

Pet Partners Youth Endorsement Evaluation

Pet Partners is pleased to share with you a brand-new evaluation available to teams in your area who are interested in working with youth. The Youth Endorsement Evaluation, or YEE, is an evaluation protocol which focuses on how a team interacts with young clients. The evaluation is the only Pet Partners event which ensures children between the ages of 6 and 12 interact with the team being evaluated. Currently registered dog teams in good standing are welcome to participate in a YEE event.

What would be the benefit to my facility?

Pet Partners is proud to have well trained and regularly evaluated teams throughout the country. Until now, teams who have elected to volunteer with youth have done so largely based on their own interest. A team who passes a youth endorsement evaluation receives external validation of their skill with youth. For a facility, this means an additional layer of confidence in the handler and dog walking through your doors.

How is YEE different than the standard Pet Partners evaluation?

The exercises included in YEE are different from a standard Pet Partners evaluation. As a result of consultation with experts in the field, we have added an assessment of how well the handler reads their animal's body language. Our research and experience indicated solid skill in interpreting body language makes a handler safer and more reliable during their visits. YEE is also the only evaluation protocol which guarantees the animal is observed interacting with your children. Youth endorsement evaluations are only conducted by specifically trained evaluators who themselves have the extra knowledge of what to look for in a team seeking such endorsement.

Is this required for visits?

No, Pet Partners teams have always been allowed to visit with young clients. A team who has not had the opportunity to attend a youth endorsement evaluation can be perfectly safe and effective around children.

What can you do?

- ▶ Encourage teams who visit your facility to attend YEE. Anyone who is interested can go on our website or contact us to find out more about this exciting new evaluation.
- ▶ Do you have a meeting room you would be willing to make available to Pet Partners teams? Let us know you are open to hosting a YEE event and we will alert local evaluators. The more options for space we have, the more events we will be able to offer in your community.

Questions?

Please contact us through www.petpartners.org