Mission Statement
To improve the quality of life of people who are blind, visually impaired, or with other special needs.

Photos courtesy:
Connie Dolan, Rebecca Eden, Foglia Family Foundation, Georgia Department of Corrections, Guide Dog Foundation NCR Puppy Raising Group, Michelle Halada-Schmid, William Krol, Maspehit Lions Club, Andrew Rubenstein, Suncoast Puppy Raisers, Hallie Wells
Dear Friends,

Our dogs are truly amazing animals. From the very first moment guide dog and student meet, the two share an almost instantaneous love, and during their training, they form a bond that creates a new “whole” that is stronger than their individual parts. We are honored by the trust our students place in us.

We are always looking to improve our ability to help them achieve this bond. Communication is vital, and begins with our Consumer Services Office, even before an applicant is matched with a guide dog. It continues during class, when the growing bond is nurtured by a student’s instructor as the two learn to work together. And it is cultivated after graduation by our field staff who provide aftercare services.

During this fiscal year, we restructured our dog training and puppy programs to come under the oversight of our director of training. This will provide a direct connection that will strengthen our ability to put our puppies on the path to success as a guide or service dog.

We revamped some of our procedures and protocols to streamline the guide dog application process. However, we have also increased our expectations that students will be better prepared for class by providing lectures and materials for them to review before they travel to Smithtown to train with their new guide dog.

Thanks to new social media relationships with The Dodo and The Dogist, we have been able to reach thousands of individuals to teach them about guide and service dog puppies and the vital roles that lie ahead for them.

Thank you for helping to create the bonds that – in reality – allow someone who is blind or visually impaired to soar and live a life without boundaries.

Sincerely,

Don Dea
Chair of the Board

Wells B. Jones
Chief Executive Officer

A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more than you love yourself.
— Josh Billings

A note from Wells Jones

As fiscal 2017 drew to a close, I announced that I would be retiring as CEO of the Guide Dog Foundation and America’s VetDogs in 2018. It has been my great good fortune to have headed such wonderful organizations over the span of nearly three decades. Even after all this time, I am inspired each time I see the progression a student makes during class, from those tentative first steps to a confident stride that allows them to engage the world on their terms, and I am grateful for the support our donors and volunteers have shown. Although I am sad to be leaving, I am looking forward to my next chapter and opportunities.
Program Accomplishments

Student Relations and Graduate Services

During fiscal 2017, we took steps to streamline the application process for our guide dog applicants and students. Prospective students can now go online to apply directly, and our Consumer Services team will follow up when we need additional information to process their application.

Once accepted, every guide dog student receives our training program class lectures on thumb drives. The lectures, available in both audio and text versions, are also available on our website and act as a resource for graduates who need refreshers on obedience or training. We request that students review the lectures before their class date so they are fully prepared when they arrive.

As a part of our program and the support we offer, our graduates are entitled to a lifetime of aftercare once they have gone home with their guide dog. Previously, aftercare was provided by a student’s instructor from class. Now, once a graduate has returned home, a field service representative will be their main contact if they have any questions or further training needs. As with our on-campus training staff, our field reps are committed to providing quality follow-up services to our graduates for the entire working life of the guide or service dog team. Each field rep covers a territory within the United States and Canada and is responsible for handling aftercare concerns of all graduates in their territory.

To better provide this service and support, we implemented a two-week post-graduation call. During this call, our field service representatives introduce themselves and discuss the services they provide to graduates in their home communities. The post-graduation call will also improve our data collection and provide valuable feedback that we can use to improve our programs as needed.

In addition, we continued our “Touch Point” quarterly calls to accepted applicants, which keep them up to date on the status of their applications. The Consumer Services Office also makes monthly calls to graduates to check in with them. In the next fiscal year, we are planning to start a regular podcast and email blast for all graduates.
Consumer Relations Coordinator Jenine Stanley served on the Department of Transportation’s Advisory Committee on Accessible Air Transportation (ACCESS), which was established to help develop rules for accommodations for airline passengers with disabilities. There were three areas the committee needed to address. Although agreement was reached on two of them, the committee could not reach a compromise on the third – amending the definition of “service” animal to determine when these animals could ride in airplane cabins.

We have since played a role in crafting a potential solution that is currently being considered by the DOT.

We continued to work with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to review ongoing construction of post-security relief areas at LaGuardia Airport. Karen Greis, manager of our Consumer Services Office, met with FAA compliance attorneys to review the pre- and post-security service animal relief areas at LaGuardia Airport’s Terminals A, B, C, and D.

We also participated in three hands-on training sessions with representatives from the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to teach them how to screen passengers with service animals, and we provided information on screening techniques and people with disabilities. The training used actual guide and service dogs, ensuring that TSA officers learned how to recognize service animals, the types of gear or equipment they might use, and how to screen them efficiently and effectively.

We strive to take a leading role in the development of assistive technology that can be used by people with disabilities. We initiated a trial with Aira, an assistive technology company that has developed “smart glasses” using Google Glass technology. With a small video camera mounted on the frames and an augmented reality dashboard for an Aira agent, these glasses allow blind users to connect in real-time with agents, who then act as visual “interpreters” to describe the users’ environments, enabling them to perform tasks such as shopping or sightseeing, or allowing them to navigate more easily.

Carolyn Giambalvo, a guide dog graduate who works in our Consumer Services Office, tested the glasses to determine the technology’s usefulness. She reported that she had a positive experience, and that the glasses and agent were helpful during the workday to read documents or resolve computer issues, navigate through a mall, or read instructions.
Planned giving allows donors to make charitable gifts to the Guide Dog Foundation through a will, bequest, or trust. In fiscal 2017, the Stelter Co., which provides materials for our planned giving program, updated the planned giving website it hosts for us. Using our templates to match the look of our existing websites, Stelter redesigned the site to be more user friendly and informative for donors looking to make estate and tax plans. Donors can visit PlannedGiving.GuideDog.org for information on the different types of gifts they can make to support the Guide Dog Foundation and its mission.

The total number of active estate files remained relatively consistent with prior periods. We routinely follow up on estate files and continue to focus efforts in this area. For fiscal 2017, planned giving revenues exceeded the budget by 36 percent. Planned giving revenues are difficult to predict. We base the budget on a rolling five-year historical average.

The major Guide Dog Foundation fundraising event is the annual “Stroll &” series. In past fiscal years, we combined our annual bike-a-thon with a dog walk to create the Stroll & Roll, which was held at Hidden Pond Park in Hauppauge, New York. For fiscal 2017, the bike-a-thon became a community fundraising event hosted by the Suffolk Bicycle Riders Association, so we decided to try something new. Partnering with The Rinx, a recreational center located in Hidden Pond Park, the second part of the “Stroll” was “Skate,” in which participants could skate on the ice rink either that day or a later date.

The dual event netted more than $35,000, with about 140 individuals participating. For fiscal 2018, we’re considering “out of the box” ideas for different types of fundraisers.
Community fundraising events – also known as “third-party” fundraisers – are an important source of funding for the Guide Dog Foundation. Events are hosted by community groups, service clubs, and dedicated individuals, and can range from a golf outing or dog walk to auctions to dinners or bake sales. We’re fortunate in that support for the Guide Dog Foundation is national in scope.

Graduate Jeff Kisecker enlisted the aid of his coworkers at Esurance to raise funds for the Guide Dog Foundation. With the help of the company, which matched employees’ personal donations, they raised enough to sponsor a puppy ($6,000) they named Otto.

Guide Dog Foundation volunteers Michelle Halada-Schmid and Connie Dolan hosted two “M&C Puppy Raising Adventures,” which were widely attended by many Foundation volunteers. Their most recent event, Petals for Paws, was held at Baiting Hollow Farm Vineyard and raised $7,000 (left).

Direct mail is one of our primary revenue generators. For fiscal 2017, mailings produced exceptionally strong outcomes, and our direct mail revenues surpassed our amended budget for this fiscal year. Both response rate and average gift were strong, and at fiscal year-end, we were seeing mail volumes that we normally see at calendar year-end.

We also introduced a recurring giving option on our website to encourage donors who want to support our efforts on a monthly or quarterly basis while easing their paperwork burden. At the end of the calendar year, we issue an acknowledgement of their total giving for the year for tax purposes. Donors are free to change their monthly giving at any time. To learn more about this, visit our website.

Our grant-writing activity has remained strong. We seek funding from various types of philanthropic organizations, including corporate foundations (which are the grant-making arms of companies), private or family foundations, or community foundations. We continue to develop new relationships with new funders and have high expectations for further growth.

The Knapp/Swezey Foundation is dissolving and gave their last gift of $15,000. During its lifetime, the foundation donated almost $200,000 to the Guide Dog Foundation. The Anne Cox Chambers Foundation gave us a grant of $10,000 for operating expenses; the foundation has sponsored six puppies since 2009. The Wasily Foundation has supported us since 2006.
Cause-related marketing (CRM) was first used by American Express during the restoration of the Statue of Liberty in the 1980s. In CRM campaigns, a business and a not-for-profit collaborate to raise money for the not-for-profit through product sales, point-of-purchase, or licensing. During this fiscal year, we developed CRM procedures for all companies interested in partnering with the Guide Dog Foundation; all requests for CRM campaigns require approval. These procedures will also allow for better reporting for the Better Business Bureau Charitable Accountability standards. We are working with several companies to develop CRM campaigns for fiscal 2018.

Workplace giving and the Combined Federal Campaign are ways donors can support the Guide Dog Foundation through payroll deductions. The CFC is open to all federal employees, including members of the military and postal employees. Advertising
and appearances at CFC events are the way we reach the largest number of people for this popular federal campaign. For this fiscal year, our participation in the CFC raised more than $95,000.

In December 2016, the Foundation hired a philanthropy officer. Claire Martinez comes to us with a strong nonprofit fundraising background that gives her the ability to build brand value and constituent engagement. Claire’s primary responsibility is to plot and identify priority market areas where we can target major gift outreach. This research will enhance our ability to cultivate new relationships with high-quality prospects and donors. We are also planning a campaign that will encompass updating our on-campus donor recognition wall and the launch of an online virtual donor wall.

**Dog Training and Puppy Program**

In fiscal 2017, we restructured our dog and puppy departments to provide better synergy between the programs. Brad Hibbard, our director of training, now oversees the puppy department. This direct connection between the training department and the puppy raising staff will enhance our ability to prepare our puppies to become assistance dogs.

April 2017 was a busy month for our instructors and puppy advisors. A new puppy advisor was brought on board, and the rest of our training staff – guide dog instructors, service dog instructors, and puppy advisors – attended the Karen Pryor Clicker Expo in Stamford, Connecticut. During the three-day seminar, trainers and puppy advisors attended lectures and hands-on workshops that focused on the latest thinking in positive reinforcement training.

We recognize the importance of communication among our staff members based at our Smithtown headquarters and our staff based in other states. To foster that communication, April also saw our first-ever service and guide dog puppy advisor meeting.

Our puppy advisors are located up and down the East Coast. They may oversee puppy raising groups that follow a guide dog training curriculum or manage weekend raisers in our prison puppy programs, in which puppies follow a service dog track.

During this four-day meeting, puppy advisors had the opportunity to discuss issues or concerns they face when working with puppies and their raisers. We focused on identifying these issues, how to perform any necessary intervention, and how to resolve problems. Advisors also worked with different pups and dogs throughout the meeting, which allowed for hands-on demonstrations and experience.

This ties in with our enhanced puppy training program called “Starting With Success,” which was instituted last fiscal year. We have been developing online resources such as video modules, slideshow presentations, audio lectures, and
learning assessment tools that are available to puppy raisers. These online tools offer a solid foundation for new puppy raisers and provide refresher training for experienced raisers.

We also added a dog-handling orientation for prospective puppy raisers. By providing potential puppy raisers with direct experience with young pups and in-for-training dogs, we can better evaluate their capabilities, which allows us to match the best puppy for their lifestyle. It also helps us maintain a personal connection with potential raisers throughout the process.

To better understand the needs of our applicants, we revamped our home interview procedures. We created a new video template for applicants to follow, which will help the instructor teams make better guide dog matches.

Additionally, as part of their responsibilities, field reps now visit applicants and potential students in their home communities to determine their needs for a guide or service dog and how we can best satisfy those requirements. We held a two-day training workshop for all of our field representatives to reinforce these new protocols.

Maintaining the health of the dogs in our breeding colony is of paramount importance to us. As part of our efforts to improve our breeding program, we retained Dr. Eldin Leighton, an internationally renowned canine geneticist who has more than 30 years’ experience in developing guide dog breeding strategies. Dr. Leighton visited our campus in July 2016 and met with key staff in our breeding and training departments to gain an understanding of our current practices, goals, and challenges.

We will work with Dr. Leighton to begin implementing a database called the International Working Dog Registry – which is specifically used for working dogs – for the dogs in our breeding colony. As we move to full participation in the registry, we will be able to develop statistics specifically for our dogs that will allow us to estimate genetic risks with far greater accuracy, with the goal of enhancing our efficiency in producing dogs that will become successful guide or service dogs.

In May 2017, we donated a female black Labrador Retriever to the Israel Guide Dog Center for the Blind, located in Tel Aviv, to continue her training. The following month, our puppy program manager Hallie Wells traveled to Israel with another dog to work with the training and puppy staffs. This is an example of our outreach with the international guide dog community.
At the end of the fiscal year, we welcomed Rivi Israel to our training team as our new guide dog program manager. Rivi joins the Foundation after a 10-year career as guide dog mobility instructor at The Seeing Eye and then as the director of training at Freedom Guide Dogs for the Blind. She was also instrumental in developing the puppy raising program at Rutgers University.

**Public Education**

While online and media exposure help to educate the public about guide and service dogs, an important component of this outreach is actually getting out in front of the public. We do this through a variety of speaking engagements, which range from workshops and tours held on our campus to public events.

During fiscal 2017, O&M instructors from the Brooklyn and Long Island offices of Helen Keller Services visited the Foundation campus for a lifestyle workshop where they learned about our programs and were given the opportunity to work with class-ready guide dogs, including blindfold walks. (In a blindfold walk, an individual is blindfolded and given the opportunity to walk with a guide dog around obstacles and stop at curbs. A guide dog instructor holds a safety leash attached to the dog’s collar to ensure no one gets hurt.)

We also visited several facilities of Helen Keller Services to strengthen our relationship and learn about each other’s programs. We are currently scheduling guide dog workshops and educational visits as we explore this strategic partnership.
Volunteer Services Manager Barrie Madasu and guide dog user Philip Scholz traveled to Cadman Plaza in Brooklyn to attend “Protecting One Another,” a pets and service animal preparedness event hosted by NYC Emergency Management.

Our attendance at disabilities awareness conventions also helps us reach potential new applicants and inform the public about our programs. Guide Dog Foundation staff members attended the conventions of the Blinded Veterans Association in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. As is our tradition, the Foundation also sponsored the President’s Dinner and provided an overview of our programs and services.

We also attended the national conventions of the American Council of the Blind in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and the National Federation of the Blind in Orlando, Florida, as well as regional conventions for the Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER): PennDel AER in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and the Northeast AER in Portland, Maine.

Every year, we participate in White Cane Day, held at the Northport VA Medical Center in Northport, New York.

White Cane Safety Day was first proclaimed by President Lyndon Johnson on October 15, 1964, to celebrate the achievements of people who are blind or visually impaired and honors the white cane as a symbol of independence.

The Consumer Services Office is actively involved in outreach and other activities. These can involve attending local technology or disabilities fairs, making presentations to companies on Long Island, or providing tours for prospective students and visitors from other countries.

Our Talk and Tour program remains one of the most popular ways we perform educational outreach. From July 1, 2016, to June 30, 2017, we hosted 675 guests at 47 talk and tours. During a talk and tour, volunteer docents show a presentation, hold a question-and-answer session, and take attendees on a tour of our campus.

We participated in 116 speaking engagements off-campus, reaching thousands of individuals. We frequently provide volunteers to staff tables at street fairs, send representatives to speak in front of school groups, or appear at community fundraisers.

Although our media appearances promote the Guide Dog Foundation, they also serve as a way for us to educate the public on the importance of assistance dogs and the vital services they provide for people with disabilities.
The opportunities for public exposure have increased tremendously with the growth of social media. At the end of the fiscal year, more than 25,000 people followed the Guide Dog Foundation on Facebook, 2700-plus on Twitter, and 6200 on Instagram. Images and training videos are posted throughout the day.

We began working with The Dodo, an online platform with more than 12 million followers, that features inspirational animal-related stories and videos. The Dodo highlighted future guide dog puppy Smudge in a series of live and pre-recorded videos on their Facebook page that showcased her early development, obedience, and socialization training. Smudge has starred in more than 12 videos that have been seen more than 2 million times.

We have also worked with The Dogist, a New York City-based photographer named Elias Weiss Friedman who documents the lives of dogs in Manhattan. We reached out to Elias, asking if he would be interested in featuring us. He has shared photos of Smudge and Charlie (the TODAY “puppy with a purpose”) on his Instagram account, which has more than 2.9 million followers.

Our prison puppy program at the Burruss Correctional Training Center in Forsyth, Georgia, was the subject of a positive story in local Georgia media. Puppies in this prison program follow a guide dog training curriculum. Inmates also participate in vocational training in animal-oriented fields, which will help them get jobs after their release from prison.

Stories about the Foundation, our programs, our puppies, and our graduates have appeared in everything from local college newspapers and websites to podcasts to national broadcasts. We utilize every opportunity to promote our programs and expertise in serving people with disabilities.
Major Donors

The following individuals, foundations, and corporations have made gifts of $10,000 or more to the Guide Dog Foundation during the fiscal year 2017. We are grateful for their support of our mission to serve people with disabilities.

Allen E. & Patricia M. Murray Foundation
Anne Cox Chambers Foundation, Inc.
Anonymous
Anonymous
Bannerot-Lappe Foundation
Ms. Lee Bates
Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Binegar
Ms. Sandra Bronte
The Community Foundation of South Alabama's Helen A. Young Charitable Fund
Daedalus Foundation Inc.
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas J. D'Amato
David & Marilyn Callahan
Charitable Remainder Unitrust
Dearie Family Charitable Trust
Delta Gamma Foundation
Edrington
Edward C. Fogg, Ill & Lisbeth A. Fogg Charitable Trust
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
Foglia Family Foundation
Randy & Pam Foster
Frank J. Antun Foundation
Clare Gustafson
Hampton Bays Lions Club
Hamptons Invitational Charitable Fund, Inc.
The Harvey S. Lowe, Jr., Revocable Trust
Honda City Levittown
Ina Kay Foundation
Irving I. Moskowitz Foundation
James J. Colt Foundation
Joan T. and A. Lovell Elliott Fund
Keith & Mary Kay McCaw Family Foundation
Joan M. Klein
Knapp/Swezey Foundation, Inc.
Ladenburg Family Trust
Diann & Howard Last
Lavin Family Foundation
Lawrence M. Bongiovanni Trust
Barbara Siminerio
Mattituck Lions Club
Milton G. Hulme Charitable Foundation
Mineola Lions Club
New York Community Trust
The Omer Foundation
Patchogue Lioness-Lions Club
PETCO Foundation
Alcides Pomina
Schwab Fund for Charitable Giving
Cory & Ellen Sibley
Ms. Astrid Spina
Steele Foundation
Howard Stern
Truist - Frontstream
Wasily Family Foundation
Mr. & Mrs. Gary C. Wendt
Donald Will

The Guide Dog Foundation has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the names on this list.

The following individuals remembered the Guide Dog Foundation in their wills or made bequests to support the Foundation. These gifts ensure people with disabilities will have the opportunity to live without boundaries, thanks to the assistance dogs at their sides.

Estate of Hilda P. Barbour
Estate of John and Marilyn Barnett
Estate of Alice Bartner
Estate of Elsie O. Behrends
Estate of James D. Bottorff
Estate of Howard Cobry
Estate of Franklin Cole
Estate of John C. Dunphy
Estate of Eleanor E. Edwards
Estate of Eunice Healey Freezer
Estate of Blanche S. Goldstein
Estate of Bernice I. Grossteiner
Estate of Joan M. Hogan
Estate of Carolyn Hornbeck
Estate of Florida W. Johnston
Estate of Althea Louis Kelley
Estate of Barbara Anne Kinkel
Estate of Rebecca L. Knox
Estate of Virginia Lainen
Estate of Mary Michelle LeCronier
Estate of Robin Ann Masters
Estate of Sema Merjianian
Estate of Paula Nagy-Sommers
Estate of Mark Alan Nichols
Estate of William Haskell Phillips
Estate of Dorothy K. Poitrimol
Estate of Gertrude Raumann
Estate of Margaret Virginia Reider
Estate of Hyman Rosenthal
Estate of Mathys Harry Sallevelt
Jeffrey Crouch has had to deal with vision loss his entire life: He was born with retinopathy of prematurity, a disease that occurs in premature babies and can cause blindness. However, this has not deterred this determined young man from his goals.

Jeff was 15 years old when he first began to think about getting a guide dog. He is a proficient cane user, but he wanted the greater independence that comes from having a guide dog. “I saw the advantages and disadvantages of using a cane and a guide dog, and carefully weighed the pros and cons,” he says.

Although he applied to the Guide Dog Foundation when he was 16, we were unable to serve him then. “Being the typical 16-year-old,” he says, “I wanted it now, like any 16-year-old wants their first car,” so he went to another school for his first guide dog.

However, when that dog didn’t work out, Jeff re-applied to the Foundation. “In my personal opinion,” he says, “I think the Guide Dog Foundation is one of the best schools in the country because of the quality of training you do with these dogs.”

Jeff attends college and is working toward his bachelor’s degree in psychology, with a goal of earning his PhD and becoming a forensic psychologist.

He also volunteers as a disaster service volunteer with his local chapter of the American Red Cross. “I firmly believe in volunteering in my community,” he says. “I push young people to get involved whether they’re sighted or blind. It’s so important in today’s society.”

During the Flint, Michigan, water crisis, Jeff was deployed to the disaster area for 72 days to set up the communications systems that would help the Red Cross workers do their jobs.

Now that he has his guide dog, “I feel I have greater independence with a dog,” he says. “I can travel more efficiently getting from point A to point B when I’m walking.”
Dog Sponsors

The Guide Dog Foundation would like to thank the following individuals, families, corporations, foundations, and service clubs for their generosity in sponsoring future guide or service dogs.

Major F.C. Alke, USMC (Ret) & Rosalyn Alke & Laura Duchness
Allen E. & Patricia M. Murray Foundation Allen
Allen E. & Patricia M. Murray Foundation Magnum
Allen E. & Patricia M. Murray Foundation Mickey
Allen E. & Patricia M. Murray Foundation Patsy
Allen E. & Patricia M. Murray Foundation Tracker
Anchorage Alaska Rotary Club Pilot
Anna Smith Strong Chapter, NSDAR Anna
Arch Insurance Group Bushi
Arch Insurance Group Izzy
Babylon Lions Club Gasper
Mr. & Mrs. Manuel H. Barron Lizzie
Ms. Lee Bates Heidi
Ms. Lee Bates Spooky
Dr. & Mrs. Carter M. Becker Nala
Todd & Peggy Blocker Raleigh
Ms. Sandra Bronte Aramis
Bridgehampton Lions Club Howard
Bridgehampton Lions Club Ray
Brookhaven Great South Bay Lions Club Daisy
Capital One Bank Amanda Jane
Coldwell Banker Coldwell
Ms. Charlotte M. Cook Jackie
East End Lions Club Shadow
Estate of Robin Ann Masters Carol
Estate of Robin Ann Masters Robin
Esurance Otto
Mr. and Mrs. Al Fortunato Orwell
Martin Franken Missy
Martin Frankin Ralph
Gold Coast Lions Club of Sea Cliff Carolina
Hampton Bays Lions Club Clancy
Hampton Bays Lions Club Louise
Hildenbrand Family Foundation Skye
Honda City Levittown Liberty
Honda City Levittown Jack
Honda City Levittown Turbo
Jacksonville Marine Corps 1/2 Marathon & Freedom SK Sara
James and Carole Burns Fund Molly
James and Carole Burns Fund Sandy
James and Carole Burns Fund Riley
James and Carole Burns Fund Rusty
Stewart and Nancy Gittelman Murphy
Global Infrastructure Partners Gipper
Dr. & Mrs. Thomas Harrington Talia
Carol Hobbs Helen
Mr. Jim R. Ion Dex
Joan M. Klein Denny
Joan M. Klein Tommy
Joan M. Klein Sammy
Knights of Columbus #3476, Memorare Council Valentine
Knights of Columbus #3476, Memorare Council Willie
Knights of Columbus #6911 Bill
Diann & Howard Last Dorothy
Diann & Howard Last Kent
Lawrence M. Bongiovanni Trust Antonio
Lioness Club of the Hamptons Bailey
Lockheed Martin Martin
Long Beach Knight’s of Columbus Msgr. Council #2626 The Knights’ Pub Knight
Long Beach Lions Club Atlas
Ms. Carol Marshall Carol
Massapequa Park Lions Club Grail
Mattituck Leo Club Leo
Mattituck Lions Club Chichy
Mattituck Lions Club Totty
Max B. Cohn Family Foundation Sonny
Ms. Bridget McElroy Maiatuk
Mid Atlantic Retina Taz
Mineola Lions Club Cheese
Mineola Lions Club Senator
Montauk Point Lions Club Perry
Morgan Stanley Wealth Management PAL
The Morrissey Family Raja
Mount Sinai High School Jax
Swanee Nardandrea Driggers
Swanee Nardandrea Janie K.
Swanee Nardandrea Sami
New Hyde Park North Lions Club Lady Dee
Northport Centerport Lions Club Clinton
Mr. Robert Oechsner Tiller
Mr. & Mrs. Michael J. O’Neill Pat
Ms. Mary Ann Partrick Suzie
Patchogue Lioness-Lions Club Jonsey
Patchogue Lioness-Lions Club Luna
Patchogue Lions Club Babs
Donald H. Piser Harry
Port Jefferson Lions Club Kito
Ms. Yvetta Rechner-Newman Moosette
James & Cheryl Reese Captain
Jack J. Sage Jack
Dona Sauerburger Dona
Ms. Emily F. Schabacker Little Moose
Townwide Fund of Huntington, Inc. Grant
Dr. & Mrs. John R. Scranton Sully
Cory & Ellen Sibley Brooklyn
Cory & Ellen Sibley Tricia
The Spano Family Sal
Graduate Profile

Megan Dausch

As a native Long Islander, Megan always knew of the Guide Dog Foundation. In her case, it was of particular significance: Megan was born blind due to retinopathy of prematurity.

Growing up and throughout high school and college, she didn’t feel the need for a guide dog. “I went to a really small college,” she says, “and I felt pretty comfortable using a cane.”

However, when she decided to continue her education and attend graduate school in New York City, she told herself it would be a good time to get a dog.

Megan was already aware of the Guide Dog Foundation, but in addition, she says, “I did a lot of research,” she says, “and it just seemed like a really good choice for me.”

In 2008, she was matched with Buddy, a yellow Labrador Retriever. They were a team for nine years. “Together, we’ve tackled New York City, internships and jobs, explored new places, and befriended new people,” she says.

Buddy was by her side when Megan taught freshman English at a community college, and walked her down the aisle with her father when she got married. The dog “helped me develop confidence to explore and try new things,” she says.

Today, Megan works at the Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults, where she teaches adaptive technology. Buddy, she says, not only generated interest in what guide dogs do, but he was “a great comfort to those” who were away from their own dogs.

“Buddy has given tirelessly and selflessly over the years,” she says, and in 2017, she made the difficult decision to give Buddy a well-deserved retirement. She returned to the Guide Dog Foundation to train with a new guide dog.

“A guide dog has given me so much more independence, freedom,” she says. “I travel so much more smoothly with a dog. I feel so much more comfortable and confident with a dog; it’s made a big difference in my life.”

Ms. Astrid Spina
Ms. Astrid Spina
Mr. Robert Stratford
Suncoast Puppy Raisers
The Surig Family
Christian and Jeanette Tully

Diana
Thor
Bob
Sunny
Jessie
Lando

Janis and Joseph Vario
Mr. & Mrs. Monroe Weiss
Mr. & Mrs. Gary C. Wendt
Mr. & Mrs. Gary C. Wendt
Mr. & Mrs. Gary C. Wendt

Joanna
Higgins
Max
Nicky

The Guide Dog Foundation has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the names on this list.
Puppy Raisers

The Guide Dog Foundation would like to thank the following individuals and families for opening their homes and their hearts to help raise the assistance dog puppies that were born during the fiscal year July 1, 2016, to June 30, 2017.

Yvette Aguiar Fey | Aly Casey Sequoia
Barbara & Richard Aigen Pomarod | Tiffany Cash Irina
Dawn Allen April | Jennifer & Buzz Castner Suzanne
Madison Alvey Padme | Meghan Chan Leo
Rachel Anders Lizzie | Kathy Chase Jax
Barbara Argenzio Morty | Karen & Paul Churchill Babs
Maria Aristizabal Ray | Ruth Cipko Fritzy
Danielle Arnold Paz | Dolores Clarke Fig
Katherine Arp Nicky | Jayne Cleveland Apple
Mitzi Assing Coraline | Lauren Cobb Charlie
Corey Atkeison June | Pamela Cobb Harry
Julie Bacso Barbie | Angela Cockerham Spooky
Karen & Jeffrey Baker Darwin | Ruth-Ann Collins Sully
Denise Balezos Jackpot | Katie Corbett Boz
Janice Barnikel Turbo | Sara Cork Calvin
Molly Barr Mickey | Shannon Costello Nicky
Nancy Barringer Lades | Dianne Cown Kona
Michelle Beck Dona | James Craggs Hedwig
Gisele Becker Perry | Caitlin Cusack Denali
Aditi Bellur Lupita | Melissa Danaceau Jareth
Andrea Beltran Dorothy | Theresa Dankenbrink Tally
Foriana Bi Clark | Ann Davin Magnum
Michaela Bird Patsy | Abigail Deese Denny
Robert Birken Bill | John Dellasala Barney
Angela Blau Martin | Hannah DeLoach Emily
Aiyanna Bonner Laser | Hannah DeLoach Amy
Leigh Boone Duchess | Gerald Demko Lilly
Ms. Kayla Bowers Jitney | Maria Diaz Fritzy
Cathayann Boyle Hedley | Francesca DiMaio Stonewall
Gail Bradford Murphy | Connie Dolan Lusey
Ryan Bray M.C. | Alexis Domínguez Connie
Stephen Bray M.C. | Alexis Domínguez Camden
Stephen Bray Jane | Susan Duff Barbara
Kristi Breedlove Muffin | Jen Durkin Jordy
Laura Brennan & Family Clancy | Brooke Edwards Sookie
Debra Brenner & David Olive Mo | Fay Eikenes Sandy
Hannah Bright Reba | The Eisenbeiser Family Tutty
Deb Brittain & James Blackwood JD | Jeff & Beth Elzemeyer Leo
Mrs. Debby Brock Bertha | Danielle Ephraim Rachel
Ms. Kelsey Brock Wylie | Debra Ephraim Rachel
Shelley Brodbeck Ranger | Gregg Ernst Allen
Bryan Brodzinski Liberty | The Esch Family Pal
Debbie Brown Jack | Robert Falcigilia Murray
Karen Brown Yule | Jake Falcone Jerry
Suzannah Brown Marie | John P. Falcone Jerry
Donna Bryan Eliza | Erin Farmer Beignet
Briana Buderus Rainey | Erin Farmer Willa
Caroline Buescher Tiller | Cynthia Fata Noelle “The Wonderful”
Ryan Buhrer Camellia | Christine Feeley Cappy
Janet Bukovec Java | James Fehtling Marley
Ms. Callahan Jax | Madison Fellows Wyatt
Olga Carries Ray | Marc & Nancy Feole Tracer
Marc & Nancy Feole Robin
Lauren Fitzpatrick Celeste
Tom Fitzpatrick Celeste
Diane Flanagan Parsnip
Lauren Folkerts Elara
Lauren Fowler Alba
Laurel Freedman Cecile
Winona Fuller Copper
Gabriela Gaines Mulan
Danielle Gallo Noelle “The Wonderful”
Danielle Gallo Fritzie
Carlos Fernando Gamboa Marcy
Dawn Garland Sage
Allison Garner Dharma
Giana Gaudelli Alfalfa
Barbara J. Gemmell Cory
Geri Geweniger Lilo
Cecelia Giangacomo Dharma
Katilyn Gilroy Coraline
Donovan Godbee Connie
Hannah Goodson Debbie
Connor Grady Marie
Jeanine Greco Sal
Ellen Greenspan Grant
Jennifer Griffin Solstice
Madison Grubs Thomas
Chloe Gusinde-Duffy Ollie
Cassandra Hackett Izzy
Gabriel Hadorn Miriam
Michelle Halada-Schmid Lusey
Sierra Hale Leonora
Kelsey Haley Rudy
Jasmine Hale Jasmine
Bonnie Hambly Presley
Paige Hamby Danny
Megan Haney Steve
James Hanlon Grant
Paula & Jim Harran Molly
Logan Harrell Watson
Melissa Harrington Thor
Aleen Hasselberger Topper
Janice Hastings Suzie
McKenna Henyon Mame
Marjorie Hernandez Eartha
Camilla Herndon Bryce
Leslie Herrera Tracer
Laurel Hiatt Murray
Shanda Hickman Memphis
Cindy Holden Ariel
Laurie & Tim Holland Wemberly
Catherine Hotsko Don
Christina Hotsko Don
Dawn Hoyle Copper
Connie Huang Mollie Jane
Krista & Dave Hughes Halsey
Sandy Hung Carol
Ashley Hunter Ray
Shannon Husselbeck Brie
Victoria Hutchinson Poppins
Barbara & Greg Ingargiola Aramis
Jessica & Christopher Ingham Frankie
Patricia Irzarry Kim
Patricia Itzla Tally
Rich Itzla Tally
Steven Itzla Tally
Kristin Jensen Kim
Brionna Johnson Halsey
Suzy & Andy Jampoler Kristin Jensen Kim
Antonio
Brionna Johnson Coretta
Hannah Johnson Hillary
Taylor Johnson Jesse
Eric Jorgensen Astrid
Mr. Ted Jung Sheila
Lauren Kantelis Tricia
Teresia & John Kay Pesto
Wendy & David Keighley Beignet
Puppy Raisers

Wendy & David Keighley
Patricia Kessler
Lori Kiernan
Karen Killen
Jacqueline Kim
Christianne King
Jim King
Carolin Kline
Diana Knight
The Kopp Family
Irene Kramer
Irene Kramer
Megan Krivsky
Shruti Kulkarni
Bridget Kviton
Holly Lambert
Holly Lambert
Frank Lanza
Dennis LaRock
Cassi & Jeff Lauffer
Pak-tung Le
Noreen Leahy
Katharine Lech
Amanda Lee
Kathy Lee
Savannah Lee
Alyssa Leo
Jessica Leonardi
Mary Lewis
Paige Lindsley
Elia Lopez-Bernardo
Alissa Luthart
Jennifer Lyons
La’Treall Maddox
Marsha & David Magnet
Dr. Rudy & Diana Maier
Christina Maile
Eleanor Makinen
Robert & Margaret Mansker
Patty Marino
Patty Marino
Robbin Marra
Susanne Marra
Illicia Martin

Mae
Jackie
Missy
Tommy
Sammy
Gracie
Apple
Mo
Gemma
Perry
Chloe
Kahlo
Shadow
Conley
Millie
Beignet
Rusty
Sue
Talia
Ray
Goose
Bob
Wizard
Barley
Buddy
Riley
Mo
Elvis
Lupita
April
Emily
Westley
Sylvia
Shadow
Nero
Muffin
Jemison
Shadow
Nero
Goose
Tricia
Joanna
Orwell
Joe

Allison Mauelshagen
Alyssa Mauelshagen
Mary McElroy
John McGinnis
Lisa Sweeney
Elizabeth Melnikoff
Rylee Mercer
Leslie Merkert
Rachel Metz
Helen Meyer
Jacqueline Michel
Maria Mikol
Maria Mikol
Anna Miller
Joan Miller
Kayla Miller
Michael & Jessica Minerva
Robert Monahan
Shari Morris
James Morrissey
Kim Mostupanick
Katie Mueller
Andrew Mullins
Christina Musser
Alan Muszak
Swannee Nardandrea
Eileen Newsome
Melanie Ng
Patrick Nicholson
Rachel Nolasco
Rebecca Nolasco
Bonnie Norjen
Sheridan Nulty
Kelli & Ryan O’Flaherty
Kay O’Grady
Linda Olander
Kathy O’Neill
Sharayah Owens
Cassidy Parker
Ashton Pearson
Emily Pepi
Leslie Perez
Colleen Perrotta
Laura Perrotta
John Phillips
Tony Pincus
Savannah Plumly
Olivia Poff
Hannah Porter
Jeff Potash
Margie Potash
Scott Powers
Emily Powers
LeeAnn Priller
Peter Prybyski
Sally Marshall Puposr
Sandra Qureshi
Sowmya Radhakrishnan
Julia Ragsdale

Lena
Bill
Maiauk
Athena
Jerry
Valentine
Brooklyn
Sal
Nelson
Alba
Billy
Ruth
Lane
Rosalyn
Sal
Charlie
Ebury
Stitch
Barkley
Lyons
Zion
Moana
Alice
Raleigh
Ralph
Driggers
Ivan
Mollie Jane
Jack
Janie K.
Janie K.
Ellie
Millie
Sonny
Wemberly
Aramis
Sassy
Wyatt
Mo
Mayella
Henry
Little Moose
Marianne
Marianne
Penny
Captain
Barley
Charlie
Millie
August
August
Maxwell
Rosalind
Carson
Murray
Tucci
Backster
Andy
Calpurnia
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<table>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Taylor</td>
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<td>Atlas</td>
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<td>Carly Thaw</td>
<td>Billie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donna Thompson</td>
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<td>Diane Thorp</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katelyn Trzcinski</td>
<td>Noelle &quot;The Wonderful&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Caroline</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christian &amp; Jeanette Tully</td>
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<td>Janie K.</td>
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<td>Sophia von Der Esch</td>
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<td>Cema Wallace</td>
<td>Aqua</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Wallace</td>
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<td>Yixuan Wang</td>
<td>Bobby</td>
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<td>Fiona &amp; Jeff Wass</td>
<td>Valentine</td>
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<td>Sharlene Murillo</td>
<td>Elva</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicollete Watkins</td>
<td>Cal</td>
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<td>Hannah Weeg</td>
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<td>Hedwig</td>
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<td>David &amp; Lisa Wible</td>
<td>Marcy</td>
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<td>Francine</td>
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<td>Jessica Wilson</td>
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<td>Madea Winsor</td>
<td>Mack</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. Shawn Woodward</td>
<td>Ranger</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christine Yoder</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christine Yoder</td>
<td>Grail</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarah Young</td>
<td>Hillary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarah &amp; Robert Zagaja</td>
<td>Buttercup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grace Zeitlin</td>
<td>Mack</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The Guide Dog Foundation has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the names on this list.*
Vision Program (Georgia Department of Corrections)

Weekend Puppy Raisers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Peter Adams</td>
<td>Claire</td>
<td>Pepper</td>
<td>Hobbes</td>
<td>Macy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paige Archer</td>
<td>Senator</td>
<td>Pepper</td>
<td>Hobbes</td>
<td>Macy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karen Dean</td>
<td>Tracy</td>
<td>McIntyre</td>
<td>Nana</td>
<td>Macy</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Shannon McCormick</td>
<td>Anne</td>
<td>Pye</td>
<td>Hobbes</td>
<td>Macy</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Laura</td>
<td>Sexton</td>
<td>Macy</td>
<td>Macy</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Laura</td>
<td>Sexton</td>
<td>Tiana</td>
<td>Tiana</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Guide Dog Foundation has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the names on this list.

Valued Veterinary Partners

The Valued Veterinary Partnership program is designed to acknowledge and thank the members of the veterinary practices who support our mission by providing superlative care for our puppies and working dogs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Veterinary Practice</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All Creatures Veterinary Hospital</td>
<td>Rockport, ME</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashfield Cheyne Veterinary Service</td>
<td>Norwood, MA</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cumberland Valley Veterinary Clinic</td>
<td>Hagerstown, MD</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Davis Animal Hospital</td>
<td>Pensacola, FL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer Park Animal Hospital</td>
<td>Deer Park, NY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Bay Veterinary Clinic</td>
<td>Merrick, NY</td>
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<tr>
<td>East Hampton Veterinary Group</td>
<td>East Hampton, NY</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Eastport Animal Hospital &amp; Wellness Center</td>
<td>East Moriches, NY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enfield Animal Hospital</td>
<td>Enfield, CT</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Hill Animal Hospital</td>
<td>Huntington, NY</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Franklin Veterinary Clinic</td>
<td>Franklin, MA</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>LaVale Veterinary Hospital</td>
<td>LaVale, MD</td>
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<td>Mid Island Animal Hospital</td>
<td>Hicksville, NY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-Atlantic Veterinary Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>New England Animal Medical Center Inc.</td>
<td>West Bridgewater, MA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pepperell Veterinary Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plainview Animal Hospital</td>
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<td>Pocomoke Animal Hospital, Inc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sayville Hospital for Animals</td>
<td>Sayville, NY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Whaleyville Animal Hospital</td>
<td>Whaleyville, MD</td>
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</table>

The Guide Dog Foundation has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the names on this list.
## Consolidated Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>6,022,181</td>
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<td>-</td>
<td>336,275</td>
<td>328,198</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Miscellaneous Income</td>
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<tr>
<td>Satisfaction of Restrictions</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Public Support &amp; Revenue</strong></td>
<td>15,652,969</td>
<td>(71,901)</td>
<td>15,581,068</td>
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### Expenses

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<td>992,867</td>
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<td><strong>Total Program Services</strong></td>
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<table>
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<td>Management &amp; General</td>
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<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>12,515,545</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>12,515,545</td>
<td>11,901,735</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Increase (decrease) in net assets before other additions

3,137,424 (71,901) 3,065,523 3,090,961

### Other additions (deductions)

| Realized Gain (Loss) on Investments | 19,802       | -                                  | 19,802                                 | 94,460                                |
| Unrealized Gain (Loss) on Investments | 357,998     | -                                  | 357,998                                | (278,038)                             |

### Change in Net Assets

3,475,620 (71,901) 3,403,719 2,907,383

### Net Assets, Beginning of Year

18,661,151 610,211 19,271,362 16,363,979

### Net Assets, End of Year

$22,136,771 $538,310 $22,675,081 $19,271,362

## Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>June 30, 2017</th>
<th>June 30, 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current Assets</td>
<td>$19,904,613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted Assets</td>
<td>436,033</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed Assets</td>
<td>6,500,332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>$26,840,978</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| **Liabilities** |               |               |
| Current Liabilities | $2,263,422 | $2,012,954   |
| Long-term Liabilities | 1,902,475 | 2,421,773    |
| **Total Liabilities** | 4,165,897 | 4,434,727    |

| **Net Assets** |               |               |
| Unrestricted   | 22,136,771    | 18,661,151    |
| Temporarily Restricted | 433,310  | 505,211       |
| Permanently Restricted | 105,000 | 105,000       |
| **Total Net Assets** | 22,675,081 | 19,271,362    |

| **Total Liabilities and Net Assets** | $26,840,978 | $23,706,089 |

Support Services Expenses as % of Public Support & Revenue, Realized Gains(Losses) and Bequests and Legacies 14.85%

The above data has been condensed from the consolidated financial statements as of June 30, 2017 audited by Cerini & Associates, LLP Certified Public Accountants of Bohemia, New York. The consolidated statements include the accounts of the Guide Dog Foundation and America’s VetDogs for the year ended June 30, 2017. In consolidation all material intercompany transactions have been eliminated. Copies of the audited statements including the accountant’s unqualified opinion dated September 13, 2017 are available from the Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind, Inc. upon request.
Our good work depends on friends like you.

The Guide Dog Foundation is tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, and thus charitable donations are deductible to the full extent allowed by law. If you wish to include the Guide Dog Foundation in your estate planning and leave a specific, fixed amount, or a percentage, please use the following language: “I give and bequeath (the sum of $ or %) to the Guide Dog Foundation for the Blind, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation chartered in New York, with its offices at 371 East Jericho Turnpike, Smithtown, New York 11787-2976.” We advise you to consult your attorney before writing or amending your will. For more information on how to make current and/or planned gifts to the Guide Dog Foundation, please contact our Development Department at (866) 282-8045.

To make your secure online donation, visit GuideDog.org/AnnualReport.

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