

STRESS IN THE COURTROOM



- ▶ Music City Pets is a 501C(3) Non-profit Corporation and is a community partner of Pet Partners serving middle Tennessee and southern Kentucky.
- ▶ They promote wellbeing and education by training and supporting volunteer therapy animal teams.
- ▶ Membership is completely voluntary. The Organization charges no dues, but encourages members to volunteer at the Organization's events.

Here is a sampling of facilities their teams visit:

▶ **Among the many Middle Tennessee facilities our teams visit are:**

- ▶ Alive Hospice
- Belmont University
- Davidson County Juvenile Court and Detention Center
- Hickory Hills Alzheimer's Special Care Center
- High Hopes Development Center
- Lipscomb University
- Literacy Council of Middle Tennessee
- Mental Health Cooperative
- Monroe Carell Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt
- Morningside Assisted Living (Franklin and Gallatin)
- Motlow State Community College
- Nashville State Community College
- National Guard Youth Services
- Ride for Reading
- Rutherford County Juvenile Court and Detention Center
- Saint Thomas Hospital (West and Midtown)
- Shalom Zone Gallatin
- Tennessee Emergency Management Association
- Trevecca Health Care Center
- Trevecca Nazarene University
- TriStar Centennial Hospital
- VA / Tennessee Valley Healthcare System
- Vanderbilt University
- Vanderbilt University Medical Center
- Volunteer State Community College
- Whitsitt Elementary School



MUSIC CITY PET PARTNERS
Community Partner of Pet Partners

Mission Statement

Music City Pet Partners (MCP) is a Community Partner of Pet Partners®, serving Middle Tennessee. It is our Mission to promote well-being through animal- assisted intervention (AAI) and educate our community by training and supporting volunteer pet therapy animal teams. We are committed to fostering compassion, enriching lives, and providing comprehensive AAI services to enhance the human-animal bond.

ACCOLADES

Music City Pets assisted the Governor and First Lady with the Open House at The Residence at Christmas.

The First Lady described them as “warm, friendly” to guests of all ages. They were gentle, professional and put a smile on everyone’s faces.



The Tennessee Residence

We absolutely loved having Music City Pet Partners and their therapy dogs join us as the “family fun” portion of our Christmas Open House tours! Even on (what I think was) the coldest day of the year, the MCPP team was so warm and friendly to our guests. Tour visitors of all ages were so happy to stop and visit with the dogs. They were gentle, professional, and put a smile on everyone’s face! Thanks for bringing the holiday cheer, MCPP!

ACCOLADES CONT'D

- ▶ *The S'more ready camp said these dogs made Tuesdays fun with the joy, peace and love they gave these kids.*
- ▶ **Others Include:**
- ▶ *Motlow State Community College*
- ▶ *Literary Counsel of Middle Tennessee*
- ▶ *Vanderbilt Recreation and Wellness*
- ▶ *Vanderbilt Adult Emergency Dept.*
- ▶ *Ascension of St. Thomas – Rutherford Hospital*



VANDERBILT

Hi Geralda,

I had the pleasure of being one of the coordinators who put on the "Pets and Popsicles" wellness event for Vanderbilt medical students. I wanted to extend my deep thanks for the service your team provides. The dogs you brought were incredibly adorable and well-behaved. More importantly, however, they improved the day (and probably week) of dozens of folks who came to see them. Your pet owners were also so kind; everyone loved chatting with them. I get requests to have you guys back rather frequently, so I am looking forward to coordinating our next event with you folks! Thanks again for what you do, as it makes a real difference in peoples lives!

ACCOLADES CONT'D

- ▶ Belmont University School of Physical Therapy



Geralda, Mary, Kelly, Debbie & Rita,

Thank you all SO much for volunteering your time this morning for some pet therapy research! The students really appreciated the pet therapy before their exam and we really appreciate your participation for research.

Thank you again for everything!

Sincerely,

Christi and student research team: Bella, Katelyn, Natalie and Ashley

Christi Williams, DPT, OCS, Cert. MDT

Associate Professor

Belmont University School of Physical Therapy

ACCOLADES CONT'D

- ▶ Davidson County Juvenile Court – stating “you bring joy, sense of hope to a sad place”.



► They make wellness visits for frontline health care staff

it is literally the highlight of my day. on some days, the only highlight. its the reason I come to work
7/14/2018 1:04 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

It's so great!! Always makes me happy even when I'm having a bad day!
7/14/2018 12:46 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

When having a difficult day seeing bandit or Finn come around has brighten up my day and letting myself know I can make it through the rest of the day. I love seeing them come around!

The pet therapy dogs are why I come to work!"



I love having pet therapy. Its always a good way to have some positivity during stressful days.
7/16/2018 9:18 AM [View respondent's answers](#)

I love it. adds a bit of happy to maybe a not so happy type of night. I wish I could see more of it!
7/16/2018 1:12 AM [View respondent's answers](#)

It has been a nice stress reliever and I see it put smiles on the faces of staff members.
7/15/2018 11:23 AM [View respondent's answers](#)

A positive distraction that helps reset even for a few moments.

Having the dogs at work has really made my work day more enjoyable. Sometimes if I'm having a stressful day and really need to snap out of it and reset my mental state, all it takes is seeing/petting the dogs to get me back on track. I can't see anything negative coming from the dogs at work, because the visits aren't long enough to actually distract me from patient care. It's just a perfect little moment to feel happy and rejuvenated for the rest of the shift.

7/16/2018 4:23 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

ED pet therapy breaks up hard days with a ray of sunshine. There is nothing that lifts your spirits quite like the presence of a dog. I appreciate the dogs and their handlers very much for making our jobs a lot more enjoyable!!

7/16/2018 2:47 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

I love having dogs around the department! They cheer up staff, patients, and visitors alike. I have noticed a definite increase in moral since the pet therapy program has began. My only request is for more weekend coverage, but I know that is subjective to animal availability. :)

7/14/2018 4:56 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

IT IS AMAZING!!! SO VERY THANKFUL!!!

7/14/2018 4:29 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

I very much enjoy the pet therapy dogs. In a stressful environment, it is wonderful to take just a minute and pet a dog. Dogs make me feel genuinely happy, and I feel like that quick interaction and mood boost gets carried over into my patient care and interactions with others.

7/14/2018 3:02 PM [View respondent's answers](#)

Governor's Proclamation

In 2021, Governor Bill Lee proclaimed April 30, 2021 as Therapy Animal Day

He was joined by the Tennessee Senate and the Middle Tennessee Mayors in issuing the proclamation.

They have been featured on News 4 "Big Joe on the Go" segment as well as WSMV website.

They even have a YouTube channel.

Governor's Proclamation Cont'd

