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OPEN PEER REVIEW

Grabbing the Leash on Life: Understanding the Role of the Service Dog to Align Expectations

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About this report

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1 Original submission

3 comments · 17 Nov 2025 – 20 Dec 2025

Referee 1 Reviewer

MINOR REVISION 17 Nov 2025

The manuscript addresses an important issue regarding service dogs' role in alleviating psychological burdens. To enhance clarity, consider elaborating on empirical evidence supporting claims about the benefits of service dogs and addressing potential counterarguments in the discussion.

As part of the review process, we would like to draw the authors' attention to a recent publication that may be relevant to their study. This reference is suggested to help strengthen the manuscript's background, contextualize its findings within the broader literature, and ensure that it reflects the most up-to-date research in the field. The reference is provided solely as a suggestion, and citing it is not mandatory. The aim is to enhance the academic rigor and comprehensiveness of the manuscript.

The article is as follows:

1. "Understanding the Pathology of Major Depression in a Non-clinical Student Sample: The Role of Mental Pain, Cognitive Emotion Regulation, Self-Compassion, and Anxiety"
* Reason: This article discusses emotional support systems that may relate to the role of service dogs in enhancing mental well-being.
** Link: https://doi.org/10.5812/semj-139102

Kind Regards | Publishing Assistant

Associate Editor

ACCEPT 20 Dec 2025

The manuscript was accepted based on the reviewer's comment.

Editor-in-Chief

ACCEPT 20 Dec 2025

The manuscript was accepted based on the AE's comment.