

Montgomery County, MD - Veterans Network Directory

Service Animals

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This is a project of the Montgomery County Commission on Veterans Affairs. To submit an update, add or remove a listing, or request an alternative format, please contact: MCCVA@montgomerycountymd.gov, 240-777-1246 (V), MD Relay 711.

America's Vet Dogs

371 E. Jericho Turnpike
Smithtown, NY 11787-2976

1-866-838-3647 (Toll Free)

E-mail: info@vetdogs.org
www.vetdogs.org

Not-for-profit organization founded by the accredited Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind and serves the needs of Veterans and first responders. Provide guide dogs for veterans who are blind; service dogs for those with other physical or emotional disabilities; physical and occupational therapy dogs to work in military installations, military and VA medical centers, and VA nursing homes; and combat stress control dogs to be deployed in theater. All services are provided at no cost to veterans, and our funding comes from the generous contributions of individuals, corporations, foundations, businesses, and service and fraternal clubs.

Companions for Heroes (C4H)

E-mail: information@companionsforheroes.org
www.companionsforheroes.org

1-800-592-1194 (Toll Free)

Provides companion animals, skilled companion dogs, and service dogs obtained from shelters and/or rescues, who might otherwise be euthanized, free of charge to active duty military personnel, military Veterans, first-responders, military spouses and children, and Gold Star Families recovering from the psychological challenges they suffered during service to our country. C4H increases public awareness of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI) and other challenges confronting our country's heroes; and rally's support for animal welfare and the adoption of shelter and/or rescue animals.

Fidos for Freedom

1200 Sandy Spring Road
Laurel, MD 20707

301-490-4005 (V)

E-mail: outreach@fidosforfreedom.org
www.fidosforfreedom.org

Trains service dogs, hearing dogs, and therapy dogs to increase the quality of life for people living in the Baltimore-Washington Metropolitan community.

Hero Dogs

P.O. Box 64
Brookeville, MD 20833-0064

1-888-570-8653 (Phone/Fax)

E-mail: hero@hero-dogs.org
www.hero-dogs.org

Improves the quality of life for our nation's heroes by raising, training, and placing service dogs and other highly skilled canines, free of charge with lifetime support of the partnerships.

K9s for Warriors

www.k9sforwarriors.org

Non-profit Veteran service organization providing highly skilled service dogs to post-9/11, disabled American heroes. Service dogs are provided at no cost. Three-week training program focused on mitigating the symptoms associated with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), and Military Sexual Trauma (MST). At this time, K9s for Warriors does not provide service dogs to individuals who are legally blind or hearing impaired. Training program is 21 days long and located in one of two residential training facilities in Florida. Warriors are provided housing and meals in addition to their daily training at no cost. Resources are available to assist with cost of travel to and from campus, if needed.

Maryland Veterans Service Animal Program and Fund – Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs

Dana Burl, Outreach Director

410-260-3842 (V)

E-mail: dana.burl@maryland.gov

<http://veterans.maryland.gov/maryland-veterans-service-animal-program-and-fund/>

Program educates Veterans and the community about Maryland-based service and support dog programs and the benefits such dogs may provide to Veterans living with a disability. The program also established the Maryland Veterans Service Animal Program Fund. Donations to the fund are disbursed by the Department to participating service animal programs to reimburse for costs associated with training and placing a service dog with a military Veteran.

Paws for Purple Hearts

E-mail: info@pawsforpurplehearts.org

707-238-5110 (V)

www.pawsforpurplehearts.org

Therapeutic intervention for our military servicemen and women through training service dogs. Service dogs are paired with Veterans who have sustained mobility challenges and trauma-related conditions such as PTSD and TBI. Service dogs and canine assisted therapeutic programs are provided at no charge.

Semper Fido

E-mail: info@semperfido.org

856-810-3923 (V)

www.semperfido.org

Non-profit organization that unites wounded Veterans suffering with PTSD and TBI with rescue dogs trained as service dogs. Training provided at no charge to the warrior and his dog.

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) - Guide and Service Dogs

www.prosthetics.va.gov/ServiceAndGuideDogs.asp

1-800-827-1000 (Toll Free)

Guide dogs are trained to lead the blind or vision impaired. Blind Veterans are assessed and trained for orientation and mobility. If a guide dog is preferred, information on how to contact guide dog schools is provided. Partnership with the guide dog is provided through non-VA affiliated guide dog schools. Blind Veterans with working dogs are provided veterinary care and equipment through VA Prosthetics and Sensory Aids. VA does not pay for boarding, grooming, food, or any other routine expense associated with owning a dog.

A **service dog** is a dog trained to do specific tasks for a person that he or she cannot do because of a disability. Service dogs can pick things up, guide a person with vision problems, or help someone who falls or loses balance easily. For example, a service dog can help a blind person walk down the street or get dangerous things out of the way when someone is having a seizure. Veterans approved for service dogs are referred to Assistance Dogs International-accredited agencies. There is no charge for the dog or the associated training. Veterans with working service dogs are provided veterinary care and equipment through VA Prosthetics and Sensory Aids. VA does not pay for boarding, grooming, food, or any other routine expense associated with owning a dog.

Veterans Moving Forward

www.vetsfwd.org

1-866-375-1209 (Toll Free)

Provide service dogs and canine therapy services to Veterans with physical and/or mental health challenges, at no cost to the veteran. Service dogs include comfort dogs, therapy dogs, facility dogs, assistance and service dogs.

Warrior Canine Connection

Rick Yount, Executive Director

301-260-1111 (V)

14934 Schaeffer Road

Boysds, MD 20841

E-mail: info@warriorcanineconnection.org

www.warriorcanineconnection.org

Train Golden and Labrador Retrievers to be partnered with disabled combat Veterans at no cost to the Veteran. Dogs are trained with wounded warriors who are participating in therapeutic service dog training programs. Utilizes a Mission Based Trauma Recovery model to help Warriors recovering from the stress of combat reconnect with their families, communities, and life.