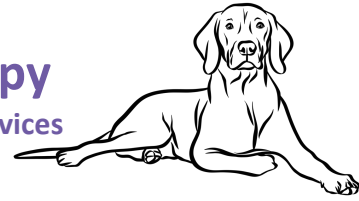




Animal Assisted Therapy

Social Work & Holistic Counselling Services



Informed Consent To Participate in Animal Assisted Therapy Interventions

I consent to participate in Therapy Dog interventions including interacting with and handling of the Therapy Dog. I acknowledge I have read the following statements regarding my participation in therapy sessions.

- I consent to working with the Therapy Dog ongoing and understand that if I change my mind, I need to provide written advice at least two working days before my scheduled visit.
- I acknowledge that I have no known illness or allergy that would prevent me from interacting with and handling the Therapy Dog.
- I understand that the Therapy Dog undergo routine vet checks and preventative medicine (including vaccinations, worming and flea treatments) to maintain their health, however there are some illnesses which can pass between humans and dogs to which I may be exposed. I will therefore practice personal hygiene, for example washing hands prior to eating and if needed visit my GP.
- I understand that the Therapy Dog are currently in training and regularly assessed to work with people, however I acknowledge the risks associated with working with animals, including the risk of injury.
- I will always follow the direction of the Therapist.
- I am aware due to training the Therapy Dog might be removed from the therapy room if necessary to take regular breaks if needed or if the Therapy Dog does not settle down at any point during a session.

Client Name:

If under 18 years of age – Name of Guardian:

Signature:..... Date:

In addition: I understand that there may be photos or videos taken of the Therapy Dog at work, and my image may be used for promotional purposes, including internet. Videos and Image will first be shown to client and Guardian for approval before photos of video's will be posted. Copies of photos and video's will be given to client as well for personal use.

I agree **YES** or **NO** do not agree to the photos or videos. (Cross out which is not applicable)

Client Name:

If under 18 years of age – Name of Guardian:

Signature:..... Date:

Azelene Williams – ABN: 60 363 880 682

Grad. Bachelor of Social Work, DipHCounselling, Dip CBT
DipCommServices, CertDomFamViolence, CertCircle of Security

Social Worker, Holistic Counsellor, Lived Experience Presenter

Memberships: Australian Association of Social Workers (AASW) & Australian Counselling Association (ACA)

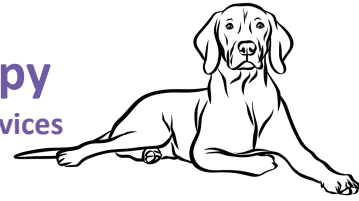
www.azelenewilliams.com

0405 246 176

azelenewilliams@gmail.com



Animal Assisted Therapy Social Work & Holistic Counselling Services



Animal Assisted Counselling Policies and Procedures

Policy:

We believe that animals can be a valuable adjunct to therapy and counselling and acknowledge the importance of incorporating them into our practice. We strive to promote the well-being of clients and animals by ensuring that ethical and professional standards are upheld in our animal assisted counselling practice.

Procedure:

- 1. Selection of animals:** Our AAT dog who is used in our counselling practice must be trained and evaluated for temperament, behaviour, and suitability for therapy work. Our AAT dog must be healthy and up to date on vaccinations.
- 2. Informed consent:** We obtain informed consent from clients before introducing AAT dog into the counselling session. Clients are provided with information about the dog's presence and their function in the therapeutic process.
- 3. Client suitability assessment:** We assess each client's suitability for animal assisted therapy based on their mental health status, medical history, allergies, and fears. We encourage clients to disclose any concerns or apprehensions they may have regarding our AAT dog.
- 4. Animal care and safety:** Our AAT dog are provided with appropriate care and treatment, including adequate food, water, exercise, and rest. Our practice complies with all relevant animal welfare laws, including the Animal Welfare Act 1999 and the Code of Practice for the Welfare of Dogs 2018. We maintain a clean and hygienic facility to reduce the spread of diseases and parasites among humans and animals.
- 5. Professional competence:** Your therapist who is also the animal handler, are trained and competent in their respective fields and have received appropriate training related to animal-assisted therapy and counselling.
- 6. Confidentiality and privacy:** All personal and confidential information shared during counselling sessions is protected under the Privacy Act 1988 and our confidentiality policy.
- 7. Insurance:** We have adequate insurance cover that includes public liability, professional indemnity, and includes walk and talk therapy and animal assisted insurance.

Overall, our primary goal is to provide a safe and effective therapy experience for our clients while ensuring that the welfare of all animals under our care is upheld.

Azelene Williams – ABN: 60 363 880 682

Grad. Bachelor of Social Work, DipHCounselling, Dip CBT
DipCommServices, CertDomFamViolence, CertCircle of Security

Social Worker, Holistic Counsellor, Lived Experience Presenter

Memberships: Australian Association of Social Workers (AASW) & Australian Counselling Association (ACA)

www.azelenewilliams.com

0405 246 176

azelenewilliams@gmail.com