



2016

## Assist Animal Information Sheet

I/We have read the Assist Animals' Requirements and agree to abide by the rules and regulations.

I/We would like to make a request for an assist animal at \_\_\_\_\_  
Complex to allow the assist animal described below to live in the dwelling unit located  
at \_\_\_\_\_, Apt. No. \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ Current Resident

\_\_\_\_\_ Prospective Resident

Resident's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Resident's Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Assist Animal's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Description : \_\_\_\_\_

Vet's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

License Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Shot records if required: \_\_\_\_\_

**Verification of the need has to be received prior to  
animal being at the unit.**



**PICTURE OF ASSIST ANIMAL**

**AGREEMENT**

This Agreement, when executed, becomes an attachment to the lease between \_\_\_\_\_ (Resident/Pet Owner) and South Carolina Regional Housing Authority No. 3.

“I/We have read and have received an explanation and understand the provisions of the Assist Animals Requirements and agree to comply fully with stipulated provisions.

I/We understand that violation of these rules may constitute cause for the removal of my/our assist animal from the premises or termination of my/our tenancy (or both).

I/We accept complete responsibility for the care and cleaning of the pet.



When required by the PHA to remove my/our assist animal from the premises, for cause, I/we agree to accomplish this removal and understand that failure to do so may constitute cause for the initiation of an eviction.

In the event I want to substitute animals, I realize I will have to reapply for approval of the new animal.

RESIDENT'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

CO-HEAD'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

PROPERTY MANAGER:

The above named residents (s) has read and signed these rules in my presence:

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**RESPONSIBLE PARTY CERTIFICATION**

By signing this certification, the undersigned parties agree to take responsibility for the animal described below which belongs to the following Resident:

Resident/Pet Owner Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Apt. No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_



**South Carolina**  
**REGIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY No. 3**

The responsibility includes removing the pet from the premises, either temporarily or permanently, if the Resident is unable to care for the pet or if the health or safety of the animal is threatened by the death or incapacity of the pet owner, or by other factors that render the pet owner unable to care for the pet.

I certify I will assume the responsibilities described above and will respond to the PHA's request within four hours of notification:

If at all possible please include two different contacts:

Responsible Party Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to the Resident: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Responsible Party Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to the Resident: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



## **ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY Assistance Animals In Public Housing General Occupancy (Family) Projects**

### **ASSISTANCE ANIMALS**

[Section 504; Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C.); 24 CFR 5.303]

#### **10-I.A. OVERVIEW**

This part discusses situations under which permission for an assistance animal may be denied, and also establishes standards for the care of assistance animals.

Assistance animals are animals that work, provide assistance, or perform tasks for the benefit of a person with a disability, or that provide emotional support that alleviates one or more identified symptoms or effects of a person's disability. Assistance animals – often referred to as “service animals,” “assistive animals,” “support animals,” or “therapy animals” – perform many disability-related functions, including but not limited to the following:

- Guiding individuals who are blind or have low vision
- Alerting individuals who are deaf or hearing impaired
- Providing minimal protection or rescue assistance
- Pulling a wheelchair
- Fetching items
- Alerting persons to impending seizures
- Providing emotional support to persons with disabilities who have a disability-related need for such support

Assistance animals that are needed as a reasonable accommodation for persons with disabilities are not considered pets, and thus, are not subject to the PHA’s pet policies described in Parts II through IV of this chapter [24 CFR 5.303; 960.705].

#### **10-I.B. APPROVAL OF ASSISTANCE ANIMALS**

A person with a disability is not automatically entitled to have an assistance animal. Reasonable accommodation requires that there is a relationship between the person’s disability and his or her need for the animal [PH Occ GB, p. 179].

A PHA may not refuse to allow a person with a disability to have an assistance animal merely because the animal does not have formal training. Some, but not all, animals that assist persons with

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disabilities are professionally trained. Other assistance animals are trained by the owners themselves and, in some cases, no special training is required. The question is whether or not the animal performs the assistance or provides the benefit needed by the person with the disability [PH Occ GB, p. 178].

A PHA's refusal to permit persons with a disability to use and live with an assistance animal that is needed to assist them, would violate Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Fair Housing Act unless [PH Occ GB, p. 179]:

- There is reliable objective evidence that the animal poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others that cannot be reduced or eliminated by a reasonable accommodation
- There is reliable objective evidence that the animal would cause substantial physical damage to the property of others

PHAs have the authority to regulate assistance animals under applicable federal, state, and local law [24 CFR 5.303(b)(3); 960.705(b)(3)].

#### PHA Policy

For an animal to be excluded from the pet policy and be considered an assistance animal, there must be a person with disabilities in the household, and the family must request and the PHA approve a reasonable accommodation in accordance with the policies contained in Chapter 2.

### **10-I.C. CARE AND HANDLING**

HUD regulations do not affect any authority a PHA may have to regulate assistance animals under federal, state, and local law [24 CFR 5.303; 24 CFR 960.705].

#### PHA Policy

Residents must care for assistance animals in a manner that complies with state and local laws, including anti-cruelty laws.

Residents must ensure that assistance animals do not pose a direct threat to the health or safety of others, or cause substantial physical damage to the development, dwelling unit, or property of other residents.

When a resident's care or handling of an assistance animal violates these policies, the PHA will consider whether the violation could be reduced or eliminated by a reasonable accommodation. If the PHA determines that no such accommodation can be made, the PHA may withdraw the approval of a particular assistance animal.