Pet Friendly Treatment



As many people already know, pets can provide an incredible sense of comfort and companionship, especially during difficult times.  For many people, pets are loved as part of the family and included as such.  Many times, when people are struggling with mental health and/or substance abuse disorders, they tend to feel disconnected from other people and it can be hard for them to relate to others.  Because we value the unique, poignant comfort that pets can offer to people during this time, we will allow others to bring their pet to their treatment programs. The pet does not have to be registered as a therapy pet; however, there are safety measures we have to take.

* Must show proof of current vaccinations
* Must ensure that the pet can remain calm and quiet during the session and sit by its owner.
* The pet does not make noise during sessions, such as barking.
* The pet does not have a history of biting.
* The owner must sign a liability waiver and assume all risk for their pet.
* The owner must clean up after their pet and ensure that bathroom breaks do not interrupt treatment.
* Those who are attending group settings must ensure that no one else in the group has a pet allergy. Once a person attends the group who has an allergy, the pet will not be permitted to attend the group session and/or outing.

Animals can aid in ones’ emotional, mental, physical, social, and/or cognitive functioning and recovery.  In the therapeutic context, time spent with animals can help to provide comfort, help one feel comfortable opening up, and improve ones’ willingness to communicate with others; break down barriers between a person and therapist as well as between them and their peers; and decrease negative symptoms, such as stress and anxiety.