

# Advocating for Therapeutic Animals

A Family Member's Perspective



### My Mother



- Traumatic Brain Injury to the Right Frontal Lobe
- Physical- Vertigo, Can't Look Up or Down
- Emotional- Anxiety, Panic Attacks, Depression
- Cognitive Function- Impulsive, Diminished Ability to Maintain Linear Thought Patterns
- Relinquished Power of Attorney

#### **First Therapeutic Animal**

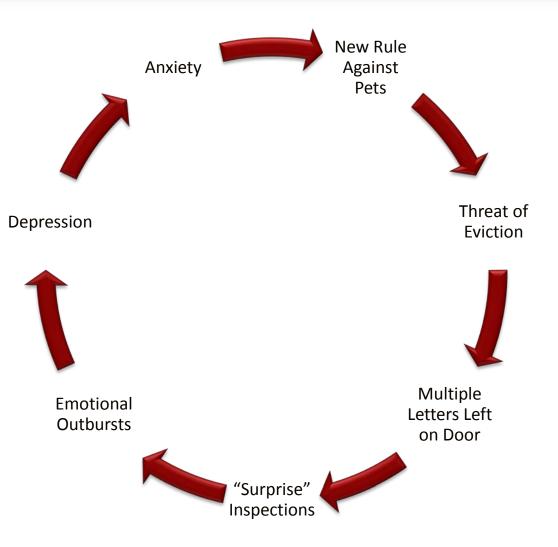


Yoda



- Provides a Sense of Calm
- Lowers Blood Pressure
- Combats Loneliness

## First Incident with the Landlord





Steps We Took	Landlords Stance
Researched Laws on Therapeutic Animals	Continued Leaving 3-Day Notices on the Door
Steps We Took	Landlords Stance
Discussion with Primary Care Doctor & Obtained a Note	Initially Rejected the Note
Steps We Took	Landlords Stance
Provided Education on Therapeutic Animals to Landlord	Accepted Note

\*At this Point, I had an in Depth Conversation with the Landlord Regarding My Mother's Condition, the Fact I am Her Power of Attorney, and that All Communications Regarding Concerns Should be Directed Through Me as They Confuse and Upset My Mother and this Affects Her Well Being

## Secondary Animal- Companion Animal

Baby



- Companion Animal
- Assists with Anxiety in Public Settings & Driving
- Promotes Wellness
  Through Playfulness
- Improves the Quality of Her Life

## Second Incident with Landlord



Landlords Stance	Steps We Took
Contacted Me & Threatened Eviction	Researched Laws on Companion Animals
Landlords Stance	Steps We Took
Stated My Mother Already <b>Had</b> a Therapeutic Animal	Discussion with Primary Care Doctor & Obtained an Additional Note Stating Different Reasoning for the New Animal
Landlords Stance	Steps We Took
Accepted the Second Note	Provided Landlord with Additional Education on the Difference Between Therapeutic & Companion Animals

## In Conclusion

### Advocating for My Mother



- Saved Housing
- Educated the Landlord
- Advocated for Others
- Allowed My Mother a Beneficial Quality of Semi-Independent Life
- Reaffirmed Trust Between My Mother & I



# Thank You for Listening to My Story!

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