

Animal Assisted Therapy (ATT) consent and release of Liability

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Animal Assisted Therapy (ATT)

About Davinici and Chloe

They are both certified Animal Assisted Therapy dogs and are utilized in a therapeutic setting. Davinici is a male and six years of age. He has been working with children, teens and adults for five years. Chloe is a female and has been working with children for three years. Both dogs are groomed weekly, including nail trims and/or filed. Both dogs go to the veterinarian yearly for shots, check-ups and heart worm test as well as an occasional stomach ache or sore limbs. Visiting the veterinarian is necessary to keep the dogs healthy and safe as well as to prevent the spread of any diseases; however, there is a change of getting zoonotic disease, which is transmitted by fecal matter and urine. Please note; I take many precautions to avoid the dogs from getting any diseases.

****Clients who want to utilize AAT in their therapeutic sessions should be assessed by a doctor for allergies or any other medical conditions that may comprise your health if in close proximity to dogs.**

Please put a check next to the statement/s that pertains to you or your child.

1. I am afraid of dogs. Yes No
2. I have allergies to animals. Yes No
3. I have an auto immune disease. Yes No
4. I have cancer or I am going through cancer treatments Yes No
5. I have been diagnosed with a medical ailment that may comprise my health if I am in close proximity to a dog. Yes No
6. I have respiratory problems Yes No

I am not aware of any ailments or medical condition my child(ren)'s have that would prohibit physical interaction such as handling, touching, kissing and laying on the dog. Initial

Respect and Rules of the Therapy Dog

1. The therapist will assess the client to see if he/she is a good fit for ATT and if this modality is not a good fit, the therapist will discuss the reasons why and try another modality or refer the client elsewhere if he/she desires.
2. Davinici and Chloe will be treated and handled gently (no hitting, pulling tail, hair, ears, yelling or any other actions that may cause the dog to become uncomfortable and/or jeopardizing the dogs safety. In the event such behaviors exist, the dog/s will be removed immediately and future sessions with the client will be evaluated for the safety and effectiveness of ATT for the client.
3. Clients must wash their hands, use hand sanitizer or sanitizing wipes before and after touching Davinici and Chloe.
4. Davinici and Chloe will always be with their handler/therapist during sessions and the dogs will never be left alone with the client.

5. If at any time, Davinci or Chloe shows signs of distress, irritation and/or fear, they will need to take a break from the session and the handler/ therapist may either remove the dog/s from the room or the dogs will go to their designated spot in the office.
6. Just like people dogs too, sometimes do not want participate in an activity, In the event the dogs do not want to participate in the session, the client will respect the dogs' feelings and the therapist will utilize other modalities for that session.
7. The dogs sometimes work off leash and sometimes I have the client walk the dog for a short time. These two events may cause the dog/s to get excited. They may pull on the leash or sit or lean against your body and because they are strong and big, it may cause a person to lose their balance. Please initial below if you DO NOT want to participate or have your child participate _____.

Risks Associated with Animal Assisted Therapy (ATT)

- **Animals like humans can get anxious, scared and irritated among other emotions; however their responses to these emotions are not always the same as humans. If the dog responds and or reacts in a threatening and or unsafe manner, the client is to move away from the dog and the therapist will remove the dog from room.
- ** Dogs communicate their wants and needs through body language and barking, for example; they wag their tail in excitement or brush or lean against you to show love or get your attention, there is a possibility of losing you balance and falling down. Since this is the nature of dogs, the therapist CANNOT be held liable if such an occurrence happens.
- **Davinci and Chloe will be groomed and their nails will be kept short; however, there may be a risk of getting scratched and the therapist, Robyn Looze will not be liable in the event such an accident happens.
- **Licking and nibbling is a dog's way of expressing his affection as well as telling you he wants to play. During therapy session, these behaviors may occur, however the client will never be left alone with the dog during the sessions and the therapist, Robyn Looze will make every effort to monitor the dogs behavior; however there is still a risk of the dogs licking and nibbling. Please initial below if you **DONOT** want you/or your child to be licked. _____.
- **Anyone who has contact with animals can possibly get Zoonotic diseases; however people with weakened Immune system, children age five, elderly and pregnant women at more at risk. To find out more about zoonotic diseases go to www.cdc.gov/healthypets/animals/dogs.htm and/or ask your Robyn Looze.

Minor

I, the parent or guardian of _____ understand and agree to the policies, Procedures, and risks associated with the use of AAT in a therapeutic setting. I hereby consent to AAT with Davinci and Chloe whom are both a registered therapy dogs and under the care of Robyn Looze, therapist. I ACCEPT full liability in the event that Davinci or Chloe causes injury to my child in any way throughout the course of treatment.

Name _____ Date _____

ADULT

I, the client _____ understand and agree to the policies, procedures, and risks associated with the use of AAT in a therapeutic setting. I hereby consent to AAT with Davinci and Chloe whom are both a registered therapy dogs and under the care of Robyn Looze, handler and therapist. I ACCEPT full liability in the event that Davinci or Chloe cause injury to me in any way though out the course of treatment.