

Josh and Friends

Developed by veterinarian Dr. Randy Lange to benefit children facing health or other challenges, Josh and Friends is based on Dr. Lange's fun-loving family Golden Retriever, Josh, and capitalizes on the power of the human/animal bond to comfort, teach and encourage children.

The Josh Kit – a gift that comforts.

A hospital visit can be terrifying to a child. When visiting a doctor or hospital, children need to know one thing: that he or she will be O.K. The Josh Kit includes a colorful illustrated *I'll Be O.K.* storybook written by Dr. Lange, and a cuddly lifelike Josh plush retriever puppy. *I'll Be O.K.* is based on real-life experiences with Dr. Lange's own daughter's fear of surgery, and the power of the human-animal bond to comfort. In the story, Josh tells children what a hospital visit can be like from a dog's perspective. Given to children about to undergo a procedure at a hospital, the Josh Kit is a valuable tool to ease anxiety and bring comfort and companionship to young patients.



Working together.

Josh and his story have already brought comfort to thousands of sick children across the country, and Josh himself has made personal appearances at children's hospitals, doctor's and veterinary offices, and events across the U.S.

Josh and Friends has been endorsed by a prestigious group of educators, medical professionals, veterinarians and corporate sponsors including the Children's Miracle Network, the American Veterinary Medical Association and the American Legion Family.

A portion of the purchase price of each Josh kit helps support the Children's Miracle Network and its efforts in annually treating millions of children in more than 170 hospitals throughout North America.



Dr. Lange and Josh



Josh and your organization can help bring comfort to a sick child.

Josh and Friends uses the power of the human-animal bond to help kids cope with sickness or surgery.

Learn more about Josh

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Your organization can
give a child comfort to cope
through the power of the human-animal bond.

Kids and pets naturally go together.

The extensive benefits of animal therapy for children who are sick or hospitalized have been well documented including decreased blood pressure, reduced need for pain medication, and bodies that heal more quickly.

Now you can play a role in helping children find comfort to cope with sickness or hospitalization through Josh and Friends.



“Dear Dr. Lange...”

“...Neil wanted us to read your book over and over in the weeks before the surgery. We were able to use Josh’s experiences in the book to discuss what Neil could expect while in the hospital. Josh immediately became one of Neil’s favorite animals and has slept with Neil since we got him. The doctors let Neil hold Josh on the morning of his surgery until after he was asleep from the anesthesia. That seemed to be comforting to Neil, which in turn was comforting to us.” 🐾

“...My son Kaleb, 6, was so afraid of having his tonsils removed that he would cover his ears and cry when anyone mentioned his operation... When Kaleb was given Josh his eyes lit up and he started smiling. He was told that Josh could go to surgery with him. When we got home Kaleb told us that he wasn’t afraid anymore. Kaleb kept Josh with him day and night until his operation. Kaleb’s big brother Ethan, 9, read “I’ll Be Okay” over and over which helped Kaleb with his fear. Josh was with Kaleb during his recovery at home and continues to sleep with him every night.” 🐾

“...Before Hallie’s colonoscopy, we sat together at home with Josh and read the story that so closely related to the concerns we shared. Told from Josh’s perspective, his true story brought us some much-needed peace and a clear sense of what was to come. Hugging Josh helped, too! We recommend Josh and his reassuring book for any child and their families who face surgery or other scary hospital procedures. Knowing the proceeds are going to benefit other sick children also brightened our day.” 🐾

“...On the day of surgery, Josh accompanied our daughter to the hospital. The nurses put a hospital ID band around his paw and decorated his ears with happy stickers. She was clutching Josh as she was transported down to surgery and Josh remained next to her in recovery, in ICU and in her hospital room.” 🐾

“...Since Mommy had read Josh’s story to us, my brother Jake knew about each procedure. Although he was scared, he kept repeating, “I’ll be O.K.” 🐾

“...When my husband and I had to leave the room the Josh puppy got to stay. Josh represented our love – the love and comfort that my son needed – going into that procedure, and it enabled him to not have to do it alone.” 🐾

“ I brought Josh to our Sons of the American Legion in Santa Maria and we’ve taken the program public. As I begin to explain the Josh program to my clients, they see the vision I do and immediately want to help.

The Josh and Friends program is a way to honor the Four Pillars of the American Legion while bringing comfort to many children. To see that comfort is priceless and cannot be substituted by any medicine a doctor can prescribe. ”

– John Mejia
Chairman
Children and Youth Commission
Sons of the American Legion
Detachment of California

