



GMR THERAPY DOG PROGRAM



**Global Medical
Response**

THERAPY DOG TEAM



UNCONDITIONAL LOVE AT A MOMENT’S NOTICE

Founded in 2016, the Global Medical Response (GMR) Therapy Dog Program is committed to bringing comfort and happiness to GMR first responders and the communities they serve. The certified program has a qualified therapy dog team who delivers effective, pet-provided therapy services during times of sadness, stress and mental trauma. The program continues to grow exponentially with many “Doodles” (see below) already certified and many others currently undergoing the 10-month training program. They are based in GMR-served communities across the country.

A FIRST RESPONDER’S BEST FRIEND

For the individual behind every first responder’s badge, there is a physiological toll from a job where traumatic events can be a daily occurrence. Unchecked, the psychological impact can be debilitating and even deadly. GMR focuses on caregiver well-being through many programs, but the Therapy Dog Program uniquely offers that strong unconditional love from a four-legged friend when they need it most.

A COMMUNITY AMBASSADOR

Our Therapy Dogs like to go out into their communities. We visit hospitals, ERs, join ambulance demonstrations and provide educational opportunities for children. In addition to our community improvement, we respond to Mass Casualty Incidents (MCIs), Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) debriefings, natural disasters and large scales events. These affectionate dogs bring joy to patients and families who need a moment of respite during times of illness or injury. In any setting, the smiles they bring are therapy of the most basic kind: heart-warming, soul-touching contact with a furry, flop-eared companion that instinctively picks up on emotions and intuitively knows how to approach adults and children with care and comfort.

WHY DOODLES?

The GMR Therapy Dog Program trains three kinds of “Doodles” so far: Labrador Retrievers (Labradoodles), Golden Retrievers (Goldendoodles) and Sheep Dogs (Sheepadoodles) mixed with poodles. They are all mop-top curls, wagging tail and big brown eyes. Their poodle genes make them more hypoallergenic than other breeds. They are intelligent, compassionate and loyal. Cuteness is a side benefit.

DOODLE FAST FACTS

- Because of their innate qualities, Doodles are popular choices for therapy or service dogs.
- They have webbed feet, making them great swimmers!
- Doodles come in lots of colors: Golden, cream, brown, black, red, silver, or brindle, and even have splashes of different colors (usually on their chests).
- The Doodle’s coat can be styled in a variety of ways, from an all-over, same length “kennel cut” to fancier Poodle-style cuts and even Lion cuts — you might even see Doodles sporting mohawks!

Meet the Team

Top dog Saydee pioneered the program in 2016. The Tramp to her Lady, Bodhi, joined the team next and the two had puppies, some of which are now therapy dogs themselves. Our team of 30+ dogs continues to grow exponentially as more puppies enter the program every year. Meet some of our team:



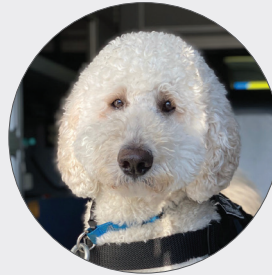
SAYDEE & BODHI
Amarillo, TX



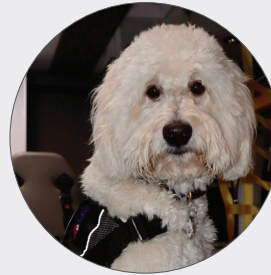
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Spokane, WA



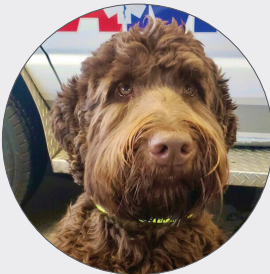
TUCKER
Gulfport, MS



NOAH
Sumter County, FL



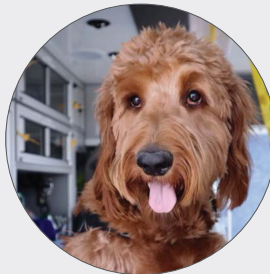
DEX
Colorado Springs, CO



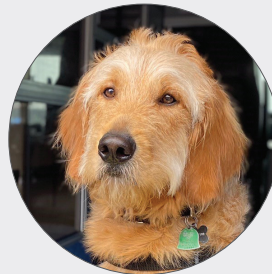
APOLLO
Vancouver, WA



MERCY
Las Vegas, NV



LIBERTY
Waco, TX



OLIVER
Summerdale, AL



ZONA
Tucson, AZ

FOCUS ON CAREGIVER WELL-BEING

As GMR continues to focus on Caregiver Well-Being, the Therapy Dog team will be a vital part of our operations. As a first responder, it’s important to recognize and manage the symptoms of stress. For self-assessment tools, general information and links to internal and external resources where you can go to get help, please visit the Caregiver Well-Being page on gmr.net/wellbeing.

REQUEST A VISIT FROM A DOODLE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

If you would like to discuss arranging a visit from a GMR Therapy Dog, contact us at gmrtherapydogteam@gmr.net

You can follow the GMR Therapy Dog Program on Facebook ([@GMRTherapyDogs](https://www.facebook.com/GMRTherapyDogs)) for regular updates on deployments, training, new members to the team—or just to look at these beautiful dogs. Leave a message and tell us what you think.



Global Medical Response

PROVIDING CARE TO THE WORLD AT A MOMENT'S NOTICE

806.282.9281
gmrtherapydogteam@gmr.net

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GMR SOLUTIONS

