



PutnamServiceDogs
EST 2016

FY 2020 Annual Report

Nov. 1, 2019 - Oct. 31, 2020

BENJI and his recipient enjoy a beautiful fall day together at a Connecticut Farm Stand.

OUR MISSION

Our Service Dogs Change Lives.
We Champion the Nurturing Bond
Between Dogs and Humans.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

All of our Board are passionate about our mission, and huge Dog Lovers!

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Founder/CEO, Putnam Service Dogs

A Message

from Nancy Teague

CEO/FOUNDER

This is *what it's all about!*

Tears have come to my eyes this year numerous times over the successes of our placed dogs! You help us change lives - one dog at a time. A sincere, heartfelt thanks to you for your support this year!

What an eventful year - our 4th year! Despite COVID, and the economic uncertainty it has brought, your support of us is growing. We now receive applications for our service dogs every week. Our bare bones operation directs as many donations as possible towards training our dogs. We grew 30% this year, and have budgeted to grow 30% next year. We couldn't do what we do without your support!

COVID has impacted our operations. During the quarantine, our Head Trainer, Jeff Fritz, ran SKYPE sessions with our raisers to continue the training of our pups. Benji's placement with his recipient was delayed for 2 months because of the quarantine. COVID has also significantly impacted our ability to find the rare, very special dogs we need.

Dog adoptions in the US have increased a LOT since COVID hit. The number of dogs available in Rescue Organizations is way down. We began a small breeding program in September by adopting a St. Bernard female puppy. When she's grown, we'll breed her with male dog(s) that will bring desirable traits to the puppies. We will still continue to adopt mixed breed pups from Rescue Organizations. We need a growing supply of dogs to continue our growth.

You supported the events we held this year, followed us on Facebook and Instagram, and cheered us on with emails and cards. Thank you! Your support is crucial. You have brightened lives filled with darkness.



BENJI makes my heart sing!

Putnam Service Dogs adopted Benji from North Shore Animal League of America as a puppy, and he graduated from our program in January 2020. HERE'S HIS RECIPIENT'S STORY



Benji listening attentively to a boy reading to him at a library. Benji's love for people shines.



Putnam Service Dogs contacted me about my application during my last series of operations. They had a potential service dog match for me! I'd been in the hospital for a year and a half, and I was eager to come home, and to meet Benji! This had been a very dark period in my life. The first time I met Benji, he leaned into me – a Benji hug! Benji gave me his heart that day.

Placement of Benji was delayed because of an infection in my spine. The hardware in my back was removed and replaced with different materials. I was put on heavy duty antibiotics whose side effects caused me to lose my really long hair, and some of my hearing. Now I live with pain, as well as muscle and nerve loss. My mobility suffered. My hands can't do what they used to, and I drop things.

The COVID quarantine further delayed Benji's arrival. Finally, in June this year, I began living with this wonderful dog! Putnam Service Dogs' Head Trainer, Jeff Fritz, taught me how to build a very close bond with Benji, and how to work effectively with him as a team.

Benji has given me much more self confidence and independence. His focus on me, and his understanding of me, is exceptional. I am so much more at ease with Benji at my side, helping me to navigate. I am not alone, facing the fear of falling or stumbling, or freezing at an intersection. My mobility is improving in baby steps. When I drop my phone, Benji picks it up and gives it back to me.

Benji accompanied me to a family wedding. He wore the same tie as the wedding party. It was a church wedding. When we stood up during the ceremony, Benji stood up. When we sat down, Benji sat down. Benji was the hit of the wedding!

Benji is such a loving, good boy. When he is off task he is all hugs. Benji and I started a garden this year! He loved smelling everything I planted. He was so curious! This was one of his favorite pastimes, aside from belly rubs and doing zoomies in our yard. Who wouldn't love someone who meets you in the morning with a wagging tail? I call it his "happy tail". That's what he has made me. HAPPY. I'm blessed to have received him. After so much darkness, there's so much light.



We love starting each day with **BELLE**

Putnam Service Dogs adopted Belle, a golden retriever mix, from North Shore Animal League America when she was 2. We trained Belle for 1.5 years, and matched her with Maria.

HER STORY, TOLD BY MARIA'S HUSBAND AND CAREGIVER

The term unconditional love tells the story of the bond between a dog and human.

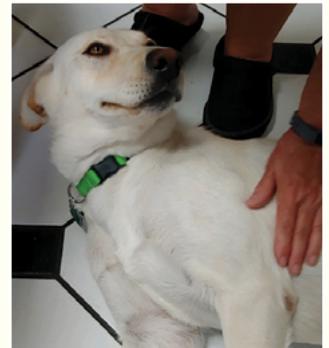
Belle entered Maria's life a short time ago. Maria is battling a cancer that has debilitated her motor functions and has created unprecedented anxiety and stressors. At their first meeting, when Belle entered our living room, she went over and laid her head on Maria's leg.

Belle has filled our home with a new ambience of positive energy, laughter, and calm. To wake up to Belle is so different than before! Belle distracts us from negativity, and has given Maria new found eagerness to do more, now that Belle is accompanying her.

We are beginning at-home training with Jeff Fritz, Putnam Service Dogs' Head Trainer. Maria and I will learn how to work with Belle as a service dog for Maria, and I will learn how to be Belle's handler.

In the evenings the TV goes on, and Belle finds her place in the living room by Maria's feet, or in her husband's arms. We go to sleep each night happy, after Belle has given us a doggy kiss, and laid in her bed next to us.

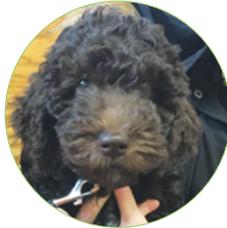
As our bond grows, the future is even brighter!



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

We currently have 7 dogs in training

BROOK



DANNY



CARY



DUKE



CALLIE



DAISY



CHARLIE



and 1 female to breed:

MOLLIE



Thank you
for supporting

OUR EVENTS THIS YEAR!

POCKETBOOK BINGO

(pre-COVID)

December 4, 2019

Four Brothers Restaurant,
Mahopac, NY



2nd Annual FUNMINSTER DOG SHOW

August 29, 2020
Patterson Rec. Center,
Patterson, NY



4th Annual GOLF TOURNAMENT

September 18, 2020
Putnam County Golf Course,
Mahopac, NY

FROM OUR DONORS

The donors' message to us inside this card:



"My sister and I are making this donation to your organization not just because we

love animals, but because you not only train animals to help handicapped people and you also rescue homeless dogs in doing so. We were impressed with this dual assistance you give. Thank you for the good work you do!"

E-mail from another donor:

"I'm making this donation to honor my little boy, Alf, who passed after giving me 14 years of love. May your kind work carry his spirit forward!"

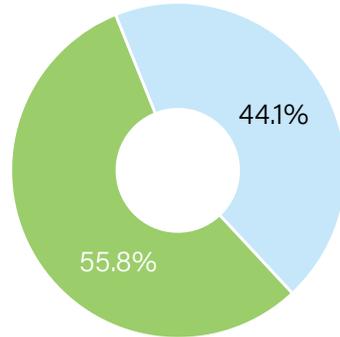
**Your support changes lives -
One dog at a time.**



Financials for FY20

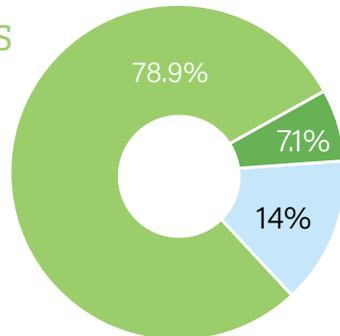
Unaudited
(Nov 1, 2019 - Oct 31, 2020)

revenue



Contributions, Events, & Interest	\$112,519
In-Kind Donations	\$ 89,078
Total Revenue	<u>\$201,597</u>

expenses



Program	\$ 178,978
Management & General	\$ 16,040
Fundraising & Events	\$ 31,842
Total Expenses	<u>\$226,860</u>

Total Assets	\$118,838
Liabilities	14,482

Net Assets	<u>\$104,356</u>
(\$11,576 Unrestricted, \$92,780 Restricted)	

We hope you will consider a gift to Putnam Service Dogs before year's end.



The U.S. CARES Act this year has established incentives*** to support your donating to us (a 501(c)3 organization):

1. A Taxpayer (single, or joint) can claim up to \$300 cash donations in additional deductions on top of the standard deduction.
2. If you itemize your deductions, you can now deduct 100% of your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) if you donate that amount as cash donations - up from 60%

*** Please consult your tax advisor on this.



BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR

Every donation helps us train our service dogs for those with physical disabilities, other than blindness. The more you give, the more dogs we can rescue and raise as service dogs.

If you have a Brokerage Charitable Giving Account, you can access it on our website
www.putnamservicedogs.org

To set up your monthly donation, please visit our DONATE page on our website.

We're a 501(c)3 Organization.

Please visit us at

WWW.PUTNAMSERVICEDOGS.ORG

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THANK YOU for your support!
Thank you for helping us
celebrate the wonder of dogs!