

## Policy on Care Animals

PATH ensures the needs of Interim Housing guests are met within reasonable accommodations standards set forth by federal, state and local governing laws. If a guest has a special health need and desires the presence and assistance from a service or emotional support animal in order to aid independent living; he/she may request a reasonable accommodation to allow for the animal to remain with the guest onsite.

The U.S. Department of Justice defines service animals as “dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities. Examples of such work or tasks include guiding people who are blind, alerting people who are deaf, pulling a wheelchair, alerting and protecting a person who is having a seizure, reminding a person with a mental illness to take prescribed medications, calming a person with Post-Traumatic Stress disorder (PTSD) during an anxiety attack, or performing other duties. Service animals are working animals, not pets. The work or task a dog has been trained to provide must directly be related to the person’s disability. Dogs whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals under the ADA.”

PATH makes efforts to accommodate any animal onsite that contributes to an individual’s well-being as long as the PATH guest abides by the below policy.

If a guest is approved to have an animal onsite, the owner agrees to the following terms and conditions:

1. Guest agrees to and is capable to keep his/her animal under control at all times. This includes accepting responsibility for the following:
  - a. Owner must minimize barking
  - b. Owner must prevent biting, or other aggressive behaviors
  - c. Owner must provide daily food and water to animal, which is kept near the guest’s cubicle/bunk
2. Guest agrees the animal will at all times be harnessed, leashed, unless these devices interfere with the service animal’s work or the individual’s disability prevents use of such devices.
3. Guest agrees to never leave animal unattended.
4. Guest confirms the animal is housebroken and the guest is capable of taking the animal to an appropriate location to relieve itself regularly as needed.
5. Guest agrees to immediately dispose of their animal’s droppings properly, both in front of PATH and in the neighborhood.
6. Guest agrees to keep animal from causing discomfort or annoyance to others and will immediately remedy any complaints made through PATH staff or security.
7. Guest agrees to pay for any damages, loss, or expense caused by their animal.
8. Guest agrees and understands that this agreement and terms permit them to keep ONLY the one animal named and described below.
9. Guest agrees to provide proof of vaccination within seven (7) days of initial entry to PATH. If you need help identifying a low cost veterinarian clinic to provide these required vaccinations, please inform Interim Housing staff, who can provide some resources.
10. Guest understands that PATH reserves the right to dismiss individuals and their animals who do not follow the above outlined expectations.
11. In order to maintain a healthy and sanitary environment we will provide monthly flea treatments for your pet in the form of a collar or topical your choice of one.

## Animal Abandonment Policy

We care about you and your animal's safety and well-being. In order to provide the best care for all, it is important that you have your animal with you at all times. If your animal is left unattended for over 24 hours we must follow local and state laws around animal abandonment.

California Penal Code 597s states that it is a misdemeanor to abandon any animal in the State of California. Animals may not be dumped or permanently left in any public or private areas nor on the streets or highway. If you do not wish to keep your pet and cannot find a suitable, responsible home to adopt it, take it to your local animal shelter.

While we welcome your animal in our building, PATH is unable to provide support to animals that are abandoned. If you leave your animal unattended for over 24 hours PATH cannot be liable for your animal and PATH staff will take your animal to the nearest animal shelter.

Animal Name:	Description (Color, Breed):
Tasks Care Animal Performs:	

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Guest	Guest's Signature	Date
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Case Manager	Case Manager's Signature	Date
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