

13 September 2018

Vicky Graham  
Canine Friends Pet Therapy  
PO Box 45056  
Waterloo  
Lower Hutt 5010

Dear Vicky

I'm writing this letter to thank Canine Friends Pet Therapy for the invaluable contribution they make towards our clients and their rehabilitation.

Laura Fergusson Rehabilitation specialises in the care and rehabilitation of clients who have experienced a neurological or physical injury or are experiencing the symptoms of a deteriorating neurological disease. Our aim is to promote as much function and independence as possible, while facilitating adjustment to disability, promoting self-determination and valuing quality of life.

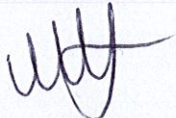
Canine Friends Pet Therapy volunteers and their dogs are an essential part of the client experience at our Waikato Regional Centre. They become part of the multidisciplinary team working towards improving the lives and rehabilitation outcomes of our clients.

In the words of our Occupational Therapist, Kirsty, "the benefits of pet therapy are immense" and it "truly makes a huge difference". The visits "increase sensory functioning, social functioning, hand function and attention" and clients with limited communication "often become more expressive and vocal during the dog visits".

Kirsty says that it is a "pure joy witnessing clients interacting with Canine Friends" and that "at times staff have been reduced to tears after seeing the smiles and happiness that pet therapy brings our clients". The visits "give clients something to look forward to as part of their rehabilitation programme".

Canine Friends Pet Therapy takes great care to understand everyone's needs. Their dedication to our partnership results in a truly beneficial client and volunteer experience.

Kind regards



**Morgan Hancox**  
*Marketing & Volunteer Coordinator*  
**Laura Fergusson Rehabilitation**

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