Our 2023 Accomplishments

Therapeutic Interactions

We racked up an incredible 99,346 therapeutic interactions thanks to our dedicated volunteers and generous donors.

- **Volunteer Hours**: 4,803
- **Staff**: 5,769
- **Therapy Teams**: 92
- **Visit Assistants**: 18
- **Community Partners**: 91

The Break Down

- **Healthcare**: 2,297
- **Mental Health & Wellness**: 1,697
- **Community / Training**: 1,055
- **Education**: 720

- **Healthcare**: 2,207
- **Mental Health & Wellness**: 1,503
- **Community / Training**: 486
- **Education**: 607

- **Healthcare**: 37,529
- **Mental Health & Wellness**: 31,973
- **Community / Training**: 20,635
- **Education**: 9,209
HIP Therapy Teams provide therapeutic visits in a variety of settings including hospitals, nursing homes, universities, police departments, school counselors and stress relief visits. Animal-Assisted Therapy and Animal-Assisted Activities are two methods HIP teams utilize to enhance health and wellness and reduce stress.

HIP’s School’s Best Friend program serves children in special classrooms and early intervention programs like The Bell Center. HIP also visits The Exceptional Foundation providing support to children and adults with disabilities. HIP encourages Animal Advocacy with our partnership with the Greater Birmingham Humane Society. In 2023, HIP launched Paws in the Court to support the Family Court System in Jefferson County.

Animal-Assisted Education helps students achieve academic and educational goals in the classroom. HIP Teams help children build reading skills, gain confidence, and foster pro-social behaviors. We deliver Animal-Assisted Education with a focus on literacy through Sit, Stay, Read!
Several supporters have elected to join the Jessica Society through naming Hand in Paw in their Will or as beneficiary of their Life Insurance or Pension Plan. These gifts leave a lasting legacy that can help sustain Hand in Paw in the future...and we are most grateful.

Contact Beth Franklin beth@handinpaw.org for more information.