JLAD Therapy Animals focuses on providing quality canine therapy teams that enrich the lives of those we serve. Although we primarily certify teams with dogs, on an individual approval basis, other animal such as bunnies and cats could also qualify. The series of 6 classes is currently held on Tuesday evenings from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at our facility in Salem, OR.

Understanding the benefits that JLAD Therapy Animals provide for its clientele makes this a very desirable program. Therapy teams can show their appreciation for our community members who oftentimes need a little TLC. The love of our own pets and wanting to share them is the driving passion and focus behind JLAD Therapy Animals. JLAD will help put your nurturing skills into action, together with your pet, to create a rewarding experience for all involved.

Once team members successfully complete the series of classes and receive their certification, the graduating therapy teams will be matched according to their animal’s temperament, as well as the person’s preference, with the different venues that have requested visits from our therapy teams. These include but are not limited to senior facilities, Veteran homes, assisted living facilities, hospice, schools, as well as other programs for children.

Our volunteers come into contact with people from all walks of life. To hear the stories our volunteers share is heartwarming evidence that we really do make a difference. Here is one of those story that will touch your heart and maybe even give you a chuckle:

“On our weekly visit to a hospice client today, as we were leaving, the client’s daughter told me “I want you to know, your visits make her weak.” “I’m sorry,” I said with concern, “Are we staying too long?” “Heavens no,” the daughter replied, “I’m saying your visit is the highlight of Mom’s week!” LOL! I’m confident this lovely woman gives as much joy to Sophie (the dog) as Sophie provides for her. It is a privilege to be able to do this blessed work.” By Eric Schuman.

There is a $10.00 application fee as well as a $250.00 tuition fee for the 6 classes. The tuition must be paid in full by the beginning of the first class. We ask that all graduating teams commit to provide therapy twice a month for one year. Hospice has generously offered to reimburse people if they volunteer with them for at least 6 months.

JLAD Animal Therapy is a non-profit organization. Financial contributions or gift cards to Office Max and/or gas stations will be gratefully accepted.

For further information about JLAD Therapy Animals, or to find out when the next series of classes is scheduled to begin, please contact 971-239-7474.