

## 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® regarding health, grooming, behavior, professionalism and social skills.

The team delivers educationally enriching interactions that can enhance programs in schools, libraries, private practices, hospitals, nursing/assisted living, rehab, residential and other treatment modalities where individuals or groups need comfort, connection and motivation.

## 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 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, or other "specific" skills and goals.

## SERVICES PROVIDED

- 🐾 Assessment and Consultation
- 🐾 Therapy dog team training
- 🐾 Team Evaluations (Pet Partners)
- 🐾 Behavior Coaching
- 🐾 Facility / Team Connection Assistance
  - 🐾 Registered Visiting Teams
  - 🐾 Reading with Dogs Teams
- 🐾 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. NEPP offers continuing education, coaching support, (3) Licensed Team Evaluations per year and scholarships for potential teams.

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



**New England  
Pet Partners Inc.®**

**Non-Profit 501c.3**

**Bringing people and pets together to  
enhance well-being and education  
with pet assisted therapy.**

**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  
info@nepetpartners.org**

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## ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION

**New England Pet Partners, Inc. (NEPP)** is a non-profit 501c.3, privately funded volunteer-focused organization that provides pet assisted activities, therapy and program development.

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

NEPP uses Pet Partners (Bellevue, WA) and Reading Education Assistance Dogs (Salt Lake City, UT) 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, 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. Gary is a Pet Partner Licensed Team Evaluator and 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, Registered Teams and dedicated volunteers.

## PROGRAM AND TEAM TRAINING

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

## RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

Support, mentoring, resources and continuing educational enrichment is provided. NEPP utilizes a *Facility/Team Connection Form*, posted in our Newsletter **NEPP CONNECTS**, to assist in matching Registered Teams with Facilities.

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.

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/or program development.**

## CONSULTATION / ASSESSMENT BEHAVIOR/WELLNESS COUNSELING

For more information on costs and/or an appointment for a confidential consultation 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 bringing people and pets together to enhance 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 have on patients and 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 functioning therapies.
- 🐾 In acute care, where patients can be fragile and anxious, connecting /touching a calm pet is therapeutic.
- 🐾 Pet Therapy can increase patient/client incentive to exercise fine motor, wheelchair and verbal skills.
- 🐾 Private Practices (Physicians, Counselors, Social Workers, Physical and Occupational Therapists, Teachers) may introduce pets as a guided intervention with specific goals.
- 🐾 READ Teams are integrated into schools, libraries and universities to boost children’s reading skills and reduce sensory overload.
- 🐾 Teams help calm College staff and students.