



PROCLAMATION

Assistance Dog Day: August 4, 2026

Assistance Dog Day provides an opportunity to recognize and celebrate the invaluable contributions of assistance dogs in enhancing the quality of life for individuals with disabilities and promoting greater independence, confidence, and inclusion within our communities.

Assistance dogs, including guide dogs, service dogs, hearing dogs, and therapy dogs, are specially trained to perform tasks that support their handlers' daily lives, improve safety, and increase access to education, employment, recreation, and community participation.

The partnership between an assistance dog and its handler represents dedication, trust, and teamwork. These remarkable animals help remove barriers and empower individuals to live more independently while strengthening connections within the community.

The City of Columbia Heights recognizes the important role assistance dogs play in supporting their handlers and acknowledges the dedication of organizations, trainers, volunteers, families, and advocates who help make these partnerships possible.

The City also recognizes the growing role of therapy dogs in promoting emotional well-being, reducing stress, and fostering positive community interactions. The Columbia Heights Police Department continues to demonstrate its commitment to community wellness through the inclusion of therapy dog Kansas, whose presence supports residents, staff, and first responders alike.

By recognizing Assistance Dog Day, Columbia Heights reaffirms its commitment to accessibility, inclusion, and ensuring that all residents have the opportunity to fully participate in community life.

I, Amáda Márquez Simula, Mayor of Columbia Heights, do hereby proclaim August 4, 2026 to be Assistance Dog Day in the City of Columbia Heights, County of Anoka, State of Minnesota, U.S.A.

Amáda Márquez Simula, Mayor
July 27, 2026