

# **Tales to Tails**

## **What to Expect for Children and Their Families**

**Dear Families,**

Welcome to Tales to Tails! We hope that the following information will give you with a helpful overview of the program.

### **Why read to a dog?**

The goal of Tales to Tails is to provide a comfortable, nonjudgmental and fun reading experience for your child. Research shows that frequent reading opportunities in a comfortable environment help children become better readers!

### **Getting started:**

Tales to Tails reading sessions are by appointment only. You can set up a time for your child by calling (give info here). Reading sessions last up to 25 minutes.

After each session, children are given a bookmark with a picture of the dog they have read to that day. After 5 sessions, kids will receive a free book!

### **About the dogs:**

Several dog/handler teams volunteer for the program. The same team may not be there each time.

All of our dogs (and our 1 cat) have been certified as therapy animals.

The dog's handler is there to ensure the safety and comfort of their dog. If your child would like a little help with their reading, both the dog and the handler would be happy to oblige!

### **About your role:**

If you are running late or cannot to keep your time, please let us know by calling 831-427-7706, ext. 7672.

We will need you to sign a waiver before your child participates in the program.

If your child has any special needs that we should be aware of (for example, he or she is afraid of dogs), please let us know.

### **About your child's role:**

Your child is there to read to and enjoy getting to know a dog.

Children are welcome to bring their own books to read. Or they can choose from the library's collection.

**Other things you should know:**

Some of the kids in Tales to Tails like to read alone to the handler/dog team. Some enjoy having their families with them. We let children decide what works best for them.