



November 2018

2018 Annual Report: Making a Difference



Putnam Service Dogs just finished our 2nd full fiscal year (Nov 1, 2017-October 31, 2018). It was a busy, productive year. Our highly trained and credentialed, experienced, and talented Head Trainer, Donna Gleason, joined us in January 2018. Emily Mosakowski, with a background in dog shelters, joined our training staff in April 2018, and quickly became indispensable. The trainers, both part-time, are our only paid employees.

In our first two years, Putnam Service Dogs has adopted 7 puppies to train as Service Dogs. Being a highly trained, effective Service Dog is a rare achievement for a dog. To graduate, our pups must grow into calm, hard working, focused, non-aggressive, and non-guarding dogs. It takes hours of training, loving, care, and socializing to create a service dog. We now have 4 dogs in training. We have now released 3 pups from our program, who have been happily adopted by their loving raisers.

Our oldest pup, Anna, in our February 2017 class began Formal Training in August 2018 at 16 months of age. Our trainers are working intensively with her to hone her obedience skills to a very high level. She has unfortunately developed a new sign of lack of confidence. Our trainers are working to help her get past this, if possible. If she continues in the program, she'll learn the specific skills she'd perform to assist her recipient as their Service Dog.



We started our second class (4 pups) of Puppies-in-Training February 2018 - 3 mixed breed pups, and a purebred Standard Poodle pup donated by her breeder. One pup from this class was just released - 1 of the 3 released from the 7 pups we've adopted in our first 2 years.

We currently have 13 people on our waiting list. We have budgeted for, and are planning 2 new classes of Puppies-in-Training (3-4 pups/class) in FY 2019.

Three new Board members joined our Board this year - Vince D'Ambroso, of Hudson Valley Credit Union, who brings strong Boards and financial experience and many community ties, Dave Bruen, recently retired from his esteemed Insurance firm, and Justin Kilian, our Board Treasurer, and Mahopac Trustco Bank Manager. We are blessed with Ingrid Sutherland, our Secretary, who produces impeccably accurate minutes. We will continue to strengthen and expand our Board in FY 2019.

We hosted two Major Events this year - Our 2nd Annual Golf Tournament at Centennial Golf Club in June 2018, and our 2nd Annual Day in the Park in September 2018 which was held on Green Chimneys' campus. We were thrilled by the corporate sponsorships and donations we received for these events, and the enthusiastic attendees. We had a table at the Carmel and Mahopac Street Fairs, the Ridgefield Shakespearean Festival and 2 Hudson Valley Renegades games. We appeared at Carmel Cinema in conjunction with the release of Dog Days movie.

We kicked off our Capital Campaign in November 2017 to purchase a site, and begin building our Training Center in phases. We currently have \$110,000 in our Capital Fund, and will mount another campaign this Fiscal year to augment that amount. We need a site of at least 10 acres in Putnam County. Our Training Center is a multi-million dollar building which we plan on building in stages, starting with the training areas.

Our growth, through your support, has been gratifying. We appreciate your selflessness, and generosity! Thank you for joining our cause!

[Learn More](#)

Our mission statement is: Our Service Dogs change the lives of our recipients and their families, adding love, joy, independence, and ease. We honor and promote the nurturing bond between humans and dogs.

We are a 501(c)3 nonprofit NY State nonprofit corporation. We provide free Service Dogs, and follow-up support training to people with physical disabilities other than blindness. We adopt carefully selected mixed breed puppies from Rescue Groups and train them to be our Service Dogs. Our puppies are raised, and trained, to ensure they'll trust and deeply bond to humans -

essential qualities of a Service Dog.

Putnam Service Dogs | info@putnamservicedogs.org | [Website](#)

Connect with us

