

Animal-Assisted Crisis Response

A Commitment to Help Where Needed

About AACR

Therapy animal teams providing comfort in the wake of crisis events

Pet Partners Animal-Assisted Crisis Response (AACR) teams provide emotional comfort in communities after natural disasters or human tragedies. These events are often deeply challenging for those who experience them, but therapy animal team visits provide unique benefits to people who have experienced crisis.

A therapy animal team is one human and one animal working together.

Program/Training

AACR-credentialed teams complete an advanced training course that addresses skills needed for crisis response:

- Basic disaster concepts
- Best practices for animal-assisted activities
- Active listening
- De-escalation techniques
- Stress management
- Continuing education curriculum
- Incident Command System (ICS) training provided by FEMA



AACR Deployments

We deploy teams in local settings and partner with national entities like the U.S. Department of State, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

We respect that there is a time and place for AACR and only deploy upon request. This ensures that AACR deployments provide a targeted response, reduce complications, and are considerate of a community or location already dealing with crisis.

Common Deployments:

- Frontline workers and others who experience uniquely stressful work situations (such as first responders and healthcare workers).
- People displaced or experiencing loss due to a natural disaster (such as hurricanes, wildfires, and tornadoes).
- Community events honoring a difficult or sad occasion (such as funerals or memorials).
- Military members and their families before, during, or after deployment.
- Employees who may have experienced the sudden passing of a colleague.
- Students, faculty, and families affected by violence or tragedy at school (such as shootings or unexpected deaths).

Insurance

All teams are covered by a \$2 million general liability insurance policy, provided by Pet Partners at no cost to you.



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