

More information about our organization...

We currently have approximately 200 volunteers who visit over 60 facilities in five counties within Central New York. Sunshine Friends, Inc. provides services to over 800 people every month.

Programs We Offer

ANIMAL ASSISTED THERAPY (A.A.T.)
ANIMAL ASSISTED ACTIVITIES (A.A.A)
YOUTH READING PROGRAMS
EDUCATIONAL SERVICES

Sunshine Friends, Inc (SFI) Pet Therapy Programs welcomes all different kinds of animals including dogs, cats, birds and small animals. SFI believes that each pet should be evaluated based on his or her own individual temperament, we do not discriminate based on breed.

Find us on the web!

www.sunshinefriends.org

CONTACT US TO REGISTER TODAY!

Sunshine Friends, Inc.
P.O. Box 6936
Syracuse, NY 13217

Serving the CNY
Community for
over 10 Years



Therapy Pet Programs

Could Your Best Friend Become A Therapy Dog ?

Sunshine Friends, Inc. is a volunteer organization providing animal assisted activities and therapy across Central New York.

"Improving the quality of life for both people and animals through mutually beneficial interaction."

CONTACT US TO REGISTER TODAY!

Sunshine Friends, Inc.

SFI
(315) 457-7622
info@sunshinefriends.org
P.O. Box 6936
Syracuse, NY 13217

Therapy Dog Classes

Sunshine Friends, Inc. is proud to present a new opportunity to those dog owners who are interested in learning more about participating in animal assisted therapy and activities (AAT/AAA) with their pets! These classes are geared toward handlers who have without experience working with their dogs in AAA/AAT, or to those experienced handlers who are interested in learning new skills and improving on old ones.



Interested in volunteering with SFI?

Classes are not required in order to become a volunteer. Check out our website for more information and for the volunteer and pet applications. We look forward to hearing from you!

Class Topics:

Week 1 ~

Handler Control

Basic requirements and skills for a successful AAA/AAT visit with your dog.

Week 2 ~

Obedience with Distractions

Practicing basic obedience skills and getting and maintaining focus during the presentation of distractions.

Week 3 ~

Interacting Appropriately with People/ Exposure to Stimuli

Preparation for encountering different types of people and interactions that may occur on visits, including those in hospitals, assisted living facilities, and children's reading programs. We will review canine stress signals and other body language, which will be helpful not only during visits, but in all situations where your dog will need to communicate with you. Desensitizing and management techniques will be introduced.

Week 4 ~

Comfort with Medical Apparatus

Exposure to specific medical equipment and how to handle your dog successfully around these objects.

Week 5 ~

Visit Commands and Visit Simulation

Specific visit commands to help your pet become a successful therapy dog. During this class, we will simulate a full Sunshine Friends visit.

Class Prerequisite: Before joining class, your dog must know his or her name, as well as how to sit and lie down on command.



**Classes are held
throughout the year!**

~ 5 Class Sessions ~

\$20/Class

\$80/5 Classes

Classes do not have to be taken consecutively, handlers may choose to take one or more classes based on their interest or need.

Please contact Sunshine Friends, Inc to learn more or to sign up today!

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