Animal Assisted Interventions International from an ADI perspective

HOW AAII BEGAN
Assistance Dog International (ADI) realized that programs were using their dogs for therapeutic programs as well.

Survey at ADI
During their conference in 2010 in Toronto a survey was conducted to access types and amounts of AAI being run by ADI programs.

Results
29 questionnaires returned.
Does your program permanently place dogs with healthcare, education or other professional service providers?
Yes = 17
• More than 50% are doing this type of AAI work

Professional Placement Types
• Psychologists
• Speech Therapists
• Neuropsychology
• Psychotherapist
• Activities coordinator
• Director of Oncology-Children’s Hospital
• Physicians
• Educators
• Counselors
• Social Workers
• Teachers
• Religious
• Occupational Therapist
• Old Age Home
• Courthouse
• Mental Hospital
• Physical Therapist
• Courthouse dogs

Does your program give full public access to facility dogs?
Yes to full access: 3
Yes to partial: 12
No: 3
Unanswered: 10
Does your program utilize professional dog-training staff
(Dogs in training for community based programming.)

**Yes = 11**

- **Breeding** = 3
- **Pre-placement** = 6 (in-training)
- **Finished** = 2 (but not yet placed)
- **Other** = 4 (Puppies, Program dogs, etc)

**No = 18**

**Comments:**
- "but hope to!"
- "puppy raisers occasionally take dogs into nursing, homes for socialization."

Does your program utilize breeding stock in any public settings

**Example:**
Breeding dog works within educational or healthcare setting?

- **Yes** = 9
- **No** = 21
(Some programs don’t have breeders)

Why are so many ADI programs doing AAI?
What standards are they adhering to?

Community Based Programs:
- Veterans programs
- Occupational and speech therapy clinic
- Community Centers
- READing in public schools/libraries
- Developmental Disabilities
- Prisons
- Autism Centers
- Youth at risk
- Assisted living
- PR/ educational events
- After-school programs
- Military base
- Puppy raisers who are also professionals

Assistance dogs can help THOUSANDS of people along the way during the nearly two year raising/training process!!!

It’s not all about the dogs
ADI/AAI committee

And so began the Creation of Standards

Starting with dogs, but plans to expand

ADI/AAI Joined others to form AAII

- Through Skype meetings with AAI people around the world an independent organization was born and launched publicly at ADI Barcelona conference in 2012.
- AAII is open to collaborations and born out of desire for higher standards and resources for the field developing.

We want to hear what you are doing!

AAA

Animal-Assisted Activities

Most often conducted on a volunteer basis by people and animals (usually dogs), who have received at least introductory training and preparation for visitation in social institutions for motivational, educational and/or recreational reasons.

AAA

Animal-Assisted Education (AAE):

Goal-directed interventions designed to promote improvement in cognitive functioning of the person(s) involved and in which a specially trained dog-handler team is an integral part of the educational process. AAE is directed and/or delivered by an educational professional with education, licensure, and specialized expertise and within the scope of education.

AAE

Exam Therapy at USC
Animal Assisted Therapy (AAT)

- Healthcare or social service practitioners who employ trained animals (or human-animal teams)
- Goal-directed interventions designed to promote improvement in physical, social, emotional and/or cognitive functioning of the person(s) involved.
- Specially trained dog-handler team is an integral part of the treatment process.
- AAT is directed and/or delivered by a health/human service professional with specialized education, licensure, and expertise and within the scope of practice of his/her profession.

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