



## Temporary Boarders for Dementia Dog Project

Dementia Dog is a partnership project between Alzheimers Scotland and Dogs for Good. This is a three year project, exploring the benefits trained dogs can bring for people living with dementia. The project involves training Assistance Dogs (Labrador types) on site at HMP Castle Huntly in preparation for working with a dementia client.

We are currently looking for temporary boarders in the surrounding community to help care for dogs during 2017.

### Role outline:

The role of the Temporary Boarder is to provide temporary accommodation for a dog within their home environment on behalf of the Dementia Dog Project.

The Temporary Boarder drops off and collects a dog every week day, keeping them at home in the evenings, overnight and at weekends where the dog can relax. You will help with keeping up the feeding and exercise requirements for the dog. By doing this you will be helping us reduce stress levels in our dogs, which helps with the dog's training. It would be desirable if the Temporary Boarder could keep the dog at home on particular days during the week when required to cover staff scheduled commitments to the project, holidays or illness.

### Main tasks:

- Attend training arranged by Dementia Dog Staff.
- Care of the dog on a short-term basis.
- Caring for the dog every evening, Monday to Friday, all weekend, and periodic days during the working week.
- Provide a welcoming and safe environment for the dog.
- Handle the dog in line with Dementia Dog principles of training and guidance from the Dementia Dog Instructor.
- Liaise with the Dementia Dog Instructor, working with them to ensure the dog's levels of activity, its wellbeing and behaviour are monitored and reviewed on an ongoing basis.
- Exercising the dog as instructed by the Dementia Dog Instructor.
- Feeding the dog as instructed by the Dementia Dog Instructor.
- Undertake regular physical health checks and administer any medication required as advised by the Dementia Dog Instructor.
- Regular grooming of the dog to ensure hygiene standards are met.
- Keep up basic obedience and good behaviour.
- Follow specific instructions given by the Dementia Dog Instructor.
- To ensure, if and when appropriate, that the dog receives emergency veterinary care as soon as possible and that Dementia Dog Staff are informed at the earliest opportunity.

## Voluntary role description

### **Essential Criteria:**

Support and training will be provided free of charge to ensure Boarders are familiar with Dementia Dog standards of handling, training and welfare. We ask Temporary Boarders to meet the following criteria:

- You have a fully fenced, safe and secure garden.
- Be able to have a dog on a nightly basis and full time at the weekend.
- Be able to follow and carry out instructions given by the handler.
- The dog will not be left for periods of more than four hours at home alone.

### **Desired Criteria:**

- Live close to the Dementia Dog office which is at HMP Castle Huntly in Longforgan, near Dundee. Hold a full current driving licence and regular access to a vehicle to safely transport the dog.
- Any children within the home should be over the age of two years old, although younger children may be taken into consideration
- Home environment where someone is usually at home during the day.

The costs of food, special equipment and veterinary check-ups/treatment will be covered by the Dementia Dog Project. The dog is insured and the Boarder is required to comply with the conditions of the insurance cover provided by the Dementia Dog Project.

### **What you will gain from volunteering in this role:**

Acquiring new skills and knowledge in aspects of dog care and specialist training. Opportunity to make an invaluable contribution towards a life changing local service for people living with dementia in Scotland.

**Disclosure & Barring Service Check:** Not required