

Hillside is so excited that Wrigley and Ms. Shirkey are able to begin therapy dog services here at Hillside. They have gone through extensive training and Wrigley is loving the therapy services she provides at Sarpy County Juvenile Detention Center as well as QLI. With their certification, Wrigley must be with Ms. Shirkey at all times so students in her classroom and students that come in for reading will have interactions with her on a regular basis.

Research shows that being in the presence of a dog can lower anxiety, stress and provide an overall calming environment. It is Ms. Shirkey's hope that this is the case with bringing Wrigley into our classroom. Wrigley began on Jan 21st and comes every other day until she is ready to be here daily. When she is not "working", she will be in her safe space (kennel) and off-limits to students. Students will wash their hands after petting Wrigley and will have access to a lint roller if they need to clean their clothes of fur.

Welcome aboard Wrigley!

