

Therapy Dogs in the Patient Ward: Adding Warmth to Care

This year, our institution's patient ward welcomed some very special visitors—therapy dogs! In partnership with the Taiwan Animal-Assisted Therapy Professional Development Association, these gentle companions now make regular visits, bringing warmth and comfort to incarcerated individuals who are elderly, unwell, or in need of long-term care.

With a wagging tail and a friendly presence, therapy dogs help ease anxiety and lift spirits in ways words sometimes cannot. Simple moments—like petting soft fur or sharing quiet companionship—often lead to visible relaxation and genuine smiles.

More than just adorable visitors, these dogs are trained to support emotional well-being. As one facilitator shared, sometimes the best kind of care is simply "being there." In these moments, therapy dogs do exactly that—offering comfort, connection, and a little extra light inside the patient ward.