

# ACS PAWS Guide: Bring the Benefits of Facility Dogs to Your Hospital



**Facility dog programs improve the hospital experience of a child or teen with cancer.**

The American Cancer Society (ACS) aims to expand access to facility dogs in pediatric oncology settings through the ACS Pups Assisting with Support (PAWS) program.

ACS has created the *ACS PAWS Guide for Hospitals* to help health professionals bring facility dog programs to their hospital system. With input from facility dog handlers and program leaders in pediatric oncology, the guide offers a roadmap for integrating the benefits of animal-assisted therapy into everyday care.

## What's Inside



**Scalable program models** for hospitals of all sizes



**Planning tools**, including key considerations, financial strategies, and checklists



**Best practices** to use at every step of planning and implementation



**Real-world examples and stories** from facility dog programs



**Guidance** on choosing a facility dog handler and acquiring a facility dog



**Resources** on therapeutic interventions and infection control



## Get Started Today

Visit [cancer.org/acspaws](https://cancer.org/acspaws) to learn more.

Scan the QR code to download the *ACS PAWS Guide for Hospitals*.