



who we are

Hand in Paw is Alabama's premier Animal-Assisted Therapy provider and a national leader in this growing field.

At Hand in Paw, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, we train qualified animals and their owners to work as a team in therapeutic settings. HIP teams become heroes to people of all ages dealing with emotional and physical life challenges. These Therapy Teams deliver positive distraction, motivation, empathy and compassion in more than 100 facilities across Central Alabama and Tuscaloosa.

our mission

To improve human health and well-being through Animal-Assisted Therapy.

where we serve

Medical centers, schools, and human service organizations throughout North Central Alabama and Tuscaloosa.

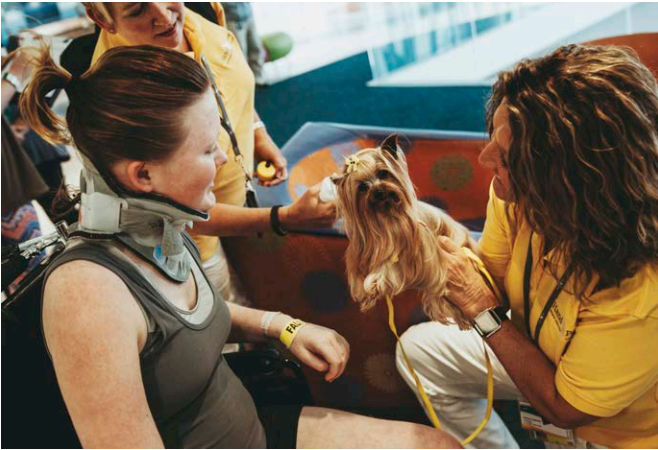
our vision

We envision a community of professionally-trained volunteers coming together to bring hope, healing and unconditional love to people dealing with emotional and physical life challenges.

HOW FAR WE'VE COME

98 Program Partners
92 Therapy Teams
41 Visit Assistants

PROGRAM AREAS



HEALTH

Our Petscription program provides positive distraction from pain and worry for patients in hospitals and motivation for meeting therapeutic goals in rehabilitation units and early intervention programs.



EDUCATION

Our Therapy Teams are powerful motivators for students in need. We help children make strides in K-12 schools, group homes, special needs classrooms, and after-school programs. We deliver Animal-Assisted Education via two programs, School's Best Friend and Sit, Stay, Read!.



VIOLENCE PREVENTION

We deliver goal-directed programs for at-risk children and youth, teaching anger management, relationship-building, empathy and compassion through our Pawsitive Living™ and No More Bullying! program.



TRAUMA & GRIEF RESPONSE

Therapy animals can serve as a conduit for person-to-person communication, giving on-site counselors highly effective tools for breaking barriers, building rapport, and making progress towards healing in difficult circumstances.