



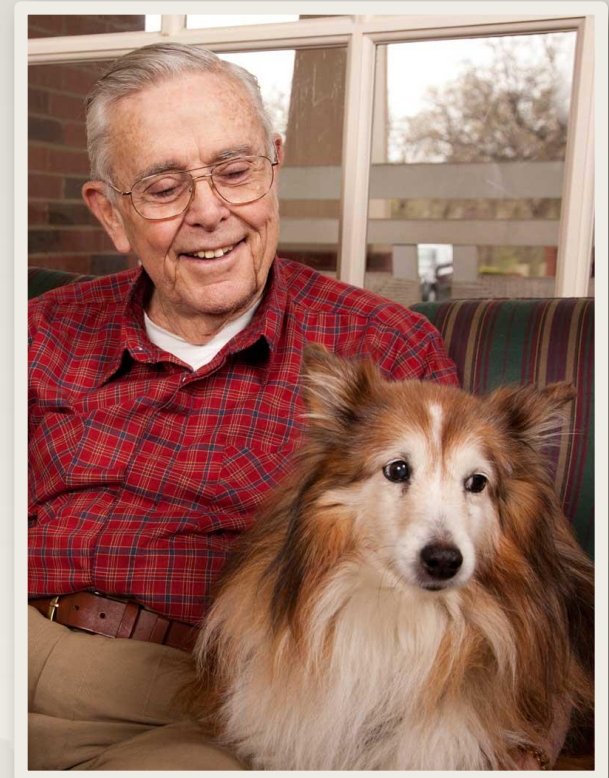
THE CASE FOR PET-FRIENDLY PLANNING OF AGED CARE ACCOMMODATION

VIRGINIA JACKSON — SEPTEMBER 2012

IS THERE A CASE FOR HAVING PETS IN AGED ACCOMMODATION?

- + Lots of Australians own pets
- + Pets are good for your health
- + Pets are a social lubricant
- + Pet attachment can be very high – especially amongst the elderly
- + Moving into aged accommodation can be a traumatic time

It seems obvious that the answer is Yes.



HOWEVER ITS NOT THAT EASY

- + Nuisance
- + Public health
- + Potential for injury
- + Liability!
- + Different pets. Different owners.
- + What about the welfare of the pet?

So do we put it all in the too-hard basket?



NO WE DON'T!

WE HAVE TO FIND A WAY TO
MAKE IT WORK.

We should also take it further –
make pets integral to a centre's
health and wellbeing plan.



WHAT ARE THE ESSENTIAL INGREDIENTS?

- + Rules?
- + Code of conduct?
- + Individual management plans?
- + Pet-friendly design?



WHAT ROLE COULD DESIGN PLAY?

1. Confinement of pets
2. Noise protection
3. Environmental enrichment
4. A safe and comfortable environment for pets
5. Provision of outdoor space
6. Hygiene

