# Holistic Healing for Animals

## by Jan Allegretti, D.Vet.Hom.

#### **Course Outline**

#### DAY ONE

- I. Holistic Health Care: What does that mean?
  - a. Who's behind those big brown—or green—eyes? Seeing the whole animal, body, mind & spirit—and beyond
  - b. Physical, emotional and environmental aspects of care
    - i. Relationship
    - ii. Lifestyle
    - iii. Nutrition
    - iv. Natural healing remedies and techniques

#### II. Lifestyle

- a. Part of the pack, part of the family
- b. Minimizing stress
- c. Play time and a sense of purpose
- d. A non-toxic environment

#### III. Diet

- a. Fresh food vs. packaged food
- b. Cooking for your dog: It's easier than you think
  - i. The Fresh & Flexible<sup>TM</sup> meal plan
- c. Choosing a packaged food
- d. Specialty diets: Can dogs or cats be vegan?
- IV. Natural medicines and therapies: What, why and how?
  - a. Food as medicine
  - b. Homeopathy
  - c. Herbs
  - d. Bodywork and energy medicine
  - e. Integrating holistic care with conventional medicine

### V. Integrative Medicine

- a. Working with your veterinarian
- b. Conventional medicine vs. alternative therapies: Finding a balance
- c. Locating holistic practitioners

#### DAY TWO

- VI. Homeopathy
  - a. How remedies are made
  - b. Acute vs. chronic illness
  - c. Potencies
    - i. What they mean
    - ii. How to choose the right one
  - d. Storing and administering remedies
  - e. Sample cases
- VII. Herbs
  - a. Benefits and risks
  - b. What form will you use?
  - c. Common herbal allies
    - i. Cannabis
- VIII. Your Holistic Medicine Chest
  - a. Keep it simple, start small
  - b. The basic components
- IX. Bodywork and energy medicine
  - a. Massage
  - b. Therapeutic Touch
  - c. Professional practitioners: Options, benefits, and risks
- X. Putting it in perspective
  - a. What really matters
  - b. Healing the healer

#### ADDITIONAL TOPICS

(may be added to above topics for longer or follow-up workshops; integrated with the above outline for a more condensed overview; or inserted in place of selected topics)

- XI. The Senior Years
  - a. Special needs—and gifts—of elder animals
  - b. Adapting your home and routine
  - c. End-of-life choices
  - d. Making every day a joy

## XII. Letting Go

- a. Acute care vs. hospice: When is it time to let go?
- b. Supportive care: Maximizing comfort and joy
- c. Euthanasia vs. natural death
- d. Final arrangements
- e. Time to grieve

## XIII. A Bigger Picture: The Role of Animals in Our World

- a. The human-nonhuman hierarchy
  - i. Animals as property, resources, commodities—and companions
  - ii. Assumptions that support the hierarchy
- b. Re-examining assumptions
  - i. Animal intelligence: Not lesser, but different
  - ii. Communication: Are words really necessary?
  - iii. Consciousness and spirituality
- c. Dismantling the hierarchy
  - i. Why is it so difficult?
  - ii. The impact—on us and on them
  - iii. Changing the world, one paw-, hoof-, fin-, and claw-print at a time
- XIV. A Richer and Happier Life: Simple and Surprising Things You Can Do to Make Your Dog and Cat Smile
  - a. Yummy and healthy—and easy for you
  - b. Her home is her haven; his den is his castle
  - c. All in a day's play
  - d. Sharing your life, sharing your heart

> Don't see the topic you'd like to discuss? Please ask. ❖