

We need volunteers to raise our specially bred pups for a most important role.

When you join our puppy raiser family, you will help a puppy take the first steps to becoming a guide or service dog.



Please help me become a guide or service dog...

**GuideDog Foundation**  
For The Blind, Inc.®

**AMERICA'S VET DOGS**  
THE VETERAN'S K-9 CORPS®

371 East Jericho Turnpike  
Smithtown, NY 11787

(866) 282-8046 • (631) 930-9060

Fax (631) 930-9062

[www.GuideDog.org](http://www.GuideDog.org)

[www.VetDogs.org](http://www.VetDogs.org)

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# Puppy Raiser Application

Puppy raiser families receive their “bundle of joy” when the pup is as young as 7 weeks old, and care for it until it is 12-18 months old. Puppy raisers provide the love and attention that will help the puppy grow to be a confident dog – a necessary quality for a successful guide or service dog. During this time,



puppy raisers have countless adventures socializing the pups and giving them much needed exposure to the “real” world. Fun outings can range from a trip to the bank, post office, local stores, or even the train station.

Puppy raisers supply the loving home and food for the puppy; the Guide Dog Foundation provides the expertise and training tools you’ll need to raise the puppy: our training protocols; obedience classes on our campus or at other locations, at no charge; free veterinary care; and free boarding at our campus kennel in New York if needed. Our team of puppy advisors is always available to answer questions and

offer support. If you live outside the metro New York area, you will work primarily with your local volunteer area coordinator.

You can change the life of someone with disabilities.

When your puppy is ready, it will return to the Foundation to begin its formal training.

Every dog is different and has different talents. The Guide Dog Foundation provides guide dogs for people who are blind or visually impaired, and through America’s VetDogs, our sister organization, guide and service dogs for disabled veterans.

As it works through the training process, a dog is continually evaluated to determine where it will best serve – and where it will make the biggest difference in the life of someone with a disability.

Some of our dogs have gone to the U.S. Army to be physical, occupational, or emotional therapy dogs, and we work with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and allied organizations to provide dogs to be trained as detector dogs.

After the dog successfully completes its training program, it is matched with a person with disabilities. You and your family will be invited to a special reception if the dog you raised is matched with a student who attended on-campus residence training. There you’ll get to meet the person who is now partnered with the dog you raised, and you’ll see for yourself what a tremendous difference your efforts have made. (We offer a variety of training options; some students will train in their home environment, so we’ll arrange for you to talk with the graduate.)

Won’t you open your heart and your home to help a puppy grow up to become a successful guide or service dog? For more information, fill out this form and return it to the Guide Dog Foundation, or visit [www.Puppy.GuideDog.org](http://www.Puppy.GuideDog.org) and fill out the online application, or call the Puppy Department at (866) 282-8046.

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone, Day \_\_\_\_\_

Phone, Night \_\_\_\_\_

*Please answer the following questions.*

1. Is your family willing to devote time each day to the care and education of an assistance dog puppy? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Which one person will assume primary responsibility for the care of the puppy? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Is any family member allergic to, or afraid of, dogs? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Have you raised a puppy in the past? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Do you currently have any pets at home? If so, what kind? \_\_\_\_\_
6. If you have a dog at home, how does it react to...  
Strangers \_\_\_\_\_  
Loud noises (such as firecrackers) \_\_\_\_\_  
Thunder \_\_\_\_\_  
Other animals \_\_\_\_\_
7. Do you have a fenced-in yard? If so, what height? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Is your family willing to absorb the cost of feeding a guide dog puppy our specified diet? (Food cost is estimated at \$40 per month.) \_\_\_\_\_
9. Are you over 18 years old? \_\_\_\_\_

*Comments/Questions?* \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this form to:

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