



THE PAW STREET JOURNAL

The latest news and updates from Canine Assisted Therapy



PAWS FOR MENTAL POSITIVITY

May is Mental Health Awareness Month. With the economic strife and lingering affects of limited social interaction from the COVID-19 pandemic, people are living with all kinds of stressors.

According to a December report by the U.S. Census Bureau, 42% of people surveyed reported symptoms of anxiety or depression, which is a notable increase from the 11% reported in the previous year. Studies also show that young people are particularly vulnerable to psychological distress because they have a harder time sharing and expressing their feelings.

Incorporating pet therapy into mental health treatment programs can help to decrease PTSD symptoms, improve coping skills and increase the willingness to disclose difficult experiences.

Canine Assisted Therapy is committed to connecting with and healing the community through the power of the human-animal bond.

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IN THE NEWS

Canine Assisted Therapy has had a long standing relationship with John Knox Village, a senior living facility in Pompano Beach, FL.

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, one of the very few interactions the residents had was with our volunteer pet therapy teams during our Canine Care-avans. These special visits have now become a regular occurrence that the residents look forward to.

Canine Assisted Therapy was recently featured in an article about the positive affects these events have had on the seniors.

[CLICK HERE](#) to read the entire article written by Kayla Ayala with the South Florida Media Network.

NEWS BUSINESS

K-9 therapists help bring smiles to seniors in South Florida

By [Kayla Ayala](#) - May 10, 2021

From left to right: Connie Shank, Stephanie Correa and Jerry Shank enjoying the company of a CAT therapy dog. (Photo courtesy of Connie Shank).

Connie Shank, a resident of John Knox Village in Fort Lauderdale, attended the St. Patrick's Day K-9 car parade with her husband Jerry Shank, a retired veterinarian who practiced for 45 years.

SAVE THE DATE - UPCOMING EVENTS

ONLINE ORIENTATION

Learn about Canine Assisted Therapy and how to become a certified volunteer team with your pet. The session covers what makes a great therapy dog, requirements to become certified, and an overview of our programs.

DATE & TIME

Tuesday, June 2nd at 6:00 PM

LOCATION

Online - [CLICK HERE TO REGISTER](#)



To learn more about how to become a certified volunteer pet therapy team with your dog, visit catdogs.org/become-a-pet-therapy-team/ or call us at (954) 990-5175.

Scaife

FAMILY FOUNDATION

THANKS TO YOU!

Canine Assisted Therapy is honored and grateful to receive a grant from the Scaife Family Foundation. Because of their support, interactions like the ones below are possible.

"Giving is not just about making a donation. It's about making a difference."

- Kathy Calvin



Therapy dog Maggie provides unconditional love to a student



Therapy dogs Dalis and Melvin spread positivity to youth at a homeless shelter



Our Team Keeps Growing!

The Canine Assisted Therapy team keeps growing and we are excited to welcome our new Volunteer Coordinator, Pilar Esteban.

Pilar has years of experience volunteering and working with nonprofits. She previously worked with Habitat for Humanity and recently received her MBA. We are excited to add her to our pack.

Welcome to the team, Pilar!

A Glance Forward

Canine Assisted Therapy is actively accepting new facility requests for pet therapy services. Our volunteers and their therapy dogs are focused on spreading positivity and provide a safe space for individuals to let down their emotional walls and experience the healing powers of the human-animal bond. Check out some of the places our therapy dogs will be!

Upcoming

- Kids Choice Learning Center
- Sunshine Manor Group Home
- His House Foster Care
- St. Joseph's Residence Assisted Living
- Cancer Survivor Day w/ Broward Health

SUPPORT OUR MISSION AND BE SOMEONE'S HERO

May is Mental Health Awareness Month, and Canine Assisted Therapy wants you to know about some of the many ways your dollars promote positive mental health year-round in our community.

Our supporters enable us to continue providing therapeutic and healing interactions to those in need by providing the funds needed to certify, train and insure new therapy dogs who go on to touch the lives of thousands of children and adults.

Whether you give \$5, \$500 or \$5,000, every dollar is vitally important!

Interested in corporate sponsorships? We have a variety of levels to suit different needs. **[CLICK HERE](#)** to learn more.

Call (954) 990-5175 with questions or email info@catdogs.org.



BECOME A SUPPORTER

Interested in supporting the work of our therapy dogs? Donations made to C.A.T. help provide therapeutic interactions to at-risk youth, pediatric patients, seniors, individuals with special needs, Veterans, and many others.

Visit catdogs.org/donate