

MENDED HEARTS



FALL 2024 | 1431 Lourdes Rd., Metamora, IL 61548

Mended Hearts Receives Grant From the Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs

The Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs has awarded Mended Hearts a grant to expand our treatment center by adding an ADA-compliant a veteran support group to build camaraderie.

The Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs (IDVA) announced on September 26 over \$860,000 in Veterans' Cash Grant Program awards to ten Illinois organizations that provide vital services to veterans and their families across Illinois. Awardees will receive funding to address critical issues facing veterans including homelessness, post-traumatic stress treatment, behavioral health treatment, and workforce development.

IDVA Director Terry Prince said, "Those selected are offering quality programs to veterans that will launch them into self-sufficiency and manage PTSD and other behavioral challenges resulting from service."



Mended Hearts Director Julie Sellner says the grant will provide office space for a psychiatric nurse practitioner, enabling the team to provide medication support to clients. The grant will also allow the team to develop group programs for veterans, like equine therapy, group talk therapy, and more. Stay tuned for updates as we prepare for construction!

Welcome, Stacie!

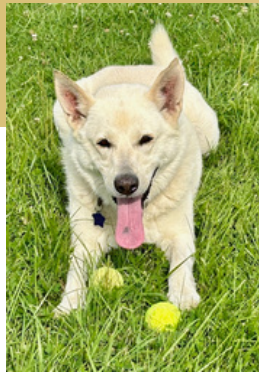
Mended Hearts is proud to welcome Stacie to our team! Stacie has over 20 years of experience in the accounting field as a business manager at Caterpillar and as an accountant for two government agencies. Having Stacie on board will help us move towards our goal of becoming a Medicaid provider. Please welcome her when you check in!



Thanks, Frank!

Long-time clients may have noticed that Frank Disney, our receptionist for the last five years, hasn't been around much. Frank is in the process of retiring but is providing support and training to Stacie for a few weeks.





Why Use Animals in Therapy?

While many of us have pets in our everyday lives, animal-assisted therapy is actually an evidenced-based therapeutic practice that can improve mental and physical health, reduce stress, increase positive emotions, and enhance self-esteem. The client, therapist, and animal participate in activities that are outlined in a treatment plan, with specific goals, measurable objectives, and the expectation of progress toward the treatment goals. Your insurance may not cover animal-assisted therapy, so please speak with us if you need financial assistance.

Days to Remember

September

- [National Recovery Month](#)
- [National Suicide Prevention Month](#)

October

- [National Domestic Violence Awareness Month](#)
- [ADHD Awareness Month](#)
- [National Bullying Prevention Month](#)

November

- [National Family Caregivers Month](#)



Mended Hearts Personnel Train in the EAGALA Model of Equine-Assisted Therapy

As part of our commitment to offering cutting-edge treatment modalities, Mended Hearts staff recently attended a five-day training on the Eagala model of equine-assisted psychotherapy. This treatment model incorporates horses because they are highly attuned, intuitive, and non-judgmental, and they offer an environment where clients can discover the answers they need within themselves.

