

**DOES THE IMAGE OF A CHILD, A BOOK AND A DOG MAKE YOU SMILE?
THEN YOU COULD MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN A CHILD'S FUTURE**

**BECOME A SPRITE'S HERO, Inc. VOLUNTEER
FOR THE PAWS TO R.E.A.D.® PROGRAM**

1. Register your animal as a therapy animal.
 - Sprite's HERO, Inc. accepts registration through -
 - Alliance of Therapy Dogs, www.therapydogs.com
 - Pet Partners (formerly Delta Pet Partners), www.petpartners.org
 - Love on a Leash, www.loveonaleash.org
 - Registration consists of temperament testing of your dog, team testing of both of you and written testing of yourself. Alliance of Therapy Dogs and Love on a Leash require observed visits with the evaluator. Pet Partners requires re-evaluation every two years.
 - The cost of the liability insurance coverage varies by registering organization.
 - Volunteers must follow all guidelines and procedures required of his/her registering organization. Keep his/her therapy program insurance up to date and provide copies of the insurance renewal/ID card to Sprite's HERO, Inc.
 - **NOTE: to work in Henrico you must register with Alliance of Therapy Dogs.**
2. Complete this Sprite's HERO, Inc. Volunteer Application Form.
3. Attend Sprite's HERO Volunteer Training class to become a registered R.E.A.D.® team through Intermountain Therapy Animals (ITA.)
 - Purchase the R.E.A.D. training manual before class;
 - Complete the ITA application and quiz in the manual at the class;
 - Pay the one-time fee to ITA to register as a R.E.A.D. team;
 - Follow all guidelines and procedures from ITA and the R.E.A.D. program.
4. Shadow an existing Sprite's HERO, Inc. team without your dog to observe the process and ask any questions.
5. Visit with your dog and be observed by an existing volunteer member of the Observation Committee.
6. Purchase Sprite's HERO T-shirt and R.E.A.D. dog vest. R.E.A.D. logo patches are supplied by Sprite's HERO.
7. Within one year of becoming a volunteer, complete the VCU online Foundations of Autism course. This is a free big picture overview of the autism spectrum and provides background on the symptoms and challenges you may face working with children with autism.
8. Complete additional continuing education as required by Sprite's HERO.
9. Attend annual general meeting, other training functions, fund raising and marketing programs throughout the year.

SPRITE'S HERO, Inc. (PAWS TO R.E.A.D.®) VOLUNTEER INFORMATION FORM

Handler's name: _____ Date: _____

How did you hear about us? _____

Canine/Feline partner's name/breed: _____

Age:

Dog/Cat Birthday:

Gender: M/F

Spayed/Neutered: Y/N

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Home phone: _____ Other phone: _____

E-mail address: _____

Current registering organization for your team (please provide copy of therapy registration card and R.E.A.D. ID card):

Date of initial registration: _____ Expiration date of that registration: _____

Describe your current therapy dog work (Where do you visit? How often? For how long have you been doing therapy work with this partner?):

Do you have a background in the education field? If so, please describe.

What days and times are you mostly available? Are you available during school hours?

Would you also be interested in helping with? (please circle):

Special events

Volunteer orientations

Facility presentations

Volunteer socials

Drafting/reviewing volunteer handbook

Fund raising

Web site development

Scan and email or regular mail your completed application with copies of your therapy registration ID and R.E.A.D. ID cards to: spriteshero@aol.com - OR -

Sprite's HERO, Inc.

C/o Chris Miller

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