

## **PET (Animal) ASSISTED ACTIVITIES**

Provides opportunities for motivational, educational and/or recreational benefits to enhance a person's well-being. Pet Assisted Activities are delivered in a variety of environments by trained, registered therapy teams. This professional volunteer team has met criteria as defined by Pet Partners® and R.E.A.D.® (Reading Education Assistance Dogs), regarding health, grooming, behavior and social skills.

The team delivers interactions that can enhance existing programs in schools, libraries, private practices, hospitals, nursing/assisted living, rehab, residential and other treatment locations that need comfort or stress reduction.

## **PET (Animal) ASSISTED THERAPY**

Pet Assisted Therapy (PAT) is a goal-directed intervention delivered by a health/human service professional with specialized expertise within the scope of practice of his/her profession. The Team uses pets such as dogs, cats and horses, in collaboration with attending primary care staff, to promote improvement in human physical, social, emotional and/or cognitive functioning of an individual or group. PAT benefits a wide spectrum of populations to enhance recovery, quality of life, teach life management skills or other "specific" goals.

## **SERVICES PROVIDED**

- 🐾 Assessment and Consultation
- 🐾 Therapy dog training
- 🐾 Team Evaluations (Pet Partners)
- 🐾 Behavior Coaching
- 🐾 Registered Visiting Teams
- 🐾 Reading with Dogs
- 🐾 Facility / Team Connection Assistance
- 🐾 Program Development
- 🐾 Continuing Education and Support
- 🐾 E-newsletter / NEPP Connects

**Are you or your organization interested  
in a visiting pet program?**

**Does your pet enjoy engaging with  
people and have good socialization  
skills and manners?**

**Consider making a difference by  
Becoming a registered therapy team.**

We are grateful for donations to help with administrative and operational costs, and to offer continuing education and coaching support to the teams.

**DISCOVER HOW YOU CAN  
MAKE A DIFFERENCE!  
VISIT NEPP TO DONATE AND  
LEARN ABOUT OUR  
SPONSORSHIP BENEFITS!**



# **New England Pet Partners Inc.®**

**Enhancing Well-Being and Education**

**with Pet Assisted Therapy**

**Non-Profit 501(c)(3)**

**a Smile, a Word, a Laugh, a Deep Breath  
a Hand Reaching, a Trust, a Touch  
a Step Forward, a Sense of Well Being  
a Small Change Makes a Big Difference**

**For More Information  
[newenglandpetpartners.org](http://newenglandpetpartners.org)  
[info@nepetpartners.org](mailto:info@nepetpartners.org)**

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Fax: 603-635-7441**

## ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

**New England Pet Partners, Inc. (NEPP)** is a non-profit 501(c)(3), privately funded volunteer focused organization that provides Pet-Assisted Activities and Pet Assisted Therapy.

Along with a dedicated Board of Directors and Volunteers, NEPP offers program services and training for volunteer teams and organizations.

NEPP uses Pet Partners<sup>®</sup> and Reading Education Assistance Dogs<sup>®</sup> for Training and Registration. [www.petpartners.org](http://www.petpartners.org) / [www.therapyanimals.org](http://www.therapyanimals.org)

## ABOUT THE FOUNDERS

Visit [newenglandpetpartners.org](http://newenglandpetpartners.org) to meet our Board of Directors / Advisors / Teams

Maureen Ross, MA is a board certified counselor with a Masters in Psychology, BS in Organizational Management, author of **Awareness Centered Training—ACT**, and publications on dogs, dog/human relationships, behavior and pet assisted therapy. She is a Certified Professional Dog Trainer, behavior and wellness coach, and active pet therapy volunteer.

Co-founder, Gary Ross, is an Engineering Fellow at Raytheon Company. Like Maureen, he is a Pet Partner's Licensed Team Evaluator / Instructor. Both enjoy inspiring and coaching potential therapy teams and volunteers.

## CO-FOUNDERS / TEAMS / VOLUNTEERS

Visit our website to learn more about our Board of Directors, Events, Fund-Raisers, Scholarships and our precious volunteer teams.

## PROGRAM AND TEAM TRAINING

The success of a pet assisted therapy program relies upon vision, passion and experience. **NEPP** trains and assists volunteer teams, and facility staff, to safely integrate pet assisted therapy, as an adjunct, with individuals and groups.

## RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

Support, mentoring, resources and continuing education is provided.

Being a therapist can be stressful for humans and pets. *NEPP provides "a sanctuary" for the teams to train and process sensory overload.*

## COSTS OF SETTING UP A PROGRAM

Registered Volunteer Pet Partner and/or R.E.A.D. Teams visit free-for-service after meeting with facility staff. Teams communicate directly with facility and staff.

Costs for developing programs or **therapeutic intervention** depends upon the professional delivering the service, and the unique needs of an organization, individual or group. **There is a fee for private services and program development.**

## CONSULTATION / ASSESSMENT BEHAVIOR / WELLNESS COUNSELING

For more information on costs and/or an appointment for a confidential consultation or program development, visit New England Pet Partners, email [info@nepetpartners.org](mailto:info@nepetpartners.org) or call 603-635-DOGS (3647)

## OUR VISION

New England Pet Partners, Inc. is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to enhancing well-being and education with pet assisted therapy.

## BENEFITS OF VISITING PET PROGRAMS

Health care professionals are increasingly aware and excited about the soothing, therapeutic effects that pets can have on clients.

- 🐾 A growing number of studies show that pets can contribute to physiological and psychological well-being, increased self-esteem, reduced blood pressure and anxiety levels.
- 🐾 Visiting Pet Programs can enhance general well being, reduce stress, break barriers of communication and increase motivation.
- 🐾 PAT can support physical, occupational, speech, emotional and cognitive therapies.
- 🐾 In acute care, where patients can be uncomfortable, fragile and anxious, touching a calm pet is therapeutic.
- 🐾 Pet Therapy can increase patient incentive to exercise fine motor, wheelchair, verbal and other skills.
- 🐾 Private Practices (Physicians, Counselors, Social Workers, Teachers) may introduce pets as a guided intervention with goals.
- 🐾 READ Teams are integrated into schools, colleges and libraries to boost children's reading skills and reduce sensory overload.