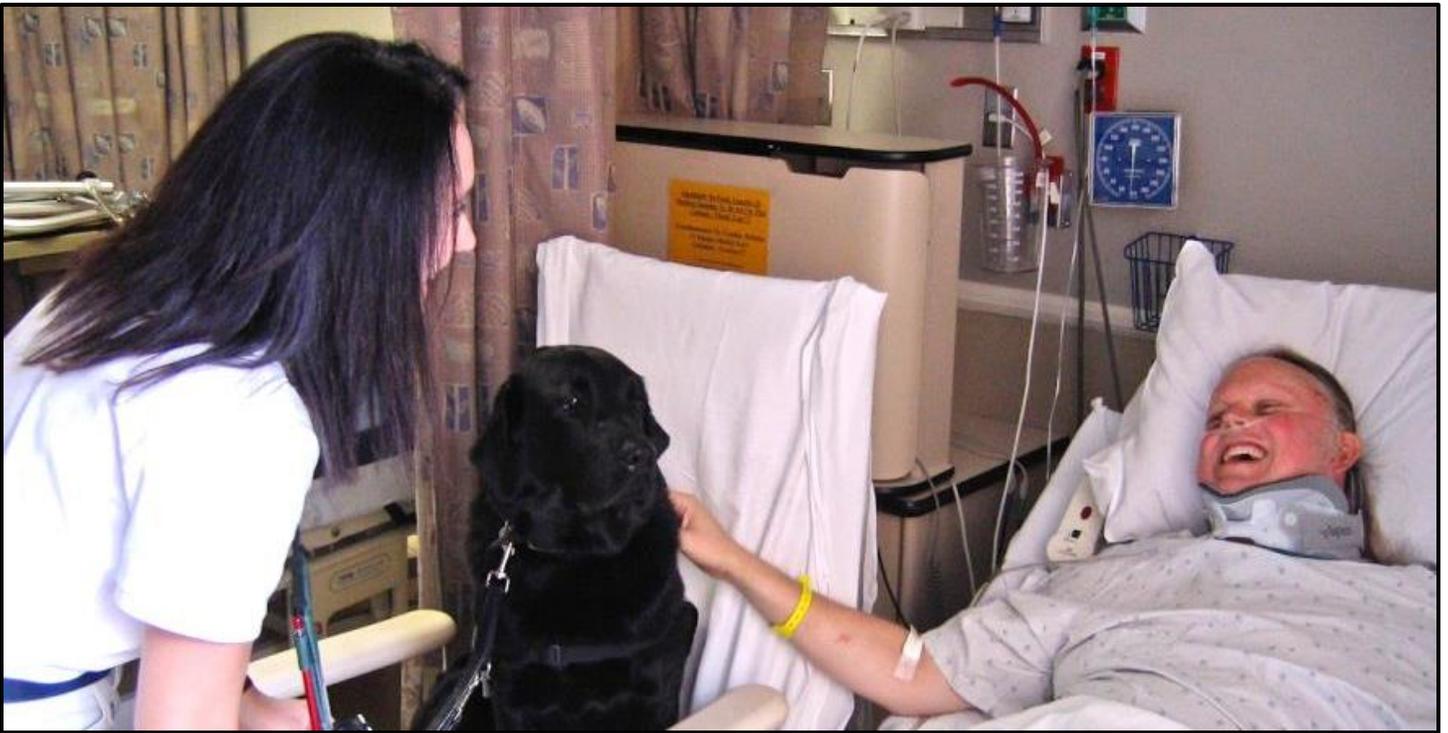


# ANIMAL-ASSISTED INTERACTION



Animal-assisted interaction is so much more than taking your pet to the hospital. Animal-assisted activities (AAA) are casual “meet and greet” activities that involve pets and their handlers visiting people. Often these visits result in people’s blood pressure lowering, patients commenting that they don’t feel as much pain, seniors talking for the first time in months, and much more. Animal-assisted therapy (AAT) is goal-directed and/or delivered by a health/human service professional with specialized expertise, and within the scope of practice of their profession. AAT is tailored to a specific medical condition and the measurable results are documented for each session.

## LEADING THE WAY WITH INTEGRITY AND SERVICE EXCELLENCE

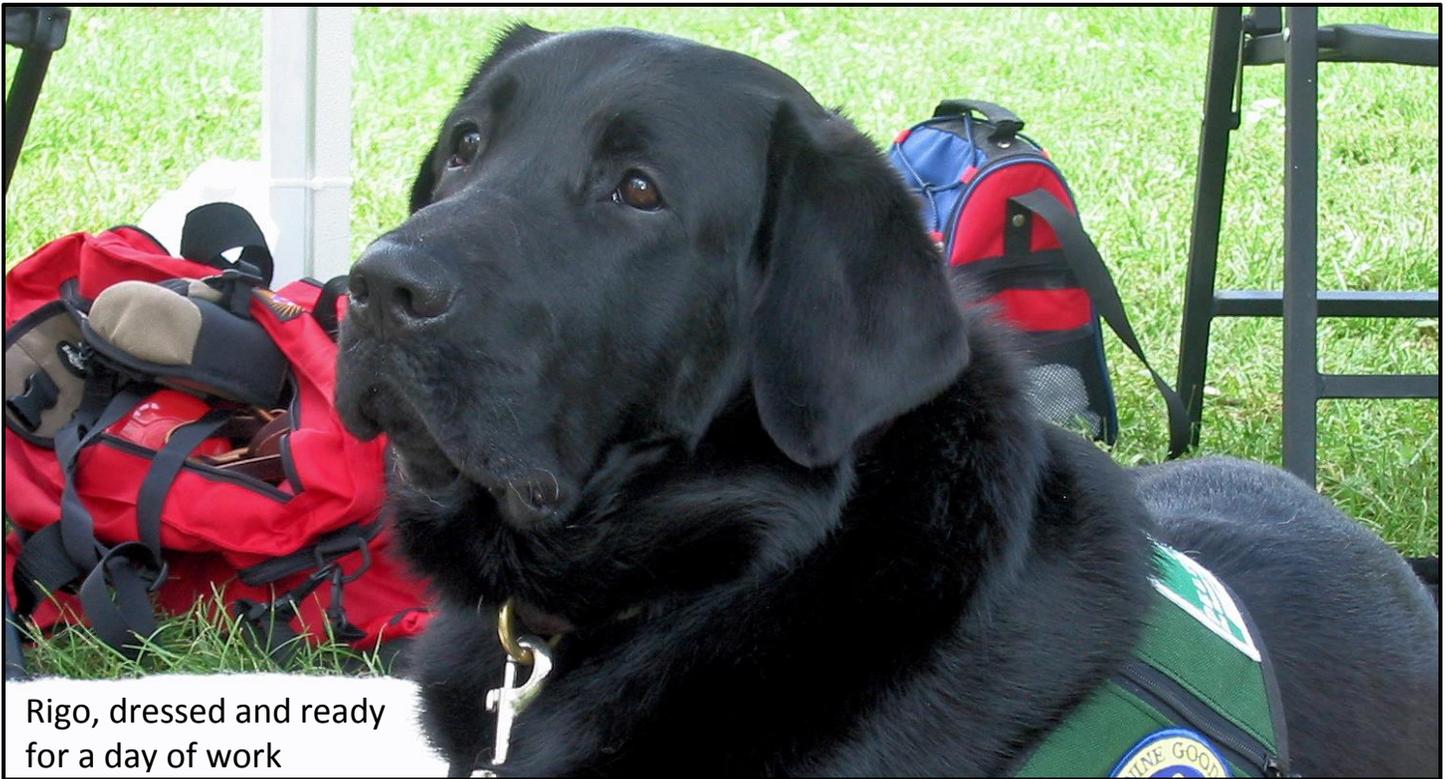
Denver Pet Partners ensures that therapy teams are prepared to deliver service safely, confidently and effectively without risk. Each animal needs to prove it has the necessary skills, aptitude, and enjoyment of therapy work.

As a role-model for other animal-assisted therapy organizations, Denver Pet Partners works to maintain the credibility of the field by operating with the utmost integrity and demonstrating excellent service that effectively accommodates the client, the animal handler, and the animal.

Denver Pet Partners conducts training courses for handlers and evaluations for animal-handler teams based on standards of practice from Pet Partners® – an international leader in animal-assisted interaction. Courses also help health-care professionals learn how to use animal-assisted therapy in their treatment programs.

Unfortunately, there just aren’t enough Rigos to go around. Many people with potential pet partners want to help, and many facilities would like an animal therapy team to visit. With your assistance we can conduct the training programs and evaluations to bring them together. Then, many more who could benefit from animal-assisted therapy visits will be able to connect with a wonderful new friend like Rigo.

# ANIMAL-ASSISTED INTERACTION



Rigo, dressed and ready for a day of work

Rigo, a Labrador Retriever, isn't your typical dog. Between the games of "fetch", the naps and the meals that most companion dogs enjoy, he performs a very special activity: helping hospital patients during regular visits to a rehabilitation unit in Denver, CO.

One of Rigo's specialties is motivating those who have suffered a stroke to speak again by responding to commands like "sit" or "down". Rigo is also the confidant of Laura\*, an 8-year-old girl who was a victim of physical and sexual abuse. With Rigo by her side as a safe and comforting friend, Laura found a way to talk about what happened to her – something she has never done before.

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*\*This is a true story. The child's name was changed to protect her privacy.*

## DENVER PET PARTNERS' COMMITMENT TO ANIMAL-ASSISTED THERAPY

Rigo is one of the remarkable therapy dogs whose work supports Denver Pet Partners, a direct service provider of animal-assisted interaction services. Founded in 2001, Denver Pet Partners has been helping build healthier communities for over a decade and is committed to their ongoing work to promote and develop human-animal bond initiatives.

Denver Pet Partners currently provides animal-assisted interaction services to over 70 facilities in the healthcare, education and child welfare communities. Over 100 trained handler-animal teams contribute close to 10,000 volunteer hours per year and impact the lives of over 45,000 people annually.

DENVER PET PARTNERS



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