# Outline

#### **Brief Overview**

Human-animal emotional bond Therapy animal vs. service animal Animal-assisted therapy, activities and education Handler vs. clinician, clinician-animal teams Animal-based interventions without an animal

#### **Mindfulness of Animals and How it Helps** the Human Brain

The neuroscience of the human-animal bond Why zebras don't get ulcers

Benefits of owning a companion animal

#### **Interventions and Treatment Goals/Outcomes**

Mental, cognitive, emotional, and behavioral issues

Increase attendance and engagement in sessions Treat symptoms related to trauma, anxiety and depression

Decrease loneliness and improve self-esteem Develop empathy and encourage outward

Provide hope, meaning and purpose

Interventions and treatment goals/outcomes (cont.) Challenges with learning

Improve reading and comprehension Support vocabulary development

Increase verbal interactions

Physical and occupational issues Progress fine and gross motor skills Improve sitting/standing balance

Increase endurance and activity tolerance Facilitate improved sensory processing

#### Components of Animal-Assisted Intervention

Selecting appropriate recipients for care How to approach clients Interaction techniques for client and animal Closure, documentation

#### Start Your Own Animal-Assisted Program

Animal qualifications and characteristics **Oualifications for clinicians** Preparing and caring for the animal When the animal shows signs of stress and agitation Protecting your practice through risk management Organizations and resources for starting your animal-assisted program

# Objectives

- Implement animal-assisted interventions for people with mental health disorders including anxiety, depression, bipolar, schizophrenia and personality disorders.
- Design animal-assisted interventions to increase language and literacy in children with learning disorders.
- Develop animal assisted interventions to address physical and occupational challenges.
- Employ animal-assisted interventions as a modality to treat people with dementia and other cognitive disorders.
- Apply knowledge to design your own animal assisted programming.
- Articulate the difference between a therapy animal, a service animal and an emotional
- Determine evidence-based research outcomes regarding animal-assisted interventions.

Target Audience: Social Workers • Counselors • Psychologists • Occupational Therapists Speech-Language Pathologists • Physical Therapists • Addiction Professionals Marriage & Family Therapists • Nurses • Nursing Home Administrators • Activity Directors

#### Live Seminar Schedule

7:30 Registration, Morning Coffee & Tea

8:00 **Program Begins** 11:50-1:00 **Lunch** (on your own) **Program Ends** 

For locations and maps, go to www.pesi.com, find your event, and click on the seminar title.

# **Questions?**

**Call Customer Service:** 800-844-8260



of treatment."

**BOWIE, MD** October 16, 2017

"The relationship between a therapy animal and a patient extends far deeper than simple companionship; there are physical, emotional, and mental benefits to this type

> **ELLICOTT CITY, MD** October 17, 2017

Jackie Pavelski, NHA

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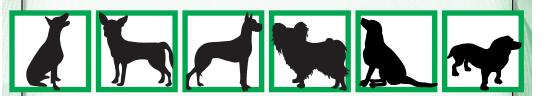
Animal-Assisted

Interventions

Integrate Animals to Enhance Treatment in Clinical Practice

# Animal-Assisted Interventions

Integrate Animals to Enhance Treatment in Clinical Practice



A toolbox of interventions for clients diagnosed with:

- Trauma, anxiety, depression and PTSD
- Mania and psychotic disorders
- Conduct and antisocial personality disorders
- Cognitive disorders, dementia and stroke
- Behavioral and personality disorders
- Intellectual and learning disabilities
- Physical and occupational disabilities

BOWIE, MD Monday, October 16, 2017

**ELLICOTT CITY, MD** 

Tuesday, October 17, 2017

TOWSON, MD Wednesday, October 18, 2017







Join animal-assisted therapy expert Brooke Wimer, MOT, OTR/L, and learn how incorporating animals into your professional activities can greatly improve client outcomes in a surprisingly broad range of areas, including:

# ANIMAL-ASSISTED INTERVENTIONS

- Reduce stress and anxiety levels and lower blood pressure
- Lessen feelings of loneliness and poor self-esteem in those with trauma and anxiety
- Treat symptoms in people dealing with depression and PTSD
- Develop empathy in those with conduct disorder and antisocial personality disorder
- · Improve physical function in people recovering from a stroke
- Improve reading and comprehension in children with learning disabilities
- And more!

You will receive specific examples of animal-assisted therapeutic goals in a variety of functional areas. You will develop a toolbox of animal-assisted interventions and animal-focused treatments you can employ the very next day. This seminar also includes the latest research outcomes and a solid foundational knowledge about the human-animal emotional bond. You will also discover very practical information and resources to help you develop programming and implement your own animal-assisted interventions.

"The relationship between a therapy animal and a patient extends far deeper than simple companionship; there are physical, emotional, and mental benefits to this type of treatment." - Jackie Pavelski, NHA

# Speaker

**BROOKE WIMER, MOT, OTR/L**, is the director of Occupational Therapy, and Animal Assisted Intervention manager at the Colorado Mental Health Institute at Pueblo (CMHIP) - a forensic, psychiatric hospital. The multi-disciplinary AAI program at CMHIP involves psychiatry, psychology, social work, nursing and occupational therapy along with seven therapy dogs.

With over 10 years of clinical experience providing Animal-Assisted Interventions (AAI) in a variety of settings, Brooke specializes in AAI for mental health conditions with a focus on cognitive retraining, social skill development, and self-regulation. She has implemented five AAI programs for physical, cognitive and emotional needs, and developed effective strategies for both group and one-to-one interventions for clients of all ages.

Brooke worked alongside AAI expert Melissa Winkle, OTR/L, FAOTA, and contributed to Professional Applications of Animal Assisted Interventions: Blue Dog Book Second Edition. A member of the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), Brooke is co-developing an AOTA Animal Assisted Intervention Fact Sheet. Brooke presented on disability awareness and AAI application considerations at the 2015 Animal Assisted Intervention International Conference. She received her Master of Occupational Therapy at Cleveland State University; studying the effects of AAI on long-term care residents with depression and anxiety.

Speaker Disclosure:

Financial: Brooke Wimer is the director of occupational therapy and animal assisted intervention manager at Colorado Mental Health Institute at Pueblo. She receives a speaking honorarium from PESI, Inc.

Non-financial: Brooke Wimer is a member of the American Occupational Therapy Association.

Hassle-Free Cancellation Policy: If you contact us before the event date, you can exchange for a DVD or CD/digital manual package on the subject (self-study continuing education credit may be available), a certificate to attend another seminar, or receive a tuition refund less a \$30 cancel fee. Substitutions are permitted at any time.

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This activity qualifies for 6.25 contact hours.

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Board of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) to provide continuing education activities in speech-language pathology

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information for number of ASHA CEUs, instructional level and content area. ASHA CE Provider approval does not imply endorsement of course content, specific products or clinical procedure:

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SOCIAL WORKERS: PESI, Inc. Provider #:1062, is approved **®ACE** as a provider for social work continuing education by the Association of Social Work Boards (ASWB), www.aswb.org through the Approved Continuing Education (ACE) Program. PESI, Inc. maintains responsibility for the program. ASWB Approval Period: January 27, 2017 - January 27, 2020. Social workers should contact their regulatory board to determine course approval for continuing education credits. Social workers participating in this course will receive 6.25 (Clinical) continuing education clock hours for this intermediate course. A certificate of attendance will be awarded at the end of the program to social workers who complete the program evaluation.

OTHER PROFESSIONS: This activity qualifies for 380 minutes of instructional content as required by many national, state and local licensing boards and professional organizations. Save your course outline and certificate of completion, and contact your own board or organization for specific

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We would be happy to accommodate your ADA needs; please call at least two weeks prior to the seminar date.

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