 residence assisted living community. The Health Center features 24-hour skilled nursing care with a specialized rehabilitation program for inpatient and outpatient care as well as medication management, IV therapy, wound care, etc. CreekView also provides a safe and supportive environment for residents with varying levels of dementia and other memory impairments.

[Crestwood Behavioral Health](#)

Crestwood Behavioral Health Inc. offers mental health clients and their families a continuum of care and treatment, from traditional psychiatric services to innovative recovery programs, geared towards community reintegration. All facilities are operated on the basic premise that mental health issues are treatable. When pet therapy is brought into the center, all of the patients become very excited to interact with their new Furry Friend who will be giving them love and affection.

[Cupertino Health and Wellness](#)

Cupertino Health and Wellness is located in a beautiful part of Cupertino. It is a residential facility plus a skilled nursing home. They provide many activities for the patients in addition to pet therapy visits. When Furry Friends comes to visit, seeing the animals puts a bright smile on the patients' faces. We are praised with many thank you's.

[Cupertino Library - Reading Buddies](#)

Welcome to the Reading Buddies program! We visit at the Cupertino Library, a member of the Santa Clara County Library System. This library is conveniently located off DeAnza Avenue near 280 in Cupertino. Pets and their child "buddies" meet in a room together. The Reading Buddies program looks for animals that enjoy staying very still (sit/stay or down/stay) and being in close contact with children for long periods of time. All pets must have passed the Reading Buddies evaluation class. The pets need to be comfortable being close to other pets but not distracted by them. Please take the Reading Buddies class, and come join us on a Reading Buddies team!

[Driftwood Healthcare](#)

Driftwood Healthcare is a skilled nursing facility in Santa Cruz providing long term care for residents. Our team first visits in a common area where the residents can get acquainted with the animals. We then visit individual rooms where the responses are heartwarming. This site is particularly rewarding, as the patients are very appreciative of our visits.

[Edenvale Library - Reading Buddies](#)

Welcome to the Reading Buddies program! Join us and help children build confidence by reading to a furry friend. Furry Friends and their child "buddies" meet in the center of the library for one hour. Large dogs and their owners lounge on the floor, while smaller pets sit in laps or in a nearby chair. Lazy pets are

ideal, as they must remain relatively calm while being read to in the proximity of other pets. We would love to have cats on our team too. All pets must have passed the Reading Buddies evaluation class. The team captain will provide photo bookmarks for the team members. Edenvale Library is conveniently located at the corner of Branham Lane and Monterey Road. Please take the Reading Buddies class, and join our team!

F-L

[Forum at Rancho San Antonio](#)

This facility provides both assisted living and skilled nursing care. We divide our time between both units. Most of the residents in skilled nursing use wheelchairs, and occasionally we will visit a bed-ridden resident in his/her room. The assisted living residents are more active and always look forward to our visits.

[Front Street Residential Care](#)

Front St. Residential Care is a 47-bed adult residential care facility serving individuals with mental disabilities. Front St. Residential Care is in an ideal location near downtown Santa Cruz between the beach and the Pacific Garden Mall.

[Gilroy Library - Reading Buddies](#)

Welcome to the Reading Buddies program at the Gilroy Library. This state of the art library is located at 350 W. Sixth St. in Gilroy. Reading Buddies is a program where children read books aloud to pets, to help increase their confidence and reading ability. The one-hour visits take place in a single large room, so all pets are in close proximity to other pets. Pets of all types are encouraged; however, pets must be able to be calm for relatively long periods of time, maintaining a sit/stay or down/stay, while the child is reading to them and petting them. All pets must have passed our Reading Buddies evaluation class. This program is a lot of fun for both the pets and the children involved, and very rewarding for the volunteers. Consider signing up for one of these exciting Reading Buddies sites!

[Grant Cuesta Sub-Acute and Rehabilitation Center](#)

Grant Cuesta Sub-Acute and Rehabilitation Center, located in Mountain View, offers 24-hour skilled nursing and rehabilitation therapy services with experienced staff dedicated to treating residents with dignity and respect. Grant Cuesta is a 100-bed facility located on Grant Road at the intersection of Cuesta Road. Patients may be recovering from surgery, injury, or stroke; some are making decisions about long-term care. The staff is particularly friendly, not only welcoming our pets but also helping patients to interact with them. The visits take place in a community room or individual visits in a patient's room.

[Green Hills Manor](#)

Green Hills Manor is a small nursing home/convalescent hospital facility in a residential area. The residents are about equally divided between those who are very low functioning and those who are higher functioning. Since it is a small facility, the team is small. The team would welcome a rabbit and/ or cat, and a lap-sized dog.

[Herman Health Care](#)

Description Pending

[Hillview Library - Reading Buddies](#)

This is a Reading Buddies team and pets must have passed the Reading Buddies evaluation class.

[Hope Services](#)

Hope Services provides training and employment for developmentally delayed adults. The clients are all middle-aged, neither children nor elderly. Some have physical disabilities as well, but most of them are ambulatory. The Furry Friends team meets with the clients in a large common room while the clients wait for their transportation for the day. Everybody looks forward to the Furry Friends visit, and many of the clients remember the dogs from visit to visit and can identify them by name. Hope has plenty of parking and is easy to get to, near the junction of interstates 85 and 101.

[Idylwood Care Facility](#)

Idylwood Care Facility is a Skilled Nursing Center in Sunnyvale that has been serving Sunnyvale and the surrounding communities since 1958. Idylwood provides individually tailored nursing care programs for short-term rehabilitation or long-term care. The visit consists of 30 minutes with mentally challenged residents and 30 minutes with skilled nursing care residents in two separate buildings. Both visits occur in community activity rooms.

[Juvenile Hall - Santa Clara County](#)

This is an Off-Leash team and pets must have passed the off-leash evaluation class. This is a facility for minors aged about 11 to 18 who are incarcerated. Volunteers are required to go through police screening procedures before their first visit, and are also required to attend a 3-hour state-mandated training (not necessarily before the first visit). Typically about 6 to 8 volunteers attend each month. Visits take place outdoors with several groups of youngsters and last about two hours. Rain cancels the visit. Active dogs often do well at this visit; dogs that fetch are very popular. Because dogs are off leash and activity level is high, it is important that all pets be non-possessive of toys and non-aggressive, even in hectic situations, and that owners of small animals monitor them to avoid accidental injury.

Kensington Place

Kensington Place is an upscale senior living community where our volunteers and their pets socialize with the residents in the lobby/library/parlor areas for 30 minutes before visiting with the residents in the memory care unit for 30 minutes. This is a beautiful, upbeat visit to do and all types of pets are welcome.

La Selva Beach Library - Reading Buddies

This is a Reading Buddies team and pets must have passed the Reading Buddies evaluation class. La Selva Beach Library is in a quiet neighborhood. It is a small site with an intimate setting and a large grassy area. The staff is very supportive and the visits are fun.

La Selva Momentum for Mental Health

La Selva is an adult, psychiatric residential and outpatient treatment program. The staff is consistent, but the clients change from visit to visit. The indoor site located near Stanford University in the heart of Palo Alto is in a very large room. Both staff and clients are from this and two other nearby facilities and all are welcoming to our furry friends. For more information about the programs and facility, visit <http://www.thelaselvagroup.org/>.

Laboure Residence

Laboure Residence is a retirement community and skilled nursing facility for the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent DePaul, retired Catholic Sisters, many of whom have been teachers.

Liberty Tower

Liberty Tower is a 101-unit high-rise building located in the heart of historic downtown Santa Clara, California. Nestled in lovely residential neighborhood and home to an attractive rose garden, Liberty Tower offers studio and one-bedroom apartments. Its convenient location includes nearby transportation, a post office, restaurants, a state-of-the-art senior center, and a branch library in the center of a beautiful tree-lined park.

Life Services Alternatives

Life Services Alternatives (LSA) is an organization that operates community-based homes to provide residential care and support for adults with developmental disabilities. To view pictures of the beautiful homes, as well as learn more about Life Services' mission, values, and goals, please visit their website at www.lсахomes.org. Furry Friends visits three 5-bedroom homes, each containing five residents. The homes are located near each other in a beautiful complex in Santa Clara. They are separated by a lovely grassy area.

Lifeways

Located at the corner of The Alameda and Stockton, near the HP Arena in San Jose, On Lok Lifeways center provides a welcoming, safe place for seniors to receive healthcare services, as well as to socialize and make new friends. The

center has a fully operating clinic, complete with exam and treatment rooms, and rehabilitation. The center serves as a pleasant meeting place, providing opportunities for social interaction and engaging activities. Furry Friends meet with seniors in a bright, open dining area, with tables and chairs. We visit between breakfast and lunch times, so no food is served during our visit. This site is appropriate for both large and small dogs. The room is fully accessible, and there is very little walking involved, so older dogs (or less mobile humans!) have a comfortable experience. Our animals are well received and a real treat for the clients as well as the staff, as many of them are no longer able to care for their own pets.

[Lincoln Glen Manor](#)

Lincoln Glen Manor is a very pleasant senior facility located in the Willow Glen residential neighborhood. Lincoln Glen Manor is dedicated to enhancing the lives of seniors by providing 4 levels of care in independent living, assisted living, nursing care, and memory care. Furry Friends volunteers visit Lincoln Glen Manor residents and staff each month on the 2nd Monday. We meet with residents for 20 minutes in a large assisted living activity room, then we enjoy the well-kept grounds with freshly planted flowers throughout during our short walk to the nursing care activity room. We conclude our Monday site visit with residents in memory care. On the 4th Thursday, Furry Friends volunteers visit residents in the large nursing care activity room for 45 – 60 minutes. Furry friends volunteers may choose to visit either on Monday or Thursday or both days each month!

[Live Oak - Cupertino](#)

Live Oak Cupertino (formerly Cupertino-Sunnyvale Senior Day Services) is a senior daycare center open from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Some of the clients live there and others are there for the day. They play games, read, and have guests that come in and entertain them with music, stories, and, of course, Furry Friends. The clients have many different types of problems: stroke, dementia, and just about every other type of medical problems. There are around 8-12 clients each day.

[Live Oak - Gilroy](#)

This **daycare** facility in Gilroy is a lovely place with about 15 daily drop-in seniors who come Monday through Friday. The seniors and staff alike thoroughly appreciate and enjoy the visits. The clients are very interactive with the dogs and love the attention. They especially like having the dogs sit with them for photographs. While they enjoy the dog visits, they also enjoy just chatting with the Furry Friends volunteers! It's a great group of people.

[Los Altos Library - Reading Buddies](#)

Welcome to the Reading Buddies program at the Los Altos Library, a member of the Santa Clara County Library System. This library is conveniently located at 13 S. San Antonio Avenue in downtown Los Altos. The visit will be done in one large

room and pets of all types are encouraged, so please make sure your animal is comfortable with “foreigners.” Animals must be calm, maintaining a sit/stay or down/stay, and enjoy being close to children for long periods of time. No health requirements for human partners are required, but humans must be at least 14 years old. Animals with prior experience are preferred, and all pets must have passed our Reading Buddies evaluation class. This is a fabulous way to increase and improve a child’s love of reading, which can change their lives forever. What a great way to spend an hour of your time.

[Los Gatos Library - Reading Buddies](#)

The Los Gatos Reading Buddies Program helps children increase their reading confidence and ability by reading books aloud to pets. Interested children sign up for the program with the Los Gatos librarian on a first come, first serve basis. Our visits take place the children's library section of the Los Gatos Public Library. All pets in the program must have passed the Reading Buddies evaluation class and should be able to remain calm and quiet while around children and in the proximity of other pets. Our visits last one hour. The Los Gatos Public Library is located at 100 Villa Avenue, just off Main Street in the Town Civic Center.

M-P

[Manor Care](#)

Manor Care is a very nice 300-bed facility. This facility has a section for longer-term residents, a section for patients who are convalescing from recent medical care, and an Alzheimer's unit. Residents are delighted to see the animals; visits are conducted room-to-room, with a follow-up visit to an activity room if time permits. Both small and large dogs are welcome but must be good with cats, as there are two cats on the team as well. Additional cats are also welcome, as well as other animals. Since this is a large facility, we are always looking for new members. All animals must be on-leash; many residents are restricted to beds, so small dogs should be able to be picked up and shown to the residents. Parking is in front of the facility on the street and is plentiful.

[Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers](#)

Maryknoll is a retirement community for the Catholic Foreign Missionary Society, missionaries who have served all around the world. The Furry Friends team meets with its charming and well-traveled residents in the small covered outdoor patio of the historic 1926 building, overlooking the rose garden. Dogs of all sizes are welcome, particularly if they’re good with being in close quarters with other dogs.

[Merrill Gardens - Campbell](#)

Merrill Gardens of Campbell is located at 2115 Winchester Blvd., Campbell. This is a new, luxurious, and modern senior housing facility. **The** appreciative

residents and staff greet you when you visit for 30 minutes in the comfortable Garden House (for memory care residents) and 30 minutes in the main lobby with independent living residents. Genuine smiles make your visits especially meaningful and valued on the 1st Tuesdays. We also visit on 3rd Tuesdays. Please consider the possibility of meeting new friends when you join this Furry Friends team if you can commit to one hour each month on a Tuesday afternoon (or both Tuesdays if you wish)!

[Merrill Gardens – Willow Glen](#)

Merrill Gardens is a lovely new retirement community located in San Jose near 280 and Meridian. Furry Friends' visits take place in the main activities area with the Alzheimer's unit.

[Mills Peninsula Post-Acute - Burlingame](#)

Description pending

[Milpitas Library - Reading Buddies](#)

Reading Buddies is a program where children read books aloud to pets, to help increase their confidence and reading ability. Interested children will sign up for the program at the library, first come, first serve. Pets of all types are encouraged; however, pets must be able to be calm for relatively long periods of time, maintaining a sit/stay or down/stay, while the child is reading to them and petting them. All pets must have passed the Reading Buddies evaluation class. The visits will take place in a large room so all pets should be able to be in close proximity to other pets. The visit is about an hour in length, with two sessions of reading to the pets.

[Moldaw Residences](#)

Moldaw is an upscale retirement center in Palo Alto, close to Mountain View. Although most of the apartments are independent living, our Furry Friends visits take place at the Memory Center, a secured, warm and comfortable section on the 3rd floor. The team first visits the common area where residents can get acquainted with the animals. We then visit individual rooms where some of the residents are bedridden. Access to the Memory Center is secured through a pass given at reception. Free valet parking offered at the facility is highly recommended. The residents are very excited and eager to see our Furry Friends.

[Morgan Hill Library - Reading Buddies](#)

Welcome to the Reading Buddies program at the Morgan Hill Library, a member of Santa Clara County Public Libraries. This library is conveniently located at 660 W. Main Ave. in Morgan Hill. Reading Buddies is a program where children read books aloud to pets, to help increase their confidence and reading ability. The visits will take place in a large room so all pets should be able to be in close proximity to other pets. Pets of all types are encouraged; however, pets must be

able to be calm for relatively long periods of time, maintaining a sit/stay or down/stay, while the child is reading to them and petting them. All pets must pass our Reading Buddies evaluation class. This program is a lot of fun for both the pets and the children involved, and very rewarding for the volunteers. Consider taking a Reading Buddies Evaluation Class, and sign up for one of these exciting Reading Buddies sites!

[National Psychiatric Care and Rehabilitation Services](#)

The National Psychiatric Care and Rehabilitation Services (NPCRS.com) provides a continuum of comprehensive care and treatment during the two-week residential program for adults in a newly-renovated residence. The residence is located near downtown San Jose. Furry Friends volunteers and their dogs enjoy a nurturing environment for up to 14 residents who anticipate interacting with our dogs during our on-leash pet therapy visits. We gather either in an indoor cottage or outdoor secured patio. Furry Friends volunteers and their dogs meet with the residents who are accompanied by friendly and welcoming mental health staff personnel.

[On Lok East San Jose PACE Center](#)

The On Lok East San Jose PACE center is associated with the On Lok non-profit organization with locations in several Bay Area communities. The center is located on North Jackson Street in San Jose and serves a diverse community of frail seniors with on-site activities, medical services, and rehabilitation equipment. During the day, there are 25 to 70 seniors in a lovely, bright, sunlight activity room with access to a lovely outside patio that is used during good weather. The seniors are engaged with various activities including games, art projects, and reading during our Furry Friend visits. We are often able to engage in conversations with the seniors. Several languages are spoken. Our Furry Friends visit the seniors in the activity room and patio and are on-leash at all times.

[PACE House](#)

PACE (Pacific Autism Center for Education) owns and operates a children's residential home. Three to four children live in the home and we visit in the backyard and/or living room. Only large, calm dogs are appropriate.

[Pacific Hills Manor Convalescent Hospital](#)

Pacific Hills Manor is a 100-bed facility in Morgan Hill offering a continuum of care from skilled nursing to long-term care. The average age of clients is around the late seventies. Most of the residents use wheelchairs and some are unable to leave their beds. The facility's goal is to improve the residents' functional abilities and promote independence in the home-like setting. Activities are provided to meet the physical, mental, social and spiritual needs of the residents. The residents really enjoy animals being brought into the facility for them to see and pet.

[Palm Villas](#)

Palm Villas is a facility in Campbell with over 40 beds and offers specialized care to people with Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, Lewy-body and other dementia-related conditions. The home-like environment allows a level of independence within a safe and secure setting with 24-hour care from professional staff. The facility has a large, enclosed open-air atrium that is the perfect, relaxing setting for the residents. There are also two large birdcages with various types of small to medium birds for the residents to enjoy. The residents appreciate the calming presence of Furry Friends' animals who bring them joy and happiness.

[Palo Alto Sub Acute Nursing Facility](#)

Palo Alto Sub Acute Nursing facility is a skilled nursing and rehab facility right near downtown Palo Alto, with on-street parking readily available. We visit the patients while they are undergoing physical therapy, in the recreation room, and, predominantly, by going door to door into the patient's rooms. Some of the patients live in the facility for a few months, but others might reside for a year or more. They really get to know us and our dogs and look forward so much to our visits. Their faces light up when we come into their rooms. The staff is also very excited when we come to visit and rush out to pet our dogs. Like any nursing and rehab facility, it is not always a happy place to live, but that makes our visits all the more important to the patients and the staff.

[Palo Alto Veterans Hospital](#)

The VA Palo Alto Health Care System offers comprehensive health care services to veterans and non-veterans on an inpatient and outpatient basis. The VA staff members are outstanding; they enjoy our visits as much as the patients and their families! We visit the first 4 Mondays of each month. On the fourth floor, we visit the hospice unit and the PT/OT unit. On the third floor, we visit the ICU and staff there, and its waiting rooms. This is a room-to-room visit, though the dogs visit with people in front of the hospital, in the lobby and in the hallways on their way up to the floors. We also visit the psychiatric units, B and D, as well as the Spinal Cord Injury Unit (SCI) in separate buildings on the campus.

[Plum Tree Care Center](#)

Furry Friends volunteers with their dogs meet outside the lobby then begin their visit. The dogs walk beside volunteers down the hallways and into patients' rooms. Depending on the number of those present, volunteers might be divided into two smaller groups to spend quality time with patients and staff who anticipate the monthly visits. Conversations are friendly, light-hearted, and HIPPA-compliant with patients who are receiving medical and rehabilitative services. Furry Friends dogs focus on the patients and staff and receive much reciprocal positive attention.

R-S

Ronald McDonald House

Palo Alto Ronald McDonald House (520 Sand Hill Road, Palo Alto, CA 94304) is a "home away from home" for families with critically ill children, who are being treated at Lucille Packard Children's Hospital. RMH welcomes 123 families of sick children every night, and many of these families have had to leave their beloved pets behind at home; this makes our visits particularly important. Although it is difficult to predict how many children and/or adults will be there at any given time, the ones who show up are very appreciative of our visits. We meet outside in a courtyard behind the house and there are picnic tables and a grassy area. We do not visit during the winter months due to the unpredictability of the weather.

San Jose Behavioral Health

San Jose Behavioral Health is an 80-bed inpatient hospital that provides comprehensive treatment services for adults and adolescents who have been struggling with a variety of behavioral issues and mental health disorders. The hospital is conveniently located in the heart of San Jose near the intersection of Highways 85 and 101. The location amid gently rolling hills promotes quiet reflection by providing patients with the opportunity to enjoy serene views of our beautiful natural surroundings. Visits are with approved patients and mental health staff in a group setting. Volunteers must be 18 years old, have a background check, drug screen & TB tests. San Jose Behavioral will pay for these tests. There is plenty of free parking in the lot out front. Outdoor courtyards can be used for visits during good weather. All animals, any size, are welcome. Staff is welcoming and friendly.

San Jose Family Shelter

This facility is a temporary home in San Jose for families who are currently unable to afford housing in the area. The parents are working and/or going to school and live with their children at the shelter until they can save enough money for their own place. If you enjoy working with kids, this is the site for you! This is an outdoor visit with a small team of multi-generational human volunteers and both small and large dogs. We don't currently have any cats or bunnies at the site, but they would be very welcome. This is an Off-Leash team and pets must have passed the off-leash evaluation class to be allowed off-leash. Dogs may be allowed off-leash to play fetch, etc. Dogs on this team must love children and get along well with other dogs.

San Tomas Convalescent Hospital

San Tomas Convalescent Hospital is a 130-bed skilled nursing home located on Payne Avenue and San Tomas Expressway in San Jose. Furry Friends has been visiting this site for many years. The residents are between the ages of 67 and 101. The facility encourages visits since the residents need socialization due to their long-term care needs. The facility welcomes any type and size animal. A

few of the residents are in wheelchairs in the lobby or hallways when we arrive. A majority of the residents are in their **beds**; therefore the team splits up and goes to individual rooms to visit as many people as possible. The facility is very clean, and the floors are always being polished when we arrive.

[Santa Teresa Library - Reading Buddies](#)

Reading Buddies is a program where children read books aloud to pets, to help increase their confidence and reading ability. Dogs of all sizes are encouraged, although we do already have a cat on the team. Dogs must be able to be calm for relatively long periods of time, maintaining a sit/stay or down/stay, while the child is reading to them and petting them. All pets must pass our Reading Buddies evaluation class and be able to tolerate both cats and dogs. The visit takes place in a children's area in the library. This visit usually runs an hour in length. This program is a lot of fun for both the pets and the children involved, and very rewarding for the volunteers. Consider taking a Reading Buddies Evaluation Class, and sign up for one of these exciting Reading Buddies sites!

[Saratoga Adult Day Care](#)

This site has approximately 20 people and has an upbeat atmosphere. Everyone is in one large room, many in wheelchairs. The patients have daily projects. Everyone is happy to see the pets when we visit.

[Saratoga Elementary School - Reading Buddies](#)

Description pending

[Scotts Valley Library - Reading Buddies](#)

This is a Reading Buddies team and all pets must have passed the Reading Buddies evaluation class.

[Sequoias Retirement Community](#)

The Sequoias is a beautiful, sprawling retirement community in the Portola Valley foothills. Windy Hill Park soars up in the background and the trail behind the facility is a great place to walk the doggies after our visit. The older facility is in keeping with the surrounding countryside and blends in well. Furry Friends first visits the Health Center where some residents reside and others are in rehab. We then visit the Gardens, which is secured for dementia patients. After our main visit, we wander up near the dining room and residents walking to lunch get so excited! We can always hear someone calling out "The dogs are here!" It's a happy day when Furry Friends comes to visit.

[Services for Brain Injury](#)

Services For Brain Injury (SBI) is the only organization of its kind in the greater San Francisco Bay Area. SBI provides comprehensive rehabilitation all under one roof for people with traumatic brain injuries or acquired brain injuries. SBI's services range from post-acute programs to personal and social readjustment, to

vocational immersion and job placement. SBI's programming emphasizes comprehensive cognitive rehabilitation provided through a unique continuum of services: occupational, speech and physical therapy, attaining personal and behavioral goals, reinforcing social skills, gaining readiness for a vocation from certified and licensed staff. The SBI staff encourages and supports monthly Furry Friends visits that are conducted in the main activity room with clients and staff who are interactive with the volunteers and pets. There is plenty of parking for our visits that are anticipated and very much appreciated. Furry Friends volunteers welcome new members with pets that are large and small. Pets' simple tricks and gentle play are much admired.

[Skyline Health Care Center](#)

Description pending

[Soquel Elementary School - Reading Buddies](#)

Reading Buddies is a program where children read books aloud to pets, to help increase their confidence and reading ability. Dogs of all sizes are encouraged. All dogs must pass our Reading Buddies evaluation class. Soquel Elementary School is excited to have a Reading Buddies Program at their site. This is a dog-only site. The students, teachers, and administrators are all thrilled with adding Reading Buddies to the school's strong literacy program. The focus will be on emergent readers in the first grade, as well as with upper grade struggling students.

[Stonebrook Health and Rehabilitation](#)

Stonebrook Health and Rehab is a premier skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility located in a pristine Los Gatos neighborhood. They have 73 beds and 61 full-time residents. We meet in the main gathering area where most of the residents are doing various activities. They really enjoy our visit and would like more dogs/animals to visit them. The staff is very welcoming and helpful with anything we need.

[Sunny View Retirement Community](#)

Sunny View is a lovely retirement community in Cupertino. No special medical tests are required for Furry Friends, so you only need to sign basic forms. Sunny View is conveniently located off Highway 85 and Stevens Creek, and the seniors and staff there welcome us with open arms. The facility is charming and freshly renovated, with lovely gardens and a fountain courtyard. Our Furry Friends visit two areas at Sunny View. Our first 45 minutes are spent in a large common area of the assisted living section, visiting with typically 10-20 residents who look forward to our visits so much that they thank us with poems and cards. This is a fun time with our dogs performing tricks and even taking turns retrieving a ball indoors (to keep elderly arms in shape!), and of course, talking with these active seniors while they enjoy petting the animals. The last 15 minutes are in the skilled nursing/Alzheimer's unit visiting residents in a common room and then private rooms as time allows. Most of the seniors in this area have serious

medical challenges, so Furry Friends visits really brighten their days!

[Sunshine Villa](#)

Sunshine Villa visits are in the common areas and in the Alzheimer's unit downstairs. We see 15 - 20 residents in the Villa, and approx. between 6 - 10 patients in the Alzheimer's wing. We could use some smaller animals on the team.

T- Z

[Telecare Santa Cruz Psychiatric Health](#)

The Santa Cruz County Psychiatric Health Facility (Telecare) is a locked acute psychiatric inpatient program that provides a safe, welcoming, recovery-focused place for adults who are experiencing a mental health emergency. This is a small unit (16 beds) and focuses on short-term situations. Weather permitting, we visit with approved clients on an enclosed patio with stone benches. We can sit quietly or move from person to person. Some dogs like to be on the benches to get pats from both sides. Typically, we see half a dozen clients. The entire staff is very supportive and interactive with team members and dogs. It's a very comfortable visit. Volunteers must be at least 18 years old. Note that it takes a while to clear volunteers. You'll need to pass a background check, be fingerprinted, and provide proof you have had a TB test. Telecare reimburses volunteers for any expenses incurred in the clearing process.

[The Terraces - Los Altos](#)

The Terraces is a very nice nursing home. The residents are mostly mobile. Some are in wheelchairs and others have a walker. You can visit in a group in the recreation room and visit the residents in their rooms. The rooms vary in size from one to three residents. They love animals of all sizes. The staff is very welcoming.

[The Terraces - Los Gatos](#)

The Terraces of Los Gatos is a continuing care community providing everything between independent living and skilled nursing. There are 175 apartments with independent living, 59 skilled nursing beds, 55 assisted living beds, and 16 memory care beds. Furry Friends divides our time between the memory care unit and the assisted living unit. We visit one hour each month with a variety of small and large dogs though any Furry Friends animal is welcome.

[Tully Library - Reading Buddies](#)

This is a Reading Buddies team and all pets must have passed the Reading Buddies evaluation class.

[Valley House Rehabilitation Center](#)

Valley House Rehabilitation Center in Santa Clara is a skilled nursing facility for both long and short-term care of patients of all ages. They have been enjoying visits from therapy dogs since 2010. The team meets in the lobby and begins by visiting the day rooms and exercise areas where we see patients who are active and mobile. The team then visits patients who must remain in bed in their individual rooms. The larger pets will often sit on a chair beside the bed so a patient can reach them easily. These patients miss their own pets at home and many of them have told us how much they look forward to the Furry Friends visits. All pets of any size are welcome, including cats.

[Valley Medical Center - Pediatric Ward](#)

This is an indoor site in San Jose with children ages 1-18. A staff member escorts our team room to room. Since we go room to room, pets are in close proximity to each other. Pets should be calm and not want to play with other dogs. Small dogs are put on the beds for the child to pet, and large dogs sit in a chair beside the bed. If the dog is large enough (Mastiff, Great Dane size), the child can pet them while the dog is sitting next to the bed. We limit the visits to 4 dogs (ideally 2 large and 2 small). Most times a Furry Friends volunteer who does not bring their dog takes pictures of the kids with the dogs. We also visit with the staff, especially in PICU. Ideally, the team consists of 6 members that rotate with at least 4 going to the visit.

[Valley Medical Center - Spinal Injury](#)

This is an indoor site in San Jose with adult clients who are brought to a large room in wheelchairs. Volunteers move from client to client. No visits occur in individual rooms. The dogs are in close proximity so dogs must get along with humans and other dogs. Any cats must be comfortable being carried or on a lap with many dogs close by. All animals must be on a leash at all times.

[VI Palo Alto](#)

VI Palo Alto is a facility in Palo Alto, near the intersection of Sand Hill Road and Plum Lane, across from the Stanford Shopping Center. Furry Friends visits take place in three areas of the facility: Assisted Living, Skilled Nursing, and Memory Support. The team goes around as a group and spends about 20 minutes in each area. The team meets outside the entrance to the Assisted Living building, or right inside the lobby if it is raining. Parking is limited; extra parking is available across the street at Stanford Shopping Center.

[Villa Siena](#)

Villa Siena is a senior retirement community with a beautiful, quiet, and serene environment. It is home to senior retirees in the front building and seniors in need of assisted living located in the building in back. The front entrances of each building boast large birdhouse terrariums that stretch all the way down to the floor. Each is home to gorgeous finches that the residents enjoy due to their tranquil nature. Each building has large hallways, open seating areas, recreation rooms, cafeterias, quiet rooms and rooms for each resident. The staff consists of

licensed healthcare providers who are professionally trained and are very friendly. Dogs need to be extremely calm, preferably more keen on attention to humans rather than other dogs as affection is what the residents look for. The visits are not to a specific location or structure and we roam around as many residents enjoy the pets and some residents cannot get around themselves.

[Village Square Library - Reading Buddies](#)

This is a Reading Buddies team and all pets must have passed the Reading Buddies evaluation class.

[Vista Manor Nursing Facility](#)

Vista Manor Nursing Facility is a 100-bed facility in San Jose located behind Regional Medical Center (formerly Alexian Brothers Hospital). The team visits a group of 12 - 15 people in wheelchairs in a large activity room first; then we visit people in their rooms who are interested in seeing the dogs. We also visit the physical therapy room if it is being used. Dogs remain on a leash for this visit; dogs or cats of any size are welcome!!

[Washington Elementary - Reading Buddies](#)

This is a Reading Buddies team and pets must have passed the Reading Buddies evaluation class. The team meets as a group in front of the school office to sign in and then heads to the classroom. No late entries are allowed. We visit a kindergarten class so the kids are mostly age 5. The teacher has two children share or read a book with each pet. The kids then rotate to read with each animal. The teacher is one of the best I've ever encountered and the children absolutely LOVE our visits!

[Westgate Villa](#)

Westgate Villa is an assisted living facility that was formerly associated with Villa Fontana. The team meets in the main gathering room. Generally, the guests number about 10 to 15, but it can be more or fewer as other activities dictate. These people greatly appreciate and welcome the animals. Many of these people had to give up their own animals to move into Westgate, and the loving attention of a furry friend brings them great joy.

[Westmont of Morgan Hill](#)

Westmont of Morgan Hill provides quality retirement living, assisted living and memory care. We visit in the lobby of the facility. When we have at least four members, we take two into the memory care unit for a short visit with the residents and staff there. Then we return to the lobby for the remainder of the visit.

[Windsor Preschool Academy - Mary Ave - Reading Buddies](#)

Windsor Preschools in Sunnyvale are two preschool sites that have the same ownership and are three blocks away from each other. Volunteers are encouraged to visit both sites, however, it's fine to sign up for just one. The

children at this site are ages 3-5. Two children at one time will share a book with one pet. They rotate until all of the children have a turn.

[Windsor Preschool Academy - McKinley Ave - Reading Buddies](#)

Windsor Preschools in Sunnyvale are two preschool sites that have the same ownership and are three blocks away from each other. Volunteers are encouraged to visit both sites, however, it's fine to sign up for just one. The children at this site are ages 2-3 and mostly sit in a circle to interact and show books to the animals. The exposure of animals to the children at this age is priceless. It is a short visit due to their attention span. We then drive the few blocks to the Mary Ave site.

[Windsor Preschool Academy – MV - Reading Buddies](#)

This is a beautiful, new preschool facility. The children range in ages 2-5. Since there have only been two volunteers and six classrooms, we visit each class to read one book to the kids and then the kids each take turns petting the dogs. The focus has been on exposure to dogs and encouragement to learn how to read. This site LOVES our visits and would ideally like to have enough volunteers to change the format to have the kids read to the animals.