

## UW HEALTH JOB DESCRIPTION

### FACILITY DOG HANDLER

<b>Job Code:</b> 540076	<b>FLSA Status:</b> Non-Exempt	<b>Mgt. Approval:</b> J. Auenson	<b>Date:</b> Nov 2022
<b>Department:</b> 1000316 Patient & Fam Services		<b>HR Approval:</b> K. Fleming	<b>Date:</b> Nov 2022

### JOB SUMMARY

The Facility Dog Handler serves as a handler for an assigned facility dog, providing clinical interventions that meet the diverse psychosocial need of patients and families while supporting medical staff across settings

This role is a secondary appointment opportunity for current, active UW Health employees.

### MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES

#### Facility Dog Handler

- Serves as a handler for an assigned facility dog, providing clinical interventions that meet the diverse psychosocial need of patients and families while supporting medical staff across settings.
- Utilizes the facility dog to provide therapeutic interventions in the assigned clinical setting at American Family Children's Hospital and University Hospital as directed by hospital and program leadership.
- Develops and implements education that addresses psychosocial needs and challenges of hospitalization with the clinical benefits of utilizing a facility dog in collaboration with the Child Life Educator and Manager.
- Collaborates with clinical staff and leadership to create opportunities for the facility dog to be included in applicable research.
- Participates in the planning and implementation of special events and programming that involve the facility dog.
- Maintains documentation, including but not limited to consent for facility dog to be with patient, patient intervention in electronic health record, as well as program statistics to assess and evaluate quality of programming.
- Attends specific dog handling training and maintains all requirements and responsibilities for dog handlers established by Canine Assistants and UW Health regarding dog health, well-being, and regulatory standards.
- Assesses the needs of the facility dog throughout the work shift to provide adequate rest and down time.

#### Assists patients and siblings coping with the stress of hospitalization, illness, death and/or loss.

- Empathizes objectively and maintains therapeutic relationships with patients and their families.
- Demonstrates, explains, and/or provides techniques to aid coping, matching technique, developmental and emotional state to stressor.
- Provides support to parents and siblings regarding patients' health care experience and responses.

#### Participates in patient/family teaching.

- Uses developmentally appropriate and accurate teaching aids and techniques in such a way that knowledge is increased and emotional needs are supported. Identifies and develops teaching aids as needed.
- Advocates for the patient and family throughout hospitalization, surgical processes, and medical procedures for a less anxious experience.

#### Participates in staff education

- Provides staff education, formal and informal, as appropriate around developmental approach to care, comfort, distraction, and other areas of expertise.

**ALL DUTIES AND REQUIREMENTS MUST BE PERFORMED CONSISTENT WITH THE UW HEALTH PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.**

### JOB REQUIREMENTS

Education	Minimum	
	Preferred	
Work Experience	Minimum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One year employment at UW Health</li> <li>• Currently employed and meeting current job requirements and responsibilities in another role with UW Health</li> </ul>
	Preferred	One year employment with UW Health Kids
Licenses & Certifications	Minimum	Completed facility dog handler training and certification – Canine Assistants
	Preferred	
Required Skills, Knowledge, and Abilities		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability to house and care for facility dog according to Canine Assistant's specifications</li> <li>• Ability to commit to 5 years of being a facility dog handler</li> <li>• Ability to participate in UW Health Kids associated events as requested</li> <li>• Knowledge of and an ability to use various computer programs such as word processing, database, spreadsheet, calendar and email</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Effective verbal and written communications skills</li> <li>Ability to prioritize position responsibilities with handler responsibilities</li> <li>Work collaboratively with multiple departments in a positive manner</li> </ul>
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### AGE SPECIFIC COMPETENCY (Clinical jobs only)

Identify age-specific competencies for direct and indirect patient care providers who regularly assess, manage and treat patients.

**Instructions:** Indicate the age groups of patients served either by direct or indirect patient care by checking the appropriate boxes below. Next,

<b>X</b>	Infants (Birth – 11 months)	<b>X</b>	Adolescent (13 – 19 years)
<b>X</b>	Toddlers (1 – 3 years)	<b>X</b>	Young Adult (20 – 40 years)
<b>X</b>	Preschool (4 – 5 years)		Middle Adult (41 – 65 years)
<b>X</b>	School Age (6 – 12 years)		Older Adult (Over 65 years)

### JOB FUNCTIONS

Review the employee's job description and identify each essential function that is performed differently based on the age group of the patient.

### PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

**Indicate the appropriate physical requirements of this job in the course of a shift.** *Note: reasonable accommodations may be made available for individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions of this position.*

Physical Demand Level	Occasional Up to 33% of the time	Frequent 34%-66% of the time	Constant 67%-100% of the time
<b>Sedentary:</b> Ability to lift up to 10 pounds maximum and occasionally lifting and/or carrying such articles as docket, ledgers and small tools. Although a sedentary job is defined as one, which involves sitting, a certain amount of walking and standing is often necessary in carrying out job duties. Jobs are sedentary if walking and standing are required only occasionally and other sedentary criteria are met.	<b>Up to 10#</b>	<b>Negligible</b>	<b>Negligible</b>
<b>X</b>	<b>Light:</b> Ability to lift up to 20 pounds maximum with frequent lifting and/or carrying of objects weighing up to 10 pounds. Even though the weight lifted may only be a negligible amount, a job is in this category when it requires walking or standing to a significant degree.	<b>Up to 20#</b>	<b>Up to 10#</b> or requires significant walking or standing, or requires pushing/pulling of arm/leg controls  <b>Negligible</b> or constant push/pull of items of negligible weight
	<b>Medium:</b> Ability to lift up to 50 pounds maximum with frequent lifting/and or carrying objects weighing up to 25 pounds.	<b>20-50#</b>	<b>10-25#</b>  <b>Negligible-10#</b>
	<b>Heavy:</b> Ability to lift up to 100 pounds maximum with frequent lifting and/or carrying objects weighing up to 50 pounds.	<b>50-100#</b>	<b>25-50#</b>  <b>10-20#</b>
	<b>Very Heavy:</b> Ability to lift over 100 pounds with frequent lifting and/or carrying objects weighing over 50 pounds.	<b>Over 100#</b>	<b>Over 50#</b>  <b>Over 20#</b>
<b>Other</b> - list any other physical requirements or bona fide occupational qualifications not indicated above:			

Note: The purpose of this document is to describe the general nature and level of work performed by personnel so classified; it is not intended to serve as an inclusive list of all responsibilities associated with this position.