



**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 READ® PROGRAM**

Paw to READ teams consist of a dog owner and his/her registered therapy dog.

We take seriously the safety of our teams, our canine partners and all those we work with. As such, we work only with registered therapy dog teams.

We need daytime volunteers to work in schools and evening/Saturday volunteers to work in libraries all over greater Richmond.

**How to become a registered therapy team with your dog?**

- Dogs must be at least 1 year of age
- Dog must have lived with you for at least 3 months
- Dogs should have basic manners skills, be calm in distracted settings, very comfortable with children, and basically OK with other dogs
- Review the temperament test from Alliance of Therapy Dogs (ATD)
- Attend basic obedience training with your dog if needed
- Schedule a time to be tested with a tester/observer in the Richmond area - these individuals are listed on the ATD website
- Follow all guidelines and procedures required of the Alliance of Therapy Dogs on all visits
- Maintain your insurance coverage annually

**OK - You're registered as a therapy team - what's next?**

- Attend a Sprite's HERO volunteer orientation session
- Purchase the READ Training Manual from Intermountain Therapy Animals
- Complete this Volunteer Application form for Sprite's HERO
- Attend Sprite's HERO Volunteer orientation
- Attend the Paws to READ volunteer tutoring training class

**After you've been through the Paws to READ training:**

- Be scheduled to observe a current Paws to READ team on a scheduled visit
- Be scheduled to do a visit with your dog with a current Paws to READ volunteer as a buddy
- Take VCU autism course online
- Be scheduled for recurring school or library visits with your dog
- Our school visits are once/week for 1-2 hours every week of the school year
- Our library visits are usually evenings or Saturdays once/month year round for 1 1/2 hours
- Track & submit your volunteer hours and # of readers monthly
- Attend annual volunteer training sessions
- Attend at least 1 community event per year

Have Fun with the Readers!



## Sprite's HERO, Inc. – Paws to READ® - Volunteer Application Form

Handler's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about us? \_\_\_\_\_

Canine partner's name/breed: \_\_\_\_\_

Age:

Dog Birthday:

Gender: M/F

Spayed/Neutered: Y/N

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Current Alliance of Therapy Dogs expiration date of registration: \_\_\_\_\_

Why are you interested in volunteering with Sprite's HERO?

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?

Other volunteer opportunities you would like to help with (please circle):

Community event booth

Volunteer orientations

Fund raising

Community presentations

Volunteer social events

Web site development

Email or regular mail your completed application with copies of your therapy registration ID to:

[spriteshero@gmail.com](mailto:spriteshero@gmail.com)

Sprite's HERO, Inc.

c/o Chris Miller

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