

April 13, 2015

Dear Valued KPETS Volunteer,

IMPORTANT POLICY UPDATE: Security Clearance Policy

I first want to thank you for your dedication to KPETS and its mission to *Promote the Healing and Rehabilitating Benefits of the Human/Animal Bond*. Without our loyal volunteers and the many hours of Animal Assisted Therapy you provide, KPETS would simply not exist.

It is with these thoughts in mind that we must ask you to help us come into compliance with the new PA child protection laws. The new 2015 Pennsylvania State regulation regarding background checks and legal counsel have prompted KPETS- Keystone Pet Enhanced Therapy Services to adopt a policy that will require **all current and new** KPETS volunteers to submit certain security clearance checks.

Visit www.kpets.org/kpets-security-clearance-policy/. The policy, necessary links and forms are located on that page. Please read and comply with our new policy. Unfortunately, previous clearance checks offered through KPETS do not meet the new PA requirements.

EVERYONE of us will be affected by this change, and we request you start the process of getting the necessary checks started immediately. Please submit copies of your clearances when you receive them. Note: If you already have the required clearances, submit a copy of them to the office. Please be aware, the appropriate copies will be required for your September 15, 2015 KPETS renewal.

We realize this is an inconvenience and an additional expense, but KPETS really has no other options. Your dedication and commitment to KPETS by serving others with your furry friend is so greatly appreciated - not only by KPETS, but those in the community whose lives are touched and hearts are warmed by your interactions.

Our hope is that these measures will help protect those to whom we provide service, our working KPETS teams, as well Keystone Pet Enhanced Therapy Services as a whole.

With sincere thanks, ,



Karen Gerth
Executive Director