

# Facility Dog Training

## Fairfax County Department of Family Services Children, Youth & Families

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Child Abuse & Neglect Prevention  
Volunteer & Partner Services Supervisor  
4/20/23



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# Learning Objectives

- **Overview of varying dog programs**
- **Understand usage and benefits of facility dogs**
- **Process of requesting a facility dog**



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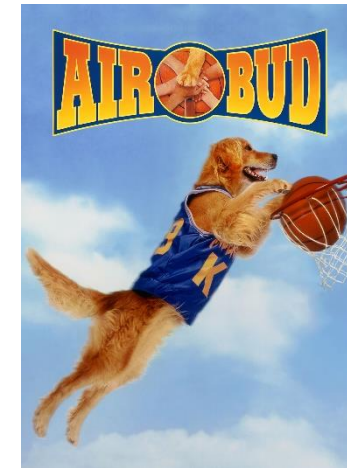




# Canine Assistance



- Therapy Dogs
- Emotional Support Animals
- Service Dogs
- Facility Dogs
- Canine Actors
- Pets



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# Therapy Dogs



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# Emotional Support Animals



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# Service Dogs



**Assistance Dogs**  
INTERNATIONAL



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# Facility Dogs



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# Meet Rylynn



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# Intersection of Domestic Violence and Facility Dogs



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# Symptomology of Children Impacted by Trauma



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# Benefits of a Facility Dog For Children



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# Uses for Facility Dogs



Interviews  
Courtroom Testimony  
Therapy  
Training



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# VA Code § 18.2-67.9:1

Use of a certified facility dog for testimony in a criminal proceeding



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# Screening Process and Criteria

- Discuss with MDT members
  - Assess appropriateness
- Discuss with the family and child



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# Facility Dog Training By the Numbers

**12/9/21 Victim Services Division**

**1/12/2022 Sexual Abuse Response Team (SART)**

**4/5/2022 JDR Court Attorneys**

**4/23/2022 Guardian Ad Litem**

**5/12/2022 County Attorneys**



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# Facility Dog Usage in Court By the Numbers

**CPS - 17**

**Commonwealth Attorney - 5**

**Victim Services - 4**

**County Attorney - 1**

**CASA - 1 unsuccessful attempt**

**Law Enforcement - 0**

**GAL - 0**



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# Questions? Comments? Concerns?



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