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## Canines enlist in therapy corps

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One of the Chicago-based groups helping the disabled get by with help from dogs is the Canine Therapy Corps on the Northwest Side.

The nonprofit group is a network of volunteers and their certified therapy dogs that offer rehabilitative therapy to people with physical and emotional challenges.

"We certify dogs to work in one of our nine programs in the Chicago area," said Callie Cozzolino, program director. The service dogs help at a variety of institutions that include the Rehab Institute of Chicago; Schwab Rehabilitation Hospital; Swedish Covenant Hospital; Haymarket Center; Ariella Joy Frankel Keshet Day School and Advocate Lutheran General Hospital.

"For example, at the Haymarket Center, our dogs help substance abusers through a psychosocial program that lasts eight weeks," Cozzolino said.

Dog owners who would like to volunteer must pass a stringent certification test. Canine Therapy Corps is at 1700 W. Irving Park. Call (773) 404-6467 or visit [www.caninetherapycorps.org](http://www.caninetherapycorps.org).

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