

### **Sofie, beloved Hope dog of Elizabeth Kohler**

In 2003, Sofie began her therapy career with PetPartners in Spokane, Washington. She provided comfort care in hospitals, hospice houses and camps, and gave mental health support to stressed out college students. Sofie became a HOPE AACR partner in 2006. She participated in several research studies concerning Animal Assisted Therapy (AAT) at Eastern Washington University. Additionally, she served during natural and intentional disasters in the Pacific Northwest region which included forest fires, a campus shooting, CERT and Red Cross events. Sofie joined the SER in 2013. She was one of the teams responding to the Adairsville, Georgia tornado. She continued to participate in HOPE educational events and serve as a PetPartners team in local hospitals, nursing homes, extended care and hospice facilities. She retired from HOPE and PetPartners in 2014. In her retirement she became an "ambassador" for AAT in the School of Occupational Therapy at Brenau University. Sofie was a selfless, compassionate dog who tirelessly fostered the animal-human bond. She died on May 25, 2016 at 16 years young.