



How our program works

We are a 501(c)3
EIN #47-4272326

We are insured through Liberty Mutual Insurance

Our programs are run by **volunteer** professional service dog trainers and volunteer professional therapy dog trainers. None of our staff is paid. The fee goes back into the every day running of the facility expenses. This is a, "pay it forward" program. Basically, what paying it forward means is, someone has paid for your service dog, and now you are paying it forward to help someone else get a service dog.

Our inmates are hand picked by us and must pass an interview with two of our professional trainers, plus be referred by their supervisors at the prison. We have very strict guidelines for them to be accepted into the program, and most have been with us for over 4+ years. We specifically look for inmate long-termers or lifers, which cuts down on us having to re-train new people constantly. We also have very strict guidelines for our inmate trainers to stay in our program. We will not accept anyone with a history of abuse towards animals, women or children. Most of our guys commit white collar crimes (bad checks, etc.). Most of our Inmate trainers are Veterans.

Our program is set up to teach them how to be professional trainers when they enter the real world again. They will be able to get jobs as vet techs, groomers, kennel managers, dog trainers, service or therapy dog trainers, etc. Some of them have been with us long enough to earn a Professional Dog Trainers Certification and Professional Groomer Certification.

The guys live in a doggie dorm with 2 handlers assigned to your service dog. They work as a team. Whatever they are doing, the dog is doing. Wherever they go, the dog goes. If they are eating, the dog is on, "Go Place" learning to not beg for food and table manners with humans. The handlers are with the dog 24/7. The dogs are never unsupervised, even during doggie socialization time.

We have group classes daily, and then the rest of the day consist of one-on-one training with the dogs in real life situations. They get plenty of nap time, play time, socialization time and just be a dog time.

What is in it for the Inmate Dog Trainer's:

The inmate trainers volunteer their time towards community service hours earned towards their parole. They are highly motivated to do this right and be very good at it. Our signatures on their paperwork determines what happens on parole day. This means the training is free. We volunteer our time to supervise the programs. No one is paid for this. It is all volunteer. This saves you training money.

Our base fee for our training program for a service dog is \$5,500.00, and up

depending on what your task work needs are.

Where the fee goes:

This covers our operating cost, our vetting, our food bills, toys, treats, medical care (monthly wormer, heartguard, flea/tick protection), office supplies, janitorial supplies, grooming supplies, phone bills, transportation of dog(s) from prison to vet and to training center, water, sewage, electrical bills, rental facility for training you when you come, workbooks, and all operating expenses so we can continue to offer this program to others.

Good Faith Donation:

We require a, "Good Faith Deposit" of \$1,000.00 to start training your dog, or you can pay in full. This holds a spot for your dog in our training program.

Timeline to receive a service dog:

From the time we receive the puppy at 8 weeks of age, or older, until it is ready for you to come work with, we are looking at 8 weeks or longer (depending on how fast it progresses, and acclimates to our facility and program). It also depends on the task work training the dog will need to do, if it is a service dog. We try to schedule dogs to rotate in as we have graduates rotating out.

Photo's and Videos during training at the Program:

Unfortunately at this time we are unable to take photo's or video's at our prison programs. It is per orders of the Ky Governor. We have ask several times, offering to only take photo's of the dog's and let them review the photo's or video's before we leave. The answer is a consistent, "no".

Your responsibility in the program:

We will provide you with the training program your dog is going through. It is your responsibility to read all the material and be aware of the cues the dog is being

trained to. It is also your responsibility to have an understanding of clicker training when you arrive here to work with the dog. It is your responsibility to be ready to start training with your dog and have the proper equipment. It is your responsibility to know the ADA Rules & Regulations that pertain to you and your service dog.

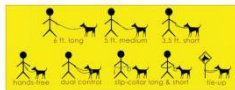
Proper training equipment for our program:



Starmark clicker (can be obtained on-line, Amazon, Chewy and other places)



Body Harness & Leash (needs to clip to the chest area). Our preference is the Freedom Harness (Amazon or Chewy or Google them)



8 way leash (6 ft or 8 ft. Depending on how tall you are). If you do not get the Freedom Harness that comes with a leash. This leash is especially useful for service dog client's.



Blankie or Throw for Go Place (It marks where you want the dog to lay when you are out in public or Restaurants, ballgames, picnics, school, etc.) Does not have to be large.

Treats - Freeze dried chicken, small pieces of hot dog cut up the size of your little fingernail, freeze dried liver, something that is very high in value.

Training covers:

- All dogs food, treats, toys, go place mat, etc., at prison program
- Grooming Skills (Bathing, Blow Dry, Brushing, Nails clipped, Ears cleaned, etc.)
- Husbandry Skills (Teaching the dog to be touched all over, teaching it's body parts, handling skills)
- Touch
- Crate Training
- House Training
- Go Potty on Command
- Proofing all commands
- Sit
- Down
- Stand
- Come

- Watch Me
- Wait
- Walk on Leash (Let's Go and formal Heel)
- Fix it (means Fix your own leash)
- Go Place
- Leave It
- Manners
- Self-Control
- Workbooks
- Your training when dog is ready

Your Dog's Service Task Training:

The task will depend on what your medical needs are

Dog will come home with the American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizenship Certificate level of training. To obtain this title in your name, you and the dog must pass the test as a team. It will not transfer over from our name into yours.

Picking up your dog:

Your choice of 6 weeks (1 Class per week) of group classes so you can learn to work your dog in a group setting, much like real life. You will have a private mentor trainer during the class.

If you are local, or live in Ky we highly suggest you work with us for 6 months to a year after you receive your dog.

Another option is to come on a Saturday at 11:30, sit through our group class with a mentor trainer to see what it can do around distractions, and video tape all the commands and work with us for a few hours after class. **This is the most chosen option.**

We highly suggest you video all of the hand signals and verbal commands for reference.

Public Access Training with a private volunteer mentor to help you learn how to work with your dog in public.

Private Volunteer Mentor Trainer to work with you on what the dog knows and all the cues and commands when you arrive.

If you are out-of-state, then you have the option of coming to us for a week or 3 day workshop (hotels, meals and transportation are not included in this contract).

If you wish a trainer to come to your home or facility to teach you/staff each week, that fee will be determined between you and the trainer. If the train has to travel out of state, then you will be responsible for the trainers airline fee, rental car, hotel, and trainer's rate. This would be determined between you and the trainer.

We offer a year of group classes, e-mail help, zoom help and public access training with your dog.

Your dogs vet here in case of an emergency is:

Dr. Scott Nieves, DVM
Frankfort Vet Clinic
715 E. Main Street
Frankfort, KY 40601

If you have purchased a dog from a breeder, or adopted one from a shelter, rescue, etc., that is fine. It must meet our qualifications for service pup/dog and be able to pass our temperament evaluation testing. You will be responsible for all vetting on your dog **that you choose and responsible for the purchase price of it from a breeder, shelter, rescue, etc.**

Puppies go through fear stages. One is around 4/6 months and the other is around 14 months. Depending on how your puppy goes through the two fear stages until it reaches mental maturity, will depend on how well it will be a service dog as an adult.

Our training fee will remain the same. Our operating cost does not change.

How can we help you further?

Sincerely,

Liz Norris

Pawsibilities Unleashed

www.pawsibilitiesunleashed.org

