

FAMILY SERVICES

OF GREATER WATERBURY INC.

For Immediate Release
December 8, 2011

Family Services of Greater Waterbury Views Therapy Animals and Autism as a Natural Connection

Waterbury – Children on the Autism Spectrum sometimes have trouble making connections with others. They may have trouble communicating with others or making eye contact. That is where a cold nose, strong back and warm heart can make a huge difference. The children at Chapman House, a residential treatment home for boys diagnosed on the Autism Spectrum, will soon be attending sessions with therapy animals thanks to a generous grant from the Connecticut Community Foundation.

The boys will work with Therapy Dogs and attend Equine Therapeutic Riding sessions. Through positive interactions with animals the boys will learn the importance of controlling themselves and caring for another living being. Working with Therapy Animals helps children set and reach goals, change negative behaviors and improve communication. There is a lot of unconditional love and acceptance in the eyes of therapy animals.



Chapman House's staff looks forward to taking the boys on sessions with real animals.