Nature-Based Therapeutics (NBT)

Animal-Assisted Interactions (AAI) Professional Development Training

Session 1: Sat., March 9, 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Marion Andrus Learning Center, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum; Session 2: online in April; Session 3: Sat., May 11, 9 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Children's Country Day School, Mendota Heights, MN. Cost (all sessions + materials): $375 by Feb. 9, $450 after Feb. 9. Class size limited to 15; CEUs pending through National Association of Social Workers (NASW).

Animal nature supports human nature by engaging us in a multi-sensory experience to connect mind, body and spirit — Nature's way of healing. AAI Professional Development is a three-month, open course for adults to learn how to partner with animals in various human healthcare and wellbeing activities.

Focus is given to building a strong foundation—the “how” of doing this work:
• Learning animal behavior and handler skills that foster trust and adaptability for human participants.
• Assessing what AAI services are most appropriate for human participants.
• Designing AAI services that enhance therapeutic/educational impact for human participants.
• Evaluating the impact of AAI services for human participants.

For further information, contact Tanya Bailey, MSW, LICSW, at tanya@umn.edu. Register online at www.arboretum.umn.edu/aaitraining.aspx or call 952-443-1422.

Nature-Based Therapeutic (NBT) services are a University of Minnesota initiative shared by the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and the Center for Spirituality and Healing to further the understanding of the people-nature connection.