

VETERAN'S PUPPY FOR LIFE ORGANIZATION

IT'S ONLY
PUPPY LOVE!

**"HELPING TO HEAL WOUNDED SOULS...
ONE PUPPY AT A TIME!"**

FOURTH QUARTER EMAIL UPDATE

Veteran's Puppy for Life Organization is a registered Colorado
Charity in Good Standing and IRS 501(c)(3) Non-profit Organization





Meet Our Veteran Chad and Sakima

Chad is United States Marine Corps veteran of the Iraq War (2003). Chad's unit was one the first U.S. Marines' combat units in the invasion that pushed the invasion all the way to the Euphrates

River. Through the course of the combat action their supply line was broke. These Marines were forced to having to drink water out of the bacteria-infested Euphrates River. All eight Marines in his unit suffered serious and chronic intestinal issues due to drinking from this heavily polluted river. Two of these Marines have died from this same malady that plaques Chad daily in addition to his PTSD. Chad was our sixth veteran to receive a puppy, whom he named Sakima, a Native American term that means, "King".

"Sakima entered my life during a dark stage. I had lost my long time best friend, "Vegas", a pitbull puppy I found on the streets of Las Vegas. I was going through a divorce. I didn't even know if I wanted another dog, let alone a service dog.

Sakima has been the best thing. He is sweet, compassionate, and has literally been a savior to me in medical and mental times of need." -Chad

Sakima now alerts **before** Chad has a debilitating intestinal attack by immediately coming and nudging Chad's stomach. With a sense of smell 100,000 times better than a human's, Sakima is able to smell Chad's biological chemical changes that are brought about by his illness.

We are dedicated to insuring our training program for the puppies and veterans is the best possible. In October one of our directors will be attending (at his own expense) a Bond-Based training seminar with Canine Assistants, the nation's leader in compassionate service dog training. The bond between the veteran and puppy must be one of complete trust and compassion for each other.

hello! we would like to share with you!

Thank you! Because of you we, Veteran's Puppy for Life Organization (VPFL) , have seen greater support and number of veterans we are able to help. We are seeing veterans who through the day to day love and devotion of a little puppy are having their lives transformed.

Since it's inception by the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Chapter 1041 two and a half years ago then converting the concept to a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization over a year ago, ***we have been able to touch the lives of thirty-four veterans***. Of those, ***seven veterans completed service dog training and graduated last May with their puppy***. We have ***another group of eleven veterans and their puppies who are on track to graduate this coming October***.

We now have veterans and puppies training all the way ***from Ft. Collins to Colorado Springs***. Two months ago we placed our first two Colorado Springs puppies, Boaz and Scout, with deserving veterans.

what the heck is PTSD?

We veterans and even VPFL often assume that everyone knows and understands Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). CEO and Marine Corps Vietnam veteran Frank Griggs is creating a series of short videos to help others understand what it is like to live with PTSD. Watch our monthly newsletter for the video links.

we developed our own training program

creating a special bond between veteran and puppy is imperative

When we started our program we used commercial pet stores' training. The puppy and veteran would go through canine basic training and then would complete that stage of training by passing the AKC Canine Good Citizen (CGC) certification. Upon attaining the CGC certification the veteran and puppy would complete PTSD training.

Earlier this year we sought out three very capable canine trainers and a service dog trainer. Sitting down together and looking at the training needs for our specific goals, we structured a training program targeting the PTSD veteran and puppy's specific training needs. A comprehensive forty-week training plan was created encompassing two months of the veteran socializing the puppy to different people, places, environments, and animals. Once the socialization course is completed the veteran and puppy begin an eight module training program. Each training module is four weeks in length. It incorporates canine basic training, the AKC Canine Good Citizen certification, and PTSD training into each module. ***Our first group of veterans and puppies are now in the third training module of our new program!***



Corin, our Denver Trainer working with Kingsley.

Veteran purchased puppy, Gaia watches our Northern Colorado Trainer, Malachi.



We are very pleased with the results we are seeing so far.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, October 15th, 3:00 p.m. ~ Service Dog Graduation at 3:00p.m. in the Theater Room of Casa Bonita! ***Our next ten veterans will graduate their puppies as service dogs.***

Sunday, October 15th ~ Bueno Perro Charity Drive at Casa Bonita in Lakewood. Mexican food and ambiance, cliff diving, arcade, best sopapillas around...all day long fundraiser from **11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.** Bring the family to enjoy the day with us and our puppies!

Thursday, November 9th ~ Texas Hold 'Em Poker Tournament at Platte River Bar & Grill in Littleton, with a taco bar, SILENT auction, and cash prizes! 6:00 p.m. Registration ~ 7:00 p.m. Deal the Cards!

SAVE THE DATE!
DECEMBER 9TH ~ IT'S GOING TO BE BIG!



Zigi's Coffee Shop, Westminster Fundraiser
(Left to Right) Craig & Sam, Jason & Charlie, Frank & Bo, Corey & Jax, Denise & Deja, Scott & Maisy



Cripple Creek—A Salute to the American Veteran Rally
(Left to Right) Frank & Bo, Shane & Cadence, Denise & Deja



Cheyenne Frontier Days Parade 2017—Meet our Puppy Wranglers
(left to right) Savanna & Scout, Kaylee & Boaz, Denise & Deja

sponsors and benefactors, we need you!

Like every organization it does take funds in order to survive. Our goal is to give U.S. Armed Forces veterans living with PTSD part of their life before their trauma back. The empathy and compassion a dog has for its handler can move even the toughest and coldest heart. We purchase a puppy for the veteran, provide veterinary health care assistance for two years, and provide all of the training. We do not ask the veteran to cover any of these expenses. In most cases because of their PTSD, they wouldn't be able to cover it anyway. **We need sponsors and benefactors...Our expenses per veteran are upwards to \$4,000 (puppy-prices vary, veterinary care assistance, puppy gear, training expenses) for the two years they are in our program. We have no paid employees.**

We have several sponsorship levels. If you or someone you know could help us cover the expenses for the veterans, we would be able to continue the good work for as many of our veterans as possible.

BRONZE PAW DONOR - \$50

SILVER PAW DONOR - \$100

GOLD PAW DONOR - \$250

BRONZE LEVEL BENEFACTOR - \$500 (ONE YEAR VETERINARY CARE EXPENSES)

SILVER LEVEL BENEFACTOR - \$1,000 (ONE VETERAN'S TRAINING EXPENSES)

GOLD LEVEL BENEFACTOR- \$2500 (ONE PUPPY FOR A VETERAN LIVING WITH PTSD)

PLATINUM LEVEL BENEFACTOR - \$5000 (ONE MIRACLE)

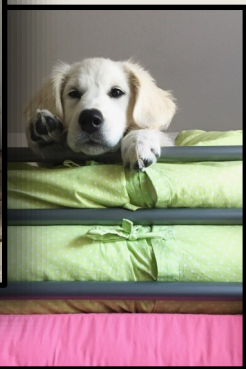
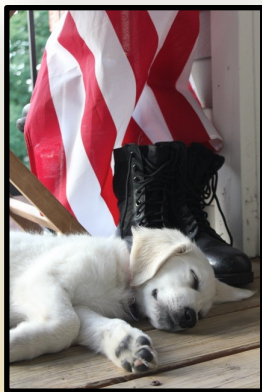
COMING SOON

PUPPY LOVE ~ MONTHLY DONOR - \$15.00 RECURRING MONTHLY DONATION

Your monthly recurring donation of \$15.00 is the same as three cappuccinos, but your donating that \$15.00 does much greater work helping our veterans living with PTSD.

DONATE HERE!
We Appreciate You!

meet VPFL's Darling "Deja" the New face and our Goodwill Ambassador



As VPFL's goodwill ambassador Deja will be travelling to special events where you can come and have your picture taken with her. Deja is also a full participant in our service dog in training program. Follow all of her adventures on our [Facebook](#) page!

DEJA

featured sponsor

This young lady's name is Isabel. She is eleven and will be in the sixth grade this year. Isabel wanted to raise money for Veteran's Puppy For Life Organization on her own! She created a thermal heating pack. She cut the materials, filled them with flax seed, and sewed them together. Set up her booth at a community event and took donations in return for one of her packs.

THANK YOU ISABEL for your selfless act and desire to help Veteran's Puppy for Life Organization's goal of "Helping to Heal Wounded Souls...One Puppy at a time!"



Do you have an idea for a fundraiser?
A special skill that you could use with
Veteran's Puppy for Life?

We would love to hear from you!

Contact Frank at info@vetpuppyforlife.org

Thank You! Without Your Support
We Wouldn't Be Able to Touch The Lives of
Veteran's Living Daily with PTSD!



"HELPING TO
HEAL WOUNDED
SOULS...
ONE PUPPY
AT A TIME!"

VETERAN'S PUPPY FOR LIFE ORGANIZATION
P.O. Box 21274, DENVER, CO 80221
INFO@VETPUPPYFORLIFE.ORG ~ 303-946-3321

WWW.VETPUPPYFORLIFE.ORG

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/VETPUPPY4LIFE



Belcaro Animal Hospital P.C.
Serving Denver Pets Since 1947

Proudly Sponsoring Our
Veterans by Providing
Veterinary Services

Service Dog Graduation
October 15th ~ 3:00 p.m.
[Details Here!](#)

THE VETERAN'S PUPPY FOR LIFE ORGANIZATION'S "GRADUATE SERVICE DOG TRAINING" CHALLENGE COIN WAS CREATED SPECIFICALLY FOR THE PROGRAM. IF A VETERAN IS CHALLENGED AS TO THE VALIDITY OF THEIR SERVICE DOG, HE OR SHE MAY HAVE DIFFICULTY COMMUNICATING WITHOUT TRIGGERING A PTSD EPISODE. UNDER ADA THERE ARE ONLY TWO QUESTIONS THAT MAY BE ASKED OF THE HANDLER. "IS YOUR DOG A SERVICE DOG?" AND "WHAT DOES YOUR DOG DO FOR YOU?" THE COIN ANSWERS BOTH QUESTIONS FOR THE VETERAN. IN ADDITION, THE VETERAN PUPPY FOR LIFE CHALLENGE COINS ARE SEQUENTIALLY NUMBERED AND ONLY PROVIDED TO THE VETERAN UPON SUCCESSFULLY GRADUATING OUR TRAINING PROGRAM.