HABIT (Human-Animal Bond in Tennessee)

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It was all because of a Nurse







Karen Armsey













Goals for the talk

- Why we do what we do
- The history of AAI
- HABIT history, and story
- HABIT today
- The Future of HABIT
- Service Dogs/Emotional Support Dogs/ Therapy dogs





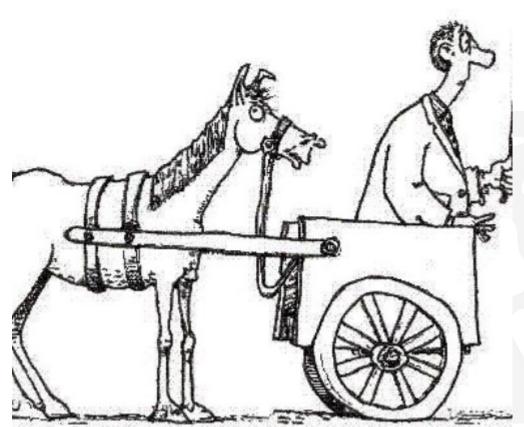


Why we do what we do

WHAT IF ANY RESEARCH BACK THE USE OF AAI IN A MEDICAL FACILITY

WHY DOGS ARE THE MOST COMMON ANIMAL USED IN THIS TYPE OF WORK

Are we putting the cart before the horse?







In the news

- Therapy animals are everywhere. Proof that they help is not.- The Washington Post July 2, 2017
- Therapy animals can calm, motivate and lift the spirits of peoplethe Times Herald June 9, 2017
- Facilities may be underestimating risk of animals in pet therapy programs McKnight's News June 20, 2017 American Journal of Infection Control
- Nurses call for therapy animals to be let into hospitals to help ill children- Independent in the UK June 21, 2017
- Holy Cross Therapy Dog Helps Students Relax And Read Betterthe Catholic Key- July 07, 2017





Research shows

- A reduction in: Pain, anxiety, depression, fatigue, stress hormones
- An increase in: feelings of well being, social interaction, the number of steps, amount of time doing PT,
- Problem is: most research is bad research, mostly anecdotal, small samples, little or no control
- If we agree that the presents of a pet makes life better, why should it be any different in a hospital or school?





What types of animals should be used

- a variety of animals can be beneficial, including goats, rabbits, cats, ferrets, guinea pigs and even rats. But dogs and horses are the most common animals incorporated into therapy.
 - NASWDC.org





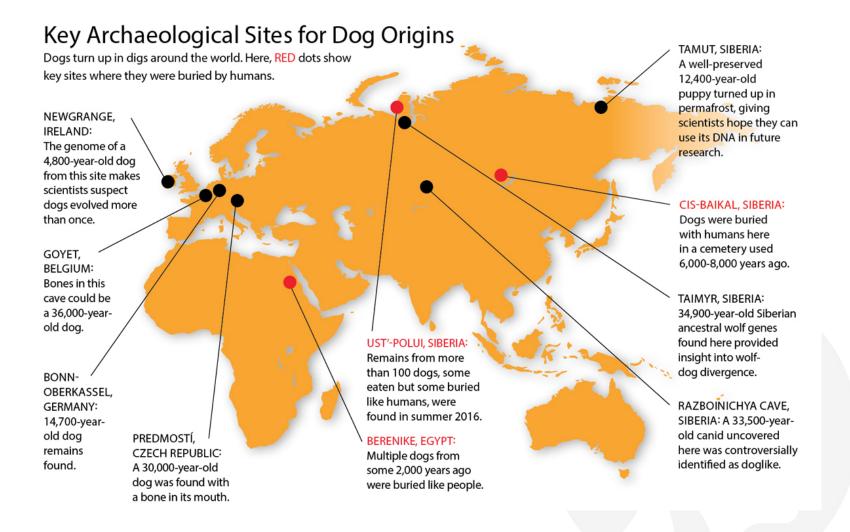
Why Dogs?

 The Relationship between dogs and humans has been so mutually beneficial and enduring that some scholars have suggested that we have influenced each other evolution.













Are they better then Chimps?



- Body Language
- Pointing
- Looking
- 1,000 words (Chaser)







The history of AAI

AAI BECAME A THINK IN THE 70'S, HOWEVER HOW WERE ANIMALS USED BEFORE THIS NEW TREND STARTED

History of Therapy Animals

- 1790's Earliest documentation of humans working with animals for therapeutic needs, a
 psychiatric hospital in the UK working with small farm animals
- 1867- the use of animals as therapy in a treatment center in Bielefeld Germany
- 1880's Florence Nightingale observed that small pets helped reduce anxiety in children and adults living in psychiatric institutions.
- 1944-1945- the ARC launches a program using animals for veterans in rehab at Army Air Force Convalescent Hospital in Pawling, NY
- 1969- North American Riding for the Handicapped Association is formed.
- 1977- Delta Society (now known as Pet Partners) is founded
- 1986- H.A.B.I.T. (Human Animal Bound in Tennessee) was founded by the University of Tennessee College of Veterinary Medicine and the University of Tennessee College of Social Work
- 1990- The American with Disabilities Act is passed







HABIT history and story

HABIT VIDEO

WHO STARTED IT, AND WHY IT WAS STARTED IN THE KNOXVILLE AREA

What about the animal?







Stress in the HABIT dog

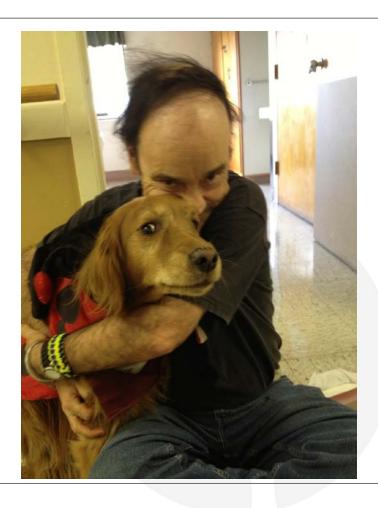






Stress in the HABIT dog









Special consideration for therapy animals

- "No other canine-related event, no sport nor competition requires a dog to enter the intimate zones of unfamiliar humans and remain there for several minutes of petting and hugging"
- Immoral, exploitative
- Little self-control over their social lives
- Fatigue and "burn-out" syndrome
- Subjected to infectious disease





HABIT Animal criteria

- At least 1 year of age
- No raw food diets







Breeds

• All breeds welcome







HABIT system 3 step process

- 1. Medical evaluation
- 2. Behavioral profile and history
- 3. Behavioral evaluation







HABIT today

WHERE ARE WE USED?

HOW CAN WE BE OF USE TO THE CLIENTS IN A MEDICAL FACILITY

ARE WE ONLY FOR THE CLIENTS? WHAT ABOUT THE FAMILY OR

EVEN THE STAFF

HABIT numbers

- 187 Active facilities
- 15 East Tennessee Counties
- 742 Members
- 566 Active Volunteers
- 2016 405,000 contacts





The diversity of HABIT

















Visitation







Schools aka Ruff Reading









Dog Bite Prevention









Special Shelters and Clinics









Exam Stress events









Special Events









The future of HABIT and AAI

What do we need?

- Better research: does AAI accomplish what we are saying that it does? Does it accomplish anything at all?
- What is the affect on the animal? Is it fair to ask them to do this?
- Are there types of animals that do it better then others? Are there breeds of dogs that are better at it then others?

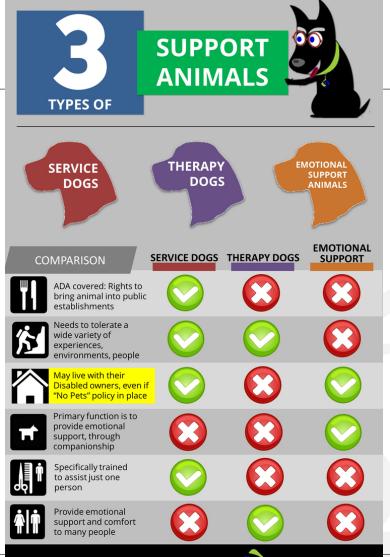






And now

FOR SOMETHING COMPLETELY DIFFERENT

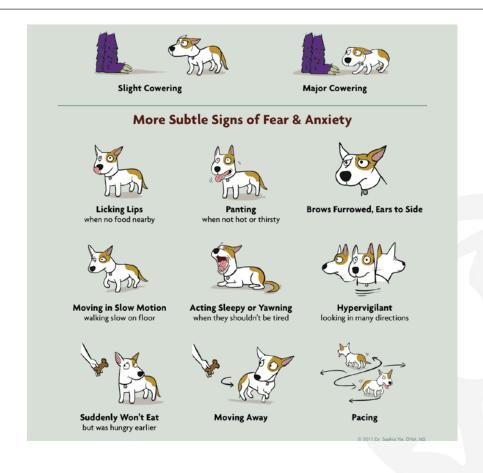


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Evaluating for signs of stress







It is important to learn what they are trying to tell us.

Think this picture is cute? Look closely.

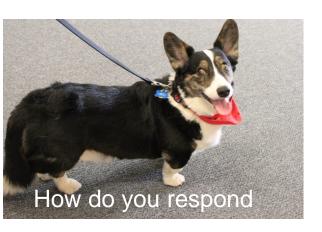




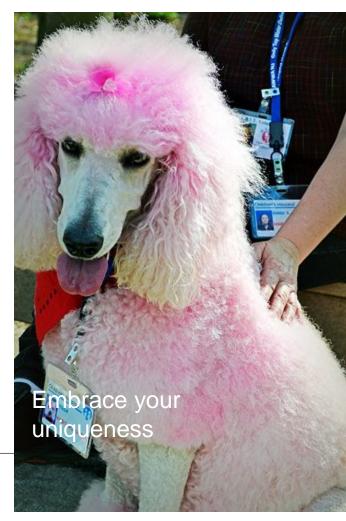




What can we learn from them?



















Breaking down walls









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