



Service Animals and Animal Therapy

Service animals are defined as dogs that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for people with disabilities. Examples of such work or tasks include guiding people who are blind, alerting people who are deaf, pulling a wheelchair, alerting and protecting a person who is having a seizure, reminding a person with mental illness to take prescribed medications, calming a person with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) during an anxiety attack, or performing other duties. Service animals are working animals, not pets. The work or task a dog has been trained to provide must be directly related to the person's disability. Dogs whose sole function is to provide comfort or emotional support do not qualify as service animals under the ADA.

Source: Justice Department

http://www.ada.gov/service_animals_2010.htm

Websites

<http://www.assistancedogsinternational.org/>

Assistance Dogs International (ADI)

P.O. Box 5174

Santa Rosa, California 95402

E-mail: info@assistancedogsinternational.org

ADI is a coalition of not for profit organizations that train and place assistance dogs. The purpose of ADI is to improve the areas of training, placement, and utilization of Assistance Dogs as well as staff and volunteer education.

<http://www.monkeyhelpers.org/>

Helping Hands: Monkey Helpers for the Disabled

A national nonprofit serving quadriplegic and other people with severe spinal cord injuries or mobility-impairments by providing highly trained monkeys to assist with daily activities. As live-in companions, our monkey helpers provide 20-30 years of service, bringing the gifts of independence, companionship, dignity and hope to the people they help.

<http://www.iaadp.org>

International Association of Assistance Dog Partners (IAADP)

38691 Filly Drive
Sterling Heights, MI 48310
Helpline: 586-826-3938
E-mail: IAADP@aol.com

IAADP is a non-profit, cross-disability organization representing people partnered with guide, hearing and service dogs. The organization has an Information & Advocacy Center which helps people with access issues and other requests.

http://www.ada.gov/service_animals_2010.htm

Justice Department: Revised Service Animals Regulations

The Department of Justice issued new regulations which took effect on March 15, 2011 on the types of animals and their requirements to qualify as service animals under the ADA.

<http://sdog.danawheels.net/maillist.shtml>

Owner Trained Service (Assistance) Dogs Mailing List

An e-mail discussion list for those who train their own assistance dogs.

<http://www.censusproject.org/>

Service Dog Census Project

The Service Dog Census Project is a nationwide, independently driven count of service dogs and their owners. The project is currently on hold due to lack of funding.

<http://www.topdogusa.org>

Top Dog, Inc.

350 S Williams Boulevard, Suite 150
Tucson, AZ 85711
Phone: 520-323-6677

Top Dog is dedicated to teaching people with disabilities how to train their own dog to become a fully certified service dog. The site includes a store with a range of training materials including books, CDs, and videos.

<http://www.usservicedogregistry.org>

United States Service Dog Registry

This site offers a free, voluntary, non-governmental, privacy-conscious and secure Service and Assistance Dog registry. There is also a search feature to locate service dog resources.

<http://wolfpacks.com/products/servicedog/trainers.html#c>

Wolf Packs: Service Dog Trainers

This list of national and regional service dog schools describes the areas served and the specific disabilities the dogs are trained to help.

Note: to find places that provide service dogs to veterans, see our Veterans and Military document.

Animal Therapy

Please see the Therapeutic Riding and Driving factsheet for information on horses as therapy animals.

<http://www.islanddolphincare.org/>

Island Dolphin Care

150 Lorelane Place
Key Largo, FL 33037
Phone: 305-451-5884

Island Dolphin Care offers dolphin-assisted therapy programs for children and their families who are dealing with developmental and/or physical disabilities, emotional challenges, and critical, chronic or terminal illness.

<http://www.cdtc.an/>

Curacao Dolphin Therapy & Research Center (CDTRC)

Curacao, Netherlands Antilles

E-mail: info@curacaodolphintherapy.com

CDTRC offers personalized dolphin assisted therapy and rehabilitation programs to people age 3 and older with special needs like autism, Asperger and Down syndrome, or psychological conditions like depression, PTSD and burnout.

<http://www.dolphins.org>

Dolphin Research Center (DRC)

58901 Overseas Highway
Grassy Key, FL 33050-6019
Phone: 305-289-1121

E-mail: drc@dolphins.org

DRC is a not-for-profit education and research facility.

http://www.dolphins.org/visit_special_needs.php

DRC's Special Needs Program assists and enables individuals with various physical or mental challenges, chronic, or life threatening illnesses to participate in any of the public interactive programs offered at DRC.

Financial Assistance:

<http://www.assistancedogunitedcampaign.org/>

Assistance Dog United Campaign (ADUC)

1221 Sebastopol Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95407

E-mail: info@assistancedogunitedcampaign.org

ADUC provides financial assistance to individuals who have the need for an assistance dog but have difficulty in raising the necessary funds and to people and programs whose purpose is to provide assistance dogs to people with disabilities.

<http://www.cdss.ca.gov/cdssweb/PG82.htm>

California Department of Social Services: Assistance Dog Special Allowance (ADSA) Program

This page has information on eligibility for the ADSA program which provides a monthly payment of \$50 to eligible persons who use a guide, signal, or service dog to help them with needs related to their physical disabilities. The allowance is to help pay the costs of food, grooming, and health care for the dogs. This is only be open to residents of California.

The following books and videos are available for free loan from the PRC library. For more information, please see www.paralysis.org and click *Borrow from Our Lending Library* under PRC Quick Links.

Books

- **Assistance Dog International's Guide to Assistance Dog Laws.** Assistance Dogs International, 2005. First edition. Copy can be downloaded for free or a print version may be purchased. Covers laws in USA, Australia, Japan, Canada, New Zealand and the UK.
<http://www.assistedogsinternational.org/guidetodoglaws.php>
- Bozzo, Linda. **Service Dog Heroes.** Berkeley Heights, NJ: Bailey Books, 2011. Children's book
- Brill, Leigh. **A Dog Named Slugger.** Memphis, TN: Bell Bridge Books, 2010.
- Clark, John Thomas. **The Joy of Lex: Life with a Service Dog.** Scarsdale, NY: Black Lab Books, 2008.
A portion of the proceeds from the sale of this book goes to Canine Companions for Independence. Poems about his service dog Lex.
- Creel, Ann Howard. **Nicki.** Middleton, WI: Pleasant Co., 2007. American Girl book.
- Dibsie, Patricia. **Love Heels: Tales from Canine Companions for Independence.** New York: Yorkville Press, 2003.
Stories of actual service dogs.
- Duden, Jane. **Helping Paws Service Dogs.** Logan, IA: Perfection Learning Corp., 1998.
- Duncan, Susan. **Joey Moses.** Seattle: Storytellers Ink, 1997.
Teen fiction, based on actual service-dog team.

- Eames, Ed and Toni. **Partners in Independence: A Success Story of Dogs and the Disabled**. Mechanicsburg, PA: Barkleigh Productions, 2004. 2nd edition.
- Ensminger, John J. **Service and Therapy Dogs in American Society: Science, Law and the Evolution of Canine Caregivers**. Springfield, IL: Charles C. Thomas, 2010.
- Epp, Alexander. **Waggy Tails & Wheelchairs**. Dorchester, England: Hubble & Hattie, 2010.
The book talks about life as a dog owner if one is a wheelchair user. This is not about training a service dog.
- Haldane, Suzanne. **Helping Hands: How Monkeys Assist People Who Are Disabled**. New York: Dutton Children's Books, 1991.
Children's book.
- Kent, Deborah. **Animal Helpers for the Disabled**. New York: Watts Library, 2003.
Children's book
- Kingsley, Linda Kurtz. **Bringing Up Sophie**. Hollidaysburg, PA: Jason and Nordic, 2010.
Children's book.
- Kinsella, Audrey. **Dingle: The Helpful Ice Cream Cone Delivery Dog**. Bloomington, IN: AuthorHouse, 2010.
Children's book.
- Luke, Melinda. **Helping Paws: Dogs That Serve**. New York: Scholastic Inc., 2001.
Children's book
- McDaniel, Melissa. **Guide Dogs**. New York: Bearport Publishing Co., 2005.
(Dog Heroes series)
- Miller, Marie-Therese. **Helping Dogs**. New York: Chelsea Clubhouse, 2007.
(Dog Tales: True Stories About Amazing Dogs series).
- Montalvan, Luis Carlos. **Until Tuesday: A Wounded Warrior and the Golden Retriever Who Saved Him**. New York: Hyperion, 2011.
Montalvan is a former U.S. Army Captain in the Iraq War.
- Murray, Julie. **Service Animals**. ABDO Publishing Company, 2009. (Going To Work series)

- Newton, Judith M. **Nito Meets Chloe!: The Continuing Tale of an Assistance Dog of the West.** Santa Fe: Sunstone Press, 2007.
Children's book.
- Nordensson, Stewart and Lydia Kelley. **Teamwork: A Dog Training Manual for People with Disabilities.** Book One: Basic Obedience. Tucson, AZ: Top Dog Publications, 1997.
Book on training your own dog to be a service dog.
- Nordensson, Stewart and Lydia Kelley. **Teamwork II: A Dog Training Manual for People with Disabilities.** Book Two: Service Exercises. Tucson, AZ: Top Dog Publications, 1998.
Book on training your own dog to be a service dog.
- Oliver, Clare. **Animals That Help Us: Animals Helping with Special Needs.** New York: Franklin Watts, 1999.
Children's book
- Osofsky, Audrey. **My Buddy.** New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1992.
Children's fiction.
- Pearson, Betty Jean. **Learn with LaDee: A Service Dog.** Baltimore: PublishAmerica, 2008.
Children's book
- Presnall, Judith Janda. **Capuchin Monkey Aides.** New York: Thomson Gale, 2003.
Children's book
- Presnall, Judith Janda. **Canine Companions.** New York: Thomson Gale, 2004.
Children's book
- Ring, Elizabeth. **Assistance Dogs.** Brookfield, CT: The Millburn Press, 1993.
Children's book
- Rogers, Ellen. **Kasey to the Rescue: The Remarkable Story of a Monkey and a Miracle.** New York: Hyperion, 2010.
Rogers' son becomes a quadriplegic and Kasey is his capuchin monkey service animal.
- Schuh, Mari. **Assistance Dogs.** Mankato, MN: Capstone Press, 2011.
Children's book
- Smith, Elizabeth Simpson. **A Service Dog Goes to School: The Story of a Dog Trained to Help the Disabled.** New York: Morrow Junior Books, 1988.
Children's book

- Tada, Joni Eareckson. **Darcy's Dog Dilemma**. Elgin, IL: Chariot Books, 1994. Children's fiction.
- Tagliaferro, Linda. **Service Dogs**. New York: Bearport Publishing Company, Inc., 2005. Dog Heroes series.
- Tuohy, Tom. **Kiss of a Dolphin**. Richton Park, IL: Lumen-us Publications, 2006. Vignettes about Dreams for Kids, a foundation that helps children participate in sports and recreation. One of the stories is about a spinal cord injured young man who swims with dolphins.
- Zajac, Kristen K. **Ebenezer's Cousin**. St. Louis, MO: Guardian Angel Publishing, 2010. Maria's dad is a soldier who is injured in Afghanistan. The family gets a service monkey for him. Ebenezer is Maria's toy monkey. Children's fiction.

Videos

- **Dolphin Therapy: Unique Interactions That Have Life-Changing Effects on Children with Disabilities**. Sherborn, MA: Aquarius Health Care Videos, 2004. (30 minutes)
- **Teamwork: A Dog Training Video for People with Disabilities. Basic Obedience**. Based on the book by Stewart Nordensson and Lydia Kelley. Tucson, AZ: Top Dog Productions, 2003. www.topdogusa.org
- **Teamwork II: A Dog Training Video for People with Disabilities. Service Exercises**. Based on the book by Stewart Nordensson and Lydia Kelley. Tucson, AZ: Top Dog Productions, 2003 <http://www.topdogusa.org/>
- **Through a Dog's Eyes: Service Dogs and the People Whose Lives They've Changed**. Twin Cities Public Television, 2010. Distributed by PBS. DVD. (60 minutes)

The following streaming video from the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation can be viewed for free at www.paralysis.org. To view, click *See All Videos* on the top, then click the *Paralysis Resource Center* tab and scroll through the videos listed on the right.

- **Service Dogs**

The information contained in this message is presented for the purpose of educating and informing you about paralysis and its effects. Nothing contained in this message

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