## Staypineapple is Proud to Sponsor the Dog Therapy Program at Friendship Circle of Washington.



Staypineapple believes that friends and dogs are one and the same. When we were presented with the opportunity to sponsor the dog therapy program created by Friendship Circle of Washington we couldn't pass it up.

The Friendship Circle's unique brand of social integration therapy simultaneously provides special needs families with the therapeutic and social support they need and promotes equal recognition for special needs individuals within the community. New in 2020 is the incorporation of a unique dog therapy program.

The benefits of therapy dogs are wide-reaching and span from helping lower blood pressure to providing companionship and diminishing feelings of isolation. Therapy dogs also act as a calming sensory outlet, which many children with special needs crave. Friendship Circle recognized the potential power in having specially trained therapy dogs present at their programming and set out to partner with an organization that could provide this service.

"Since bringing therapy dogs and puppies into Sunday Circles, we have noticed a marked difference in the demeanor of our participants. Having this calming, sensory outlet right there at programming is an incredible asset to our participants with special needs, helping them remain engaged in programming in order to receive the most from our services," stated Executive Director, Rabbi Elazar Bogomilsky. "We are so thankful to Staypineapple for sponsoring this extremely important program that will directly impact the lives of so many individuals across the spectrum".

About Friendship Circle of Washington:

Friendship Circle empowers children and teens with special needs, helping them develop the skills they need to live a productive and independent adult life as much as possible. They empower teen volunteers, helping them develop the confidence, self-esteem, and skills they need to become the leaders of tomorrow. They nurture the community, working to ensure that inclusion and diversity are the norms, not the exception and that every individual has the opportunity to participate and succeed.



## About Staypineapple:

About Staypineapple Based in the Pacific Northwest, Staypineapple represents a brand of ten privately owned and managed hotels in New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Boston, Seattle, Portland, and San Diego. Focused on thoughtful service and design with an uncanny knack for anticipating needs, the brand wholeheartedly embraces the pineapple's symbol of hospitality and joy

