

Who we serve

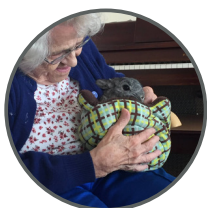
Nearly 80,000 people in Massachusetts reside in chronic care hospitals, special needs schools, psychiatric wards and residential treatment centers with limited or no access to the outside world. We bring seasonal natural materials and live animals into the four walls of the facility and offer nature's capacity to heal and teach. We serve a cross-section of our community from youth to elders.

At-risk youth



The Nature Connection serves a number of residential school programs whose children have experienced complex trauma in their young lives. Many have cognitive impairments and/or behavioral challenges and are often estranged from their homes or their families of origin. In such a setting, we create a safe and calming environment where transformations can happen.

Elders including individuals with dementia and Alzheimer's



As our population ages there is a vast need to support elders and those who care for individuals with memory impairment. The biggest challenge for memory care sites is meaningful engagement. Our programs for elders provide this much needed connection and are geared to trigger true engagement with the present and lively interaction with their peers.

People with disabilities



Visual and speech impairments are common among individuals we serve, as are severe physical disabilities. We work closely with caregivers in small group settings, emphasizing one-on-one interactions. Our client sites have found these interactions to be powerful motivators for residents working toward their occupational therapy and speech improvement goals.