



# PET ASSISTED THERAPY



## KOSCIUSKO LEADERSHIP ACADEMY CLASS OF 2018

ERICA ELLIOTT	SELF/GRACE COLLEGE
KELLY ENGLE	1 <sup>ST</sup> SOURCE BANK
STEPHANIE JOHNSON	CARDINAL SERVICES
CARI WELLS	1 <sup>ST</sup> SOURCE BANK

APRIL 10, 2018



# Pet Assisted Therapy



BACKGROUND



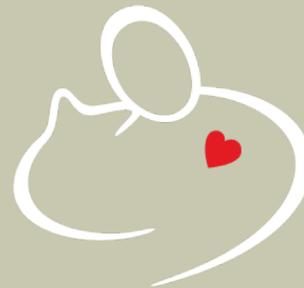
NEED



BENEFITS



OPPORTUNITY



SHARE-A-PET



## BACKGROUND

Prior Experience by  
Cadet Erica Elliott

Recognized Need in  
Kosciusko County





## THE NEED

2 Hospitals

6 Nursing Homes

3 Assisted Living

3 Mental Health Facilities

Dozens of Care Centers

8 Funeral Homes

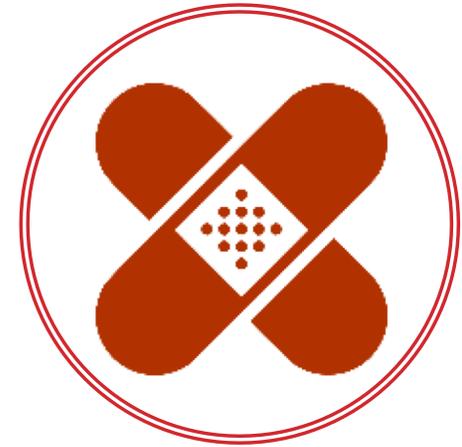
3 Colleges

Primary & Secondary  
Schools

Court System



**EDUCATION**



**SHORT & LONG  
TERM CARE**



**SENIOR**



**OTHER**



## BENEFITS OF PET ASSISTED THERAPY

- Relieves loneliness, helplessness and boredom
- Reduces anxiety symptoms
- Promotes loving interaction
- Lowers blood pressure
- Reduces the need for medications
- Provides companionship
- Encourages physical activity
- Inspires life and living
- Prolongs and improves life





## OPPORTUNITY

- Survey conducted to assess the level of interest local facilities would have in possibly offering Pet Assisted Therapy to their residents, patients, employees, or students.
- Eleven organizations responded to the survey, and 10 out of the 11 respondents expressed interested in learning more about PAT and how it could possibly be an added service within their facility.
- “Please provide any additional input you feel might help in assessing your interest in Pet Assisted Therapy,” one respondent went so far as to say,  
*“We would love to see this offered in Kosciusko County. Having a trained therapy pet occasionally available for our children's treatments would be very motivating for them. Pets can also have a positive calming effect for some of our children with special needs. Thank you for exploring this possibility!”*
- Another respondent even said they would be interested in having their own dog certified.



## SHARE-A-PET

Founded in 2003,  
Fort Lauderdale, FL

Chapters located in  
south Florida, New York,  
San Francisco, Boston,  
and soon in Kosciusko  
County, IN

- Share-A-Pet is an established Pet Assisted Therapy with all the necessary backend support including, procedures for conducting orientation meetings, testing and placement, membership management, and marketing materials available.
- The following would be needed in order to start a chapter locally:
  - A local program director
  - A dog friendly facility to host orientation meetings and testing
  - Facilities willing to partner with Share-A-Pet for Pet Assisted Therapy
  - Dog Trainers willing to train to the requirements of the Therapy Obedience Professional (TOP) test
  - TOP Testers to conduct the testing locally
  - Local volunteers to help and dog owners have their dog become certified
  - Funds to promote the program





## REQUEST

\$1,000 Northerner Award



- The funding would help the team start the chapter of Share-A-Pet in Kosciusko County by generating awareness for the program.
- While the marketing materials have been created by the main organization, there is still cost in localizing and printing them.