

# PRADA'S BUNCH THERAPY DOGS



**Handler: Silvia Mesa, CHAIS**

Certified Human-Animal Intervention Specialist

Canine Communication Certification

Animal Assisted Therapy Certification –C of E Diploma

International Alliance of Holistic Therapists- Silver Member

Continuing Professional Development Certification

Volunteer for Alliance of Therapy Dogs, LLC.

Volunteer for Humane Society of Miami Dade County.

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## **Therapy Dogs:**

**We are a team of Three Therapy Dogs and a Handler.**

**Prada** – May 2, 2010

**Charlie Brown** - January 1, 2015

**Lalique** – January 1, 2015



## **Prada:**

Prada is the mom of Charlie and Lalique. She is a 9 year old Golden Retriever. She was born in Miami, Fl in a home of a good friend. She came to our home when she was a little puppy of 8 weeks. She has grown to be a sweet dog and highly intuitive and intelligent. She is also a cancer survivor, which makes her job extra special. Prada had 8 puppies when she was 4 years old. After a year, she developed a tumor in her mamma glands and had to have two surgeries and six rounds of chemotherapy. Prada is now in her third year of Remission, thanks to God and her medical team. Because her journey and the amazing response from family, friends and strangers that became friends thru our Facebook page who so generously

helped me raise funds to pay for her treatment, that we decided to pay back to the community by becoming Therapy Dogs Team.

Prada brings hope and joy to many. Prada has a wonderful temperament and she is a super sweet dog. She walks the hallways with a big smile and an extra step in her paws. She loves people and everyone she meets. Prada passed with honors the Good Canine Citizen test and became a Therapy dog on February, 2018. Prada loves to volunteer at Hospitals and nursing homes. Prada is always very stylish when doing her visits. She wears a bow and a matching bandana. She also has a very particular bedside manner. She makes sure she finds the chair next to the patient, hoops in and faces the person and proceeds to share smiles and lots of kisses. A paw is given in a very special gesture. Prada loves tennis balls! And in her free time at home, loves to hang out with her kids and humans, run around the yard, and loves pool parties! She is a diver and loves to retrieve old shoes from the pool. Prada is a blessing to our family and everyone she meets.



## **Charlie Brown:**

Charlie is a 4 year old Golden Retriever. Charlie, as his mom, has a very sweet disposition. He is a very soulful and peaceful dog. He is a giant teddy bear! His sweet demeanor and special temperament makes him a very special Therapy Dog.

Charlie was the first of our Family to become a Therapy Dog. He passed with Honors his Good Canine Citizen Test and became a Therapy Dog in May of 2017. Since then, He has been working as a volunteer in many places. His main job is at Nicklaus Children Hospital, Miami Dade Libraries and Nursing homes. Charlie is very special with kids and seniors. He is patient, kind and very easy to love. He

does not lick much, so he is a good company for little kids at the library. He has this special attitude that shows the kids that he is there to listen to them and not to judge. He loves when the kids sit around him and read. And then they play and he shows them a few tricks! He has this peculiar ritual at the library when he comes in. He will scratch his back in the kids area carpet and the kids love it! We call it the “Charlie’s Dance”, after that he is ready to set up his emoji blanket and start reading time. When he works at the Nicklaus Children Hospital, his work is at the Psychiatric ward. This is a very emotional and special part of the hospital. And Charlie has shown how wonderful he is by giving the kids, who are emotional distressed, peace and a reason to smile and relax. They brush his fur and play with him and Charlie does his tricks but under one condition. They must give praise and a cookie! Charlie loves to play with his sister and mom at home in the yard, looks for little coconuts to chew, and loves pool parties too! He and Lalique share a bunch of old shoes to retrieve at the pool. He is also very stubborn! He won’t get out of the pool! and When he wants to just relax outside, he won’t move until he is ready. Well unless you offer a cookie, that is.



Lalique:

Lalique is a 4 year old Golden Retriever. She is Charlie’s sister and best friend. They have been inseparable since they were born. She passed her Canine Good Citizen test and became a Therapy Dog on October, 2018. She is a “happy go lucky”

and wonderful mischievous dog. She is curious and very intuitive. She loves to dress up for her visits like her mom. A bow in her head and a matching bandana with her purple vest and matching leash and collar, she walks the hallways of the hospitals with a very special confidence and makes sure to stop to say hi to everyone she encounters. She loves pictures and poses for them!

She gives her paw and smile! She simple loves people. Her favorite place is the children hospital and the nursing homes. One of her best pastimes is to get dress up and take pictures. She loves hats, scarfs, and sunglasses! She has this way of making people just fall in love with her and her funny and impulsive attitude. She is a girl after her own heart. She gets very excited and looks forward to go to do the visits. She is also a troublemaker at home and loves to trick her mom and then get her balls or toys. She loves big stuffed animals which she carries them around and snuggles to sleep. Lalique is the responsible one, well most of the time, when they get into mischief. The teaser when they run around the yard. She will get in the pool without permission and then let Charlie get the blame. She is super cool and even though she gets in trouble more times than not, she is a very special and loving dog.

### **Volunteer experiences:**

We currently volunteer in a weekly basis to the following places:

- West Kendall Baptist Hospital – Mondays 6:30 pm - 8 pm
- Nicklaus Children Hospital ( Psychiatric ward and especial requests rooms)  
– Tuesday 7:00 – 9:00 pm
- Baptist Children’s Hospital – Wednesday 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm
- Every other Saturday Baptist Hospital of Homestead : 10:30 am to 12:00 pm
- Every other Thursday- Tamiami Branch Library 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm
- Every other Saturday – Lakes of the Meadow Branch Library 10:30 am to 11:30 am
- Every other Saturday – The Palace Gardens in Homestead 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm
- Every other Sunday – The Residence of United Health Care nursing home 10:30 am to 12:00 pm
- Once a month- Kendall Lakes Health- and Rehab Center – 2:00 pm to 3:00 pm
- Once a month – Residence at The Plaza Coral Gables Nursing Home – 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

- Once a month - for the Humane Society of Miami Dade County- Sylvester Cancer Center and for UM Medical Students
- Once a month- Volunteer for Ronald MacDonald House
- Especial requests from family and friends

We also assist in different events or requests sent by Alliance of Therapy Dogs like conventions, workshops, girl scouts, special events in corporations, and special events done by the hospitals where we volunteer.

Charlie Brown is also invited to participate at different Schools in Miami Dade for Career Day.

We had offered comfort as well during Marjory Stoneman Douglas high school shooting aftermath and we also visited the fight fighters and first responders after Hurricane Irma destroyed The Florida Keys area.

**We have two special projects that we share with our community.**

When we visit the kids at the hospitals, we bring as a gift. It is a stuffed animal friend. These stuffed animals are called “Mami Prada’s Blessings in Socks”. They are made of fluffy socks by a good friend. You can learn more about this project by visiting “Blessings in Socks” website. She also makes little octopuses for the premi babies at Nicklaus Children Hospital.

And we have “Prada’s Hats of Love” – these are newborn hats made by a family member for the newborn babies born at West Kendall Baptist Hospital the first Hospital we volunteered.

We love to help new teams and share our love for this work. It is a very special opportunity! Spreading love, joy, comfort and a furry smile is priceless. Feel free to contact us if you need any help.

**PRADA'S BUNCH THERAPY DOGS**  
***A JOURNEY OF LOVE AND ADVENTURE***  
**THANK YOU FOR COMING WITH US!**  
**MAMI PRADA, CHARLIE BROWN AND LALIQUE**