

**THERAPY
DOGS
INTERNATIONAL
CHAPTER 221**



Therapy Dogs International Chapter 221, was originally founded in 1997 to bring happiness, enjoyment, and comfort to many individuals in nursing homes, retirement centers, children's facilities, and hospitals.

Facilities visited are located in the Harrisburg, Carlisle, Camp Hill, Mechanicsburg, Lemoyne, Middletown, Palmyra and York areas. Visits are during the day, evenings, and weekends to allow full participation. We try to accommodate the times in the facilities when it is convenient for them and are willing to add new facilities as the opportunity presents itself to our membership. There are approximately 60 members so this can be accomplished without undue burden on any one individual. Scheduled visits are set up on a semi-annual basis. Approximately 30 facilities are visited each month.

One to six individuals visit each facility depending on the size of the community room. Facility visits are usually one hour in duration. Demonstrations are done on some visits while at others, room visits are conducted.

Demonstrations include playing games, doing obedience and agility demos, and having the dogs perform any tricks they may know. Dog handlers tell a little about their dog, history of the breed, and any training that the dog has had. All our dogs have been tested by and are registered with *Therapy Dogs International*,

Inc. (TDI). This affiliation affords 'TDI Chapter 221' *insurance* coverage through the parent organization.

Requirements for membership to 'TDI Chapter 221' **must** be registered with TDI, Inc.

All potential members must be evaluated by a certified TDI evaluator. The dog and handler need to pass various steps to become a member. The steps consist of: Accepting a Friendly Stranger, Sitting Politely for Petting, Appearance and Grooming, Out For a Walk, Walking through a Crowd, Sit and Down on Command, Staying in Place, Coming when Called, Reaction to Another Dog, Reaction to Distractions, Supervised Separations, and Say Hello. If you are interested in having us visit your facility or would like to become a member of our organizations, please contact:

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