We need volunteers to help raise our future 'Hero dogs' for Veterans with mental health difficulties.

When you join our puppy socialiser programme, you will help a puppy take the first steps to becoming an assistance dog.







01626 798030 info@veteranswithdogs.org.uk www.veteranswithdogs.org.uk

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Can You Help Me Become An Assistance Dog?





We are always looking for young families, couples, retirees, and single individuals who are able to devote the time, energy and love necessary to successfully socialise and train a VWD puppy.

Puppy socialisers play a vital role in the development of assistance dogs: they spend countless hours caring for, teaching, and socialising our pups in the real world in their own homes.

The puppy-raising experience requires a great deal of commitment, time, energy, and focus but we'll provide you with costs, puppy care and training.

You can help change the life of a Veteran

Puppy socialisers start with an eight-week-old puppy and foster the dog from anything up to 18 months until an appropriate client match is made.

These dogs are then 'placed' with their veteran and begin "school" for advanced training, with one of our expert trainers. Each of our pups are carefully selected from initial breeding, for health, temperament and their potential as future assistance dogs.

Once the puppies have left the litter, their needs change and they begin to learn to how to adapt in our world. Each puppy is unique and each set of experiences are unique too. The impact of the puppy socialisers' work throughout this phase is invaluable.

Meeting and greeting people in a friendly, calm and controlled way is all part of the training that our puppies need to learn. Assistance dogs need to be able to travel and adjust to new surroundings and people.

Taking a puppy to various locations and seeing different people and animals are part of the socialisation process that is so important for a future assistance dog. Our volunteer puppy socialisers are responsible for these early interactions and experiences, and whilst fun, is an extremely important part of the whole learning our puppies need to go through.

Can you open your heart and your home to help a puppy grow up to become a successful assistance dog?

For more information, fill out this form and return it to:

VETERANS WITH DOGS, or visit www.veteranswithdogs.org.uk or call us on 01626 798030



YES, I want to become a puppy raiser and help a puppy become an assistance dog!

Name: Address:

Email:

Phone:

Please answer the following questions. Is your family willing to devote time each day to the care and education of an assistance dog puppy?

Which one person will assume primary responsibility for the care of the puppy?

Is any family member allergic to, or afraid of, dogs?

Have you raised a puppy in the past?

Do you currently have any pets at home? If so, what kind?

Do you have a secure garden?

Are you over 18 years old?

Comments/Questions?