

## Michael's Foundation Service Dog Policy

At Michael's Foundation, we welcome guests with disabilities who are accompanied by a trained service dog, in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and state law and to make every reasonable effort to ensure that the facilities and programs offered therein are reasonably accessible to all guests.

**We are responsible for not only the health, safety, and well-being of many animals, but also the safety and well-being of the veterans and their families that we serve. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding to ensure a safe and successful visit for yourself, your service dog, the animals cared for at Michael's Foundation, and other guests.**

**ONLY WORKING SERVICE ANIMALS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA), AND THERAPY DOGS BY SPECIAL INVITATION, ARE ALLOWED AT MICHAEL'S FOUNDATION.<sup>1</sup>**

To determine if an animal is a service animal, Michael's Foundation staff may ask any of the following questions:

- Is this a service animal that has been trained to assist someone here today with a disability?
- What work or task has this animal been trained to perform?

Pursuant to Fla. Stat. § 413.08, Service animals-in-training are permitted into Michael's Foundation, but only if (1) accompanied by a trainer (2) who is engaged in the training of the service animal during Michael's Foundation visit. Service animals-in-training must always be kept on a leash or harness.

**UPON ARRIVAL AT MICHAEL'S FOUNDATION, HANDLERS MUST CHECK IN WITH STAFF** so a supervisor can review some logistical items with you and issue a Service Dog Admission pass\*. Guest/handler for the service dog is solely responsible for the care and control of their animal.

\*As stipulated by the ADA, Michael's Foundation staff and volunteers may request that a service dog experiencing difficulty or demonstrating problematic behaviors, such as barking or lunging, be removed from Michael's Foundation immediately. **If there is a situation where the handler is not able to maintain control over the service animal, you will be asked to remove the animal from Michael's Foundation.** We ask that you promptly comply with any such request for the safety and welfare of all.

Since service dogs can pose certain concerns and challenges within a farm setting and especially around horses, it is important that we advise you of our policies regarding these animals and ask for your cooperation.

For the safety of you, your service dog, the staff, other guests, and the animals in our care<sup>2</sup>:

- A SERVICE DOG MUST BE LEASHED AND UNDER HANDLER'S CONTROL AT ALL TIMES.**  
A service dog is required to be on a leash, harness or tether while on Michael's Foundation premises. Additionally, service dogs need to be supervised at all times and are only allowed in designated areas for the safety of all involved. Service dogs can be led out of the designated area only to use the bathroom or upon exit of Michael's Foundation premises. Service dogs are not allowed in the Michael's Foundation food tent.
- THE HANDLER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR CARING FOR AND SUPERVISING THEIR SERVICE DOG, WHICH INCLUDES TOILETING AND FEEDING.** Michael's Foundation will provide area(s) in which the service dog may relieve itself, however Michael's Foundation is not responsible for providing bags or supplies for service dogs. Please come prepared with anything you think your animal might need during your visit. A service dog that is not housebroken will be asked to leave Michael's Foundation.
- RESTRICTED AREAS.** Some animals can react strongly to the presence of a dog and vice versa; therefore, service dogs may be restricted from some locations.

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<sup>1</sup> Under the ADA, "a service animal is a dog that has been individually trained to work or perform tasks for assisting a person with a disability." Service dogs are working animals, not pets. Dogs whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals under the ADA. Pets, comfort animals, and emotional support animals are not permitted at Michael's Foundation.

<sup>2</sup> Michael's Foundation reserves the right to modify this information and accessibility policies, such as changes or additions to restricted areas, as appropriate. Guests with service dogs are required to check in with staff upon arrival to receive current information about their visit.

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**Guest Signature**

*By signing this policy I acknowledge that have read, understand, and agree to the policies as defined by Michael's Foundation.*

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**Date**