## **JANUARY 19, 2024** 10:00 - 11:30 AM

DOORS OPEN AT 9:30 FOR COFFEE & CONNECTING

# **EVERYTHING TO KNOW ABOUT EMOTIONAL SUPPORT ANIMALS**

### PRESENTED BY ALYSSA NELSON, MA, LMHC, SUDP, RYT

Alyssa Nelson holds a Master's Degree from Naropa University in Clinical Mental Health Counseling with an emphasis in Transpersonal Wilderness Therapy, and holds an Advanced Addiction Studies certificate from Seattle University. She is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor and Substance Use Disorder Professional in the state of WA. In addition to her more formal clinical studies, Alyssa is a certified Advanced Animal-Assisted Therapist, EMDR practitioner, WA State Approved Supervisor, and Certified Yoga instructor in Hatha Vinyasa, Yin, and Trauma-Sensitive Yoga.

Alyssa is an adjunct faculty member at Antioch University where she teaches Animal-Assisted Intervention, Trauma Counseling, and Family of Origin. Currently, she works part time in her private practice offering trauma-sensitive yoga therapy, animal-assisted therapy with her registered therapy dog, Cooper, EMDR, mindfulness, therapeutic retreats for mental health workers focused on recovery from burnout, nature-based therapies, and offers various continuing education courses to her colleagues in WA state.

1.5

CEUs

### **LEARNING OBJECTIVES**

- Navigate the Nuances: Delve into the intricate world of emotional support animals (ESAs), gaining a comprehensive understanding of their complexity. Differentiate between ESAs, therapy dogs, and service dogs to discern their distinct roles and functions within the realm of emotional support.
- Master the Art of Letter Writing: Acquire the essential skills to craft effective emotional support animal letters. Learn the nuances of language and documentation to articulate the therapeutic need for an ESA. Identify clients who are strong candidates for receiving an emotional support animal letter, ensuring your communication is compelling and aligned with regulatory requirements.
- Ethics and Legality Unveiled: Engage in a thoughtful discussion on the ethical and legal dimensions of ESAs. Explore the rights and responsibilities of both practitioners and clients in the context of emotional support animal accommodations. Navigate the landscape of laws and regulations governing emotional support animals, ensuring ethical and legally sound practices in your professional journey.

Live Event In person & on Zoom

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 1615 6TH AVE TACOMA 98405

Free for Members \$20 for non members

This workshop has been approved for 1.5 CEUs by the Washington Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers (NASW) for LICSWs and Associates, LMFTs and Associates, and LMHCs and Associates. PCCA provider number is 1975-277.

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