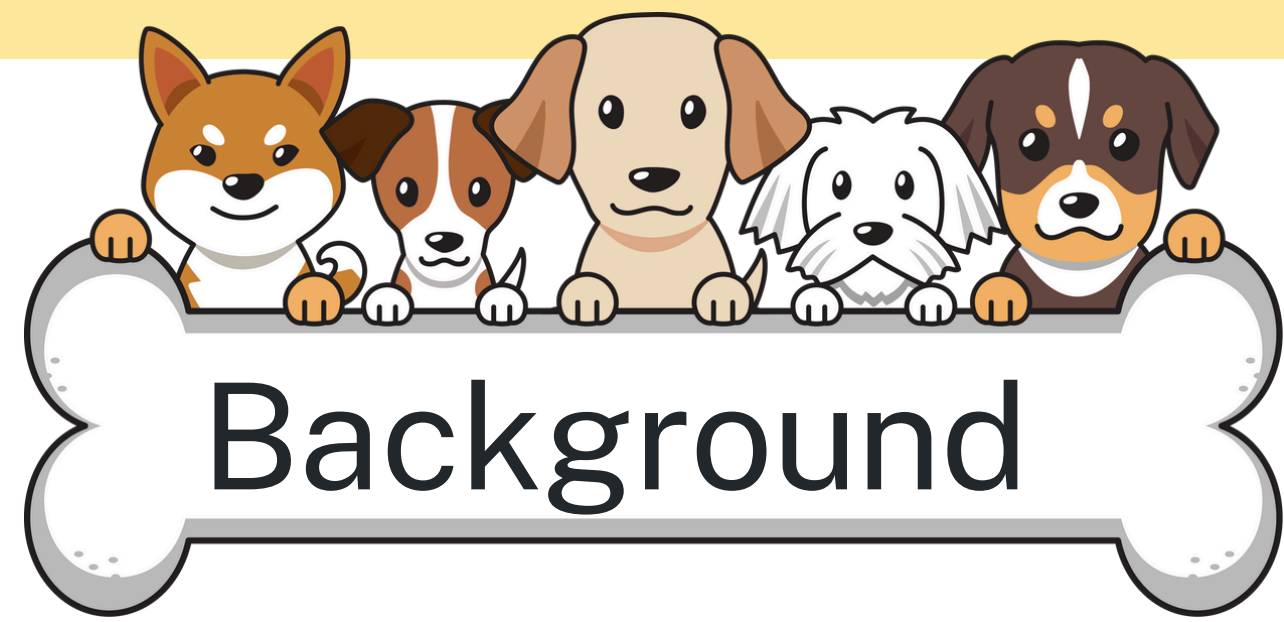


Delta Dogs Therapy Visits at Fairfield Hospital

Mrs Robyn El-Khair – Fairfield Consumer Participation Manager



Background



Delta Dogs are specially trained therapy animals.



Therapy animals are increasingly recognised for their positive impact on patients in hospital settings.

Objective

- Introduce therapy dogs to Fairfield Hospital to support in enhancing emotional well-being and reducing stress among hospitalised individuals.

Method

- A local organisation – Hope Collective have sponsored Delta Dogs visits for one year for Fairfield Hospital consumers.
- Following volunteer on-boarding and compliance with NSW Health Policies, Delta Dogs commenced attending Fairfield Hospital in August 2024.

Acknowledgements



Results



Early anecdotal evidence and positive interactions with staff and patients.



The first visit had over 70 interactions at Fairfield hospital during a one hour visit.

Conclusion

Although too early for data collection, the effectiveness of Delta Dogs in healthcare settings is supported by both anecdotal evidence and empirical research.

The benefit includes the ability to complement traditional medical interventions.

Animal therapy programs is a simple strategy to enhance the holistic wellbeing of individuals undergoing medical treatment.

