



# Private Training Options

*Animal Friends recommends the following trainers who are committed to force-free solutions to dog behavior modification.*

## **Sarah Stephens, CPDT-KA | FurEver Good | [furevergood.com](http://furevergood.com)**

- Individualized in-home training including basic manners, socialization, confidence building, puppy education, Canine Good Citizen education and testing.
- Dog walking and sitting available to East End Residents.
- Training Service area is Pittsburgh and surrounding areas.

## **Debbie Thomas, CPDT-KA, CBCC-KA, IAABC-ADT, SA-PRO, FDM | [DebbieThomasCPDT.com](http://DebbieThomasCPDT.com)**

**| [DebbieThomasCPDT@gmail.com](mailto:DebbieThomasCPDT@gmail.com)**

- Private in-home training for puppies and adult dogs including basic manners and dog reactivity.
- Separation Anxiety certified trainer, Behavior Modification for shy and fearful dogs.
- Enrichment services for all dogs.

## **Lisa Bartel, CPDT-KA, DN-CET, CSAP-BC | JR Companion Dog Training**

**| [j-rcompaniondogtraining.weebly.com](http://j-rcompaniondogtraining.weebly.com)**

**| [companiondogtrainingpgh@gmail.com](mailto:companiondogtrainingpgh@gmail.com)**

- Individual manners training, enrichment services, therapy dog certification, dog-baby prep and separation anxiety.
- Service area is Robinson Township and western suburbs.

## **Rebecca Hilbert, CPDT-KA, FDM, CCDT, MBA | 2 Legs 4 Paws LLC**

**[2legs4paws.com](http://2legs4paws.com) | 412.572.1815**

- In home private lessons of basic manners, leash reactivity, jumping, excessive barking, house training, shy/fearful dogs.
- Service Area – Allegheny County, Washington County (Washington, PA and points North) and Northern Panhandle of WV (Follansbee, WV and points North).

## **Maggie Zangara, LPC, CPDT-KA, Wags with Mags PGH, LLC**

**| 412-430-2431 | [maggie@wagswmags.com](mailto:maggie@wagswmags.com)**

- Dog Trainer and Licensed Professional Counselor — bringing clinical expertise to both dog training and therapy dog team coaching.
- Professional animal-assisted therapy working with your pet as a healing partner to reduce anxiety, depression, and other mental health challenges. For adults 18+.
- Specialized coaching for therapy dog teams: foundational training for certification, in-person or virtual consultations, and post-visit debriefs to process difficult and positive experiences.
- In-home and virtual training for puppies through adult dogs covering essential cues and manners.
- Dependable routine dog walks and drop-in visits tailored to your dog's needs.
- Service area is Pittsburgh and surrounding suburbs.

## **Debby McMullen, CDBC | Pawsitive Reactions, LLC | [pawsitivereactions.com](http://pawsitivereactions.com) | 412.766.7632**

- Aggression (human or dog), fear/anxiety, leash reactivity, multiple dog household conflicts/dynamics, puppy assistance.
- Service area is 2 hour radius from Pittsburgh central, travel fees apply outside of basic area.

### **DN-CET**

*Canine Enrichment Technician*

### **CDBC**

*Certified Dog Behavior Consultant*

### **CBCC-KA**

*Certified Behavior Consultant*

*Canine-Knowledge Assessed*

### **CPDT-KA**

*Certified Professional Dog*

*Trainer-Knowledge Assessed*

### **KPA CTP**

*Karen Pryor Academy Certified*

*Training Partner*

### **IAABC-ADT**

*Accredited Dog Trainer*

### **FDM**

*Family Dog Mediator*

### **CTC**

*Certified-in-Training and Counseling  
from the Academy for Dog Trainers*

### **EFFCP**

*Elite Fear-Free Certified Professional*

### **SA-PRO/CSAP-BC**

*Certified Separation Anxiety Professional*



**Carrie Brueckner, MSW, CPDT-KA | Professional Dog Training | [pghprofessionaldogtraining.weebly.com](http://pghprofessionaldogtraining.weebly.com) | 412.770.4287**

- Adult and puppy manners training, aggression, resource guarding and dog reactivity.
- Service area is Pittsburgh and suburbs.

**Beth McGonigal, CPDT-KA, CBCC-KA | North Pittsburgh Animal Behavior | [northpittsburghanimalbehavior.com](http://northpittsburghanimalbehavior.com) | 724.759.5555**

- In-home private lessons for reactivity, aggression and anxiety.
- Group manners classes for puppies, adults and advanced skills.
- Service area is north of Pittsburgh and at their Gibsonia training facility.

**Paula Shimko, KPA CTP | Paula's Dog Services | [paulasdogservices.com](http://paulasdogservices.com) | 412.818.2482**

- Basic adult and puppy manners training, fearful dog modification and dog-dog aggression solutions.
- Classes and consults at Finleyville facility.

**Lauren Shaffer, FDM, UW-AAB (University of Washington Applied Animal Behavior Certificate Program) | Choose Wisely Dog Training | [choosewiselydogtraining.com](http://choosewiselydogtraining.com) | [choosewiselytraining@gmail.com](mailto:choosewiselytraining@gmail.com)**

- Puppies, basic manners, reactivity and building resilience with your dog
- Service Area is Allegheny County, Beaver County, Washington and virtual

**Alexa Sharp-Wiley, CPDT-KA | Happy Feet Dog Training | [happyfeetdogtraining.com](http://happyfeetdogtraining.com) | 724-506-8230**

- In-home training specializing in basic manners, puppy training and building positive relationships through force-free methods
- Focusing on real-life skills including cooperative vet care, socialization, leash manners and helping fearful or anxious dogs thrive
- Service area is within one hour of Beaver, PA (additional areas available with travel fee)

**Brett Reynolds, CPDT-KA, Fear Free Animal Trainer | Dog Stop Academy Virtual Training | <https://tds.learnworlds.com/courses> | 855-635-3935 | [brett@thedogstop.com](mailto:brett@thedogstop.com)**

- Self guided online training courses
- Custom - tailored **VIRTUAL** training

**Rachel Crown, IAABC-ADT, EFFCP | [OhMyDarwinDogTraining@gmail.com](mailto:OhMyDarwinDogTraining@gmail.com)**

- Private in-home training specializing in shy and fearful dogs, cooperative veterinary care, basic obedience, manners, resource guarding and puppy training.
- Service area is South Park and surrounding areas within 30 minutes.

**Lilian Akin, CPDT-KA, CBCC-KA | Akin Family Dog Training | 412.977.7690**

- Specializing in aggression, resource guarding, separation anxiety, dog reactivity and puppy training.
- Licensed Family Paws instructor for child-dog consults.

**Michael Cunningham, CPDT-KA | Luis Rosa, CPDT-KA, CCBC | Two Dads Dog Training | [twodadsandadog.com](http://twodadsandadog.com)**

- In-Home training for puppies and adult dogs.
- Group classes and workshops for dog manners and scent work at North Park.
- Service area is Pittsburgh, northern and eastern suburbs.