

Canine Connections Program Fact Sheet



What is the program?

Canine Connections is a dog rescue training program at Echo Glen. Young people prepare dogs for adoption through training. Young people also assist with grooming and cleaning the kennel area.

The program is a combination of classroom and hands-on learning.



Who can participate?

- Young people who have been at Echo Glen for over 30 days and have no history of aggressive behavior.
- All staff and young people can access dogs for emotional support.

What is the purpose?

The goal is to give young people emotional skills and tools that can be used to build successful futures. Young people in this program are the case managers for dogs. Just as they received Dialectal Behavioral Therapy, they are using the same skills to make a positive impact with positive reinforcement. For example, a dog's instinct may be jumping to greet someone, but young people will teach them to sit.

What is the impact?

Young people learn skills like empathy development, self-esteem, and responsible pet ownership.

Learn more

<https://dcyf.wa.gov/services/juvenile-rehabilitation/echo-glen>

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