## Maria João Martins

Psychologist
Degree at the University of Lisbon
Training in areas such as: Cognitive Psychology;
Clinical Social Psychology; Intelligence and Personality Diagnostic Techniques;
Organizational Behavior and Pathology; Family
Therapies and Psychotherapy Methodology. Working in psycho-sociological research

Animal-assisted therapy technician

## Alfredo Pereira

Animal Science Professor at The University of Évora

Specialization and Research area. Animal behaviour and animal welfare

Sheepdog trainer

## OUR BACKGROUND AREAS OF WORK AND TARGET-POPULATIONS:

## HERDING DOG TRAINING

- With: shepherds; veterinarians, agricultural entrepreneurs
- With students: professional agriculture courses; animal science; veterinary


## - ANIMAL-ASSISTED ACTIVITIES

- With: adolescents flagged by the school at risk of school failure; with psychological diagnoses such as: attention deficit disorder; challenging aggressive pattern of authority figures; depression; bipolar mood; conduct disorder; theft; self-mutilation; promiscuity; eating disorders; compulsive use of computers / cellphones; alcohol and drug abuse; family problems
- With prisoners serving prison terms


## - ANIMAL-ASSISTED THERAPY

- With people with special needs: cerebral palsy, autism, physical disabilities, etc


## «OBEDIENCE TRAINING COURSE FOR DOGS»

## AN INSTRUMENT FOR INCLUSION

## «OBEDIENCE TRAINING COURSE FOR DOGS»

Through structured activities using the dogs, the technician works with trainees several areas of self-development as a person and as a citizen

PERSONAL SKILLS

## Self-esteem

Self-confidence
Self-control management of frustration and anger

Motivation
Concentration
Feeling of security
Empathy

TRAINEE'S IMPROVE IN SEVERAL AREAS

SOCIAL SKILLS
Relationship between pairs

Use of appropriate social tools

Communication


Boundaries and borders

Physical contact difficulty

Sense of responsibility


We use dogs selected from shelters.

The activity promotes their socialization and trains basic obedience, facilitating their future adoption.


People with special needs

inclusion of people with special needs in the agro-sylvo-pastoral sector

## «SHEEPDOG HANDLING AND TRAINING CLINICS»

## AN INSTRUMENT FOR INCLUSION

## «SHEEPDOG HANDLING AND TRAINING CLINICS»

Through structured activities using the dogs, the technician works key-areas to improve trainees' success in the farm work


TRAINEES ACOUIRE ADVANTAGEOUS TOOLS IN AGRO-SYLVO-PASTORAL SECTOR



## How would we implement these activities:


«SHEEPDOG HANDLING AND TRAINING CLINICS»

## «OBEDIENCE TRAINING

 COURSE FOR DOGS»Workshops may be addressed either to trainers or to trainees, depending on the priority decided by the work group

- to trainers - they will learn with us in practice how to implement these activities in their territories with their trainees
- to trainees - they will receive direct training during the workshops to further test training material and methodologies

Workshops will have daily sessions:

- Most of the sessions will be practical on the fields with the animals
- Some will be theorical - adapted do the group capacities

We can implement these activities in other countries.

# ANY QUESTIONS? 

Muito obrigada!

