



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Contact: Pam Cook
Pam Cook Communications
336-416-4831
pcookk@aol.com**

Media Release

Mountain Valley Seeking Volunteers with Certified Therapy Dogs

(Dobson, NC) Mountain Valley, a hospice and palliative care organization, is seeking certified therapy dogs to help improve the quality of life for patients and their caregivers both in-home and at Mountain Valley inpatient care centers.

“Pet therapy plays a significant role in the lives of hospice patients and patients living with serious illness,” said Heidi College, Manager of Volunteer Services at Mountain Valley. The presence of a pet can provide emotional and psychological benefits that are incredibly valuable to those experiencing illness or facing end of life.” The simple act of petting a dog can help reduce feelings of anxiety, loneliness or depression. A pet’s presence can also create a calming environment, helping to ease emotional distress.

As a volunteer with a certified therapy dog, you can positively impact patients' lives. “By addressing the emotional and psychological needs of patients through the comforting presence of animals, we can offer a more compassionate and comprehensive support system for both the patient and family,” said Tracey Dobson, President and CEO of Mountain Valley.

Mountain Valley serves patients in 18 counties across North Carolina and Virginia, and has two hospice homes located in Dobson and Yadkinville, NC.

If you have a certified therapy dog and would like to volunteer or learn more, please call us at 336-789-2922 or email Heidi College.





Mountain Valley is a nonprofit organization providing high quality end-of-life care in 18 counties in North Carolina and Virginia. Through its team of hospice professionals and specially trained volunteers, Mountain Valley addresses the growing need for compassionate hospice care. Mountain Valley also owns and operates two hospice inpatient facilities: The Joan & Howard Woltz Hospice Home in Dobson, NC, and the SECU Hospice Care Center in Yadkinville, NC. Both offer a homelike setting for patients and families alike. The goal for both facilities is to help families be as comfortable as possible as they stay close by their loved one during this time when families are needed most. For more information, visit www.mtnvalleyhospice.org.