

Dogs, More Than Just Friends



Assistance Dogs

▶ Guide Dogs



▶ Hearing Dogs



▶ Service Dogs



Service Dogs



Mobility Dogs -
most mobility dogs
are taught to
retrieve dropped
items, retrieve a
telephone, do bank
transactions, open
doors, and other
specific tasks

Service Dog Categories

▶ Quad Dog

- Trained to work with someone with limited or no use of limbs
- Generally using a power wheelchair/scooter
- Dogs are taught retrieval skills, carrying items, turning on/off lights

▶ Para Dog

- Trained to work with someone with limited use of lower limbs
- Generally using a manual wheelchair
- Dogs are taught retrieval skills, how to pull a wheelchair including directional commands (left, right, slow, fast)



Service Dog Categories

▶ Walker Dog

- Trained to work with someone who is still ambulatory but may have balance issues
- Dogs are trained to walk directly next to the person and is used as a mobile handrail, to go up/down stairs one at a time





Training of a Carolina Canines Service Dog

- ▶ Numerous hours of training
- ▶ Well socialized in public settings
- ▶ Temperament and health have been continually evaluated
- ▶ Carolina Canines Service dogs know about 70 tasks
- ▶ Training takes from 1 to 3 years
- ▶ Service dogs with Carolina Canines are trained by
 - foster families who commit to raise the dogs in the home environment following strict guidelines for training and attending regular classes
 - working within the military prison system to train dogs for wounded warriors



Service Dogs Assist by

- Opening doors
- Pulling wheelchairs
- Retrieving dropped items
- Rising to high counters to assist with transactions
- Providing physical support for transfers
- Recovery from falls
- Assisting with household tasks such as laundry, bed making, household tasks
- Offering stability for walking, and of course
- Unconditional love and companionship



Carolina Canines for Service

- ▶ Primary Mission
 - Providing people with disabilities enhanced independence through the gift of a quality trained service dog
- ▶ Secondary Mission
 - Projects involved with humanitarian assistance to people and their animal companions



Carolina Canines for Service

- Founded in 1996 by Rick Hairston President/CEO
- Non-profit, 501 c 3
- Governed by a Board of Directors
- Three full time + one part time staff members including President/CEO
- Over 200+ volunteers
 - Volunteer hours logged each month averages 2500 hours
- Serve clients from Virginia to Florida, east of the Mississippi River



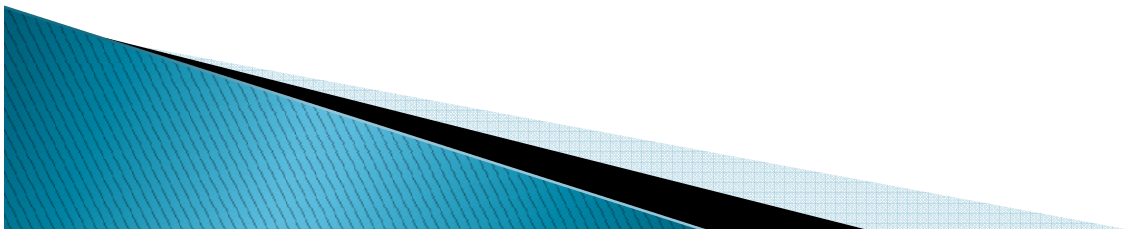
Carolina Canines for Service

- ▶ Placed 34 service dogs valued at over \$40,000 each
 - **Value of service dogs placed over \$1,360,000**
- ▶ Carolina Canines does not charge for a service dog at this time
 - There is an application procedure and compliance is essential for your needs to be evaluated



Important Points to Consider

- ▶ The ADA defines a service dog as one individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability
- ▶ There are many organizations that train service dogs, but the standards are not all the same



Important Points to Consider

- ▶ When evaluating an organization consider the following:
 - How long has the organization or person been training service dogs?
 - How old are the dogs when provided to a client?
 - How have the dogs temperaments and health been evaluated?
 - Are the dogs hips assessed by x-ray?
 - Can the dog handle the public settings or is it timid or fearful?
 - When training is done with a client is it provided in a group or individually?
 - Is follow-up training provided?



Important Points to Consider

- ▶ Dogs help people in more ways than being a companion
- ▶ Working dogs are highly skilled with many hours of training to help a person as a guide, hearing or service dog
- ▶ While a Service Dog can benefit many people with disabilities, not everyone can use a Service Dog
 - Each individual's disability must be evaluated as to whether a Service Dog is appropriate for the individual



