

Morgan's Story



I acquired Morgan from my corgi club rescue after he had been taken to the Denver Dumb Friends shelter by 3 different families. He was 3-4 years old, and trained easily, earning 4 obedience titles. I didn't know if he would make a good Therapy dog, but decided to try as I have always wanted to get involved in it. I shouldn't have worried, as he proved more adaptable than I thought, overcoming some of the problems from his mottled past. We are starting our fourth summer at The Medical Center of Aurora, where we visit the same day surgery waiting room and fourth floor. Fourth floor is a challenging floor, as it is the Medical Telemetry floor, and has lots of cardiac patients and loads of medical equipment. The nurses are very busy, also. It's probably an advantage that my Welsh Corgi is a

smaller dog and can maneuver around all the paraphernalia. I often pick him up and hold him by the bed so patients can pet him and interact with him. He appreciates the attention, is always willing to "shake paw" with everyone, and very patient while I converse with individuals. I have seen how beneficial his visits have been. One woman had post-surgical pain, but as soon as she put her hands on Morgan's soft furry coat her breathing slowed and become more regular and she seemed to be more comfortable. Another time Morgan approached a group of people in the waiting room, but "chose" a particular lady to visit with. She had her head in her hands, and as she looked up I could see she had been crying. Morgan knew she was in need of comforting! As he is now about 9 years old, I sometimes think visiting might cut into his afternoon naps, but he is consistently ready and willing to make the trip, trotting briskly down those long corridors. And it is so rewarding to see people break out in a smile, when they see us coming!