

Specialized Therapies: Animal-Assisted Therapy

Exhibit B1

SERVICE DESCRIPTION	Animals are utilized in goal-directed treatment sessions as a modality to facilitate optimal physical, cognitive, social, and emotional outcomes of a participant, such as increasing self-esteem, increasing motivation, and reducing stress.
PROVIDER QUALIFICATIONS	<p>An animal-assisted therapy provider must utilize animals that meet guidelines established by the American Veterinary Medical Association and either:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Be a licensed professional with documented training and experience relative to the specialized therapy being provided. This may include a: clinical social worker; professional counselor; marriage and family therapist; registered nurse; vocational nurse; physical therapist; occupational therapist; or dietitian; or2. Obtain certification specific to the type of program and animal(s) involved.
ANIMAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS	<p>YES Waiver-endorsed certification programs are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Pet Partners;2. Equine Assisted Growth and Learning Association (EAGALA); and3. Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship (PATH) International. <p>Other certification programs are subject to approval by the Department of State Health Services, upon request by the local mental health authority or comprehensive waiver provider.</p>
WRAPAROUND PLAN	<p>The Wraparound Plan must describe:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The skills training that will be provided to participant, as they relate to achieving the participant's identified goal(s);2. The strategies and/or action steps that will be used to assist the participant in achieving the identified goal(s); and3. The type, scope, and duration of the service.
PROGRESS NOTES	<p>Progress notes are required for the provision of animal-assisted therapy and must include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Participant name;2. Date of contact with the participant;3. Start and stop time of contact with the participant;

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4. Service name and description;
5. Service location;
6. Wraparound plan objective(s) that was the focus of the service;
7. Participant response to animal-assisted therapy being provided;
8. Progress or lack of progress in achieving Wraparound Plan goals; and
9. Direct service provider's signature and credentials.

PROVISION OF
SERVICE
DOCUMENTATION

The provider must document the provision of animal-assisted therapy services by maintaining up-to-date progress notes, which will be reviewed by the Department of State Health Services.

PROGRAM TRAINING

Prior to providing Waiver services and/or participating on a Child and Family Team, an animal-assisted therapy provider must receive program training in accordance with PROGRAM TRAINING REQUIREMENTS, policy 2200.2 or 2300.2 of this manual, as applicable.

BILLING

Information regarding unit designation, payment rate, and required documentation for submitting a claim for animal-assisted services is detailed in BILLING, SPECIALIZED THERAPIES, policy 2600.20 of this manual.

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