

Home Care

Animals/Pets

Home Care supports you to live independently and safely in your community for as long as possible. If you are receiving Home Care services in your home, a safe environment is important for you as well as the staff providing care when animals/pets are in your home or nearby.

Home Care understands the benefits of having animals/pets as well as the role they may have in your health so your Case Coordinator will work with you to ensure that you, the Home Care staff and your animals/pets are safe while care is provided to you.

Your Case Coordinator completes a safety assessment in your home prior to initiation of services to identify any risks to workers related to animals/pets such as dogs, cats, birds, reptiles or other small animals living in the home or on the property. You may be asked to:

- Have all animals/pets in an enclosed area (behind a barrier, closed door or in a kennel) **prior** to Direct Service Staff arriving at your home;
- Ensure that if an animal remains outside of the home (front yard, back yard or driveway/lane), that your animal/pet is not in close proximity to the Direct Service staff so they do not have to walk past the animal/pet when approaching the home.
- Clean up after your pet which may include emptying cat litter.

If it is difficult for you to put your animal/pet in an enclosed space before Direct Service Staff arrive for a scheduled visit, your Case Coordinator will discuss and develop a Safe Visit Plan with you.

All Direct Service Staff will be expected to follow the Safe Visit Plan. Direct Service Staff will report concerns regarding animals/pets to their Resource Coordinator/Supervisor. If concerns arise, your Case Coordinator will address them with you.

The need to ensure animals/pets are in an enclosed space is not dependent on whether or not Direct Service Staff like animals or not, it is based on the degree of risk assessed by the Case Coordinator.

If you have a Service Animal that has been trained to provide assistance to you, discuss with your Case Coordinator.

In order to ensure safety, your Case Coordinator will list the animals/pets identified below along with a safe plan.

Safe Visit Plan for Animals/Pets

Type of Animal/Pet:

Behavioural History:



For more information/Pour de plus amples renseignements :
Health Links-Info Santé - 1-888-315-9257
or visit/ou visiter : www.southernhealth.ca

Home Care/Soins à domicile



