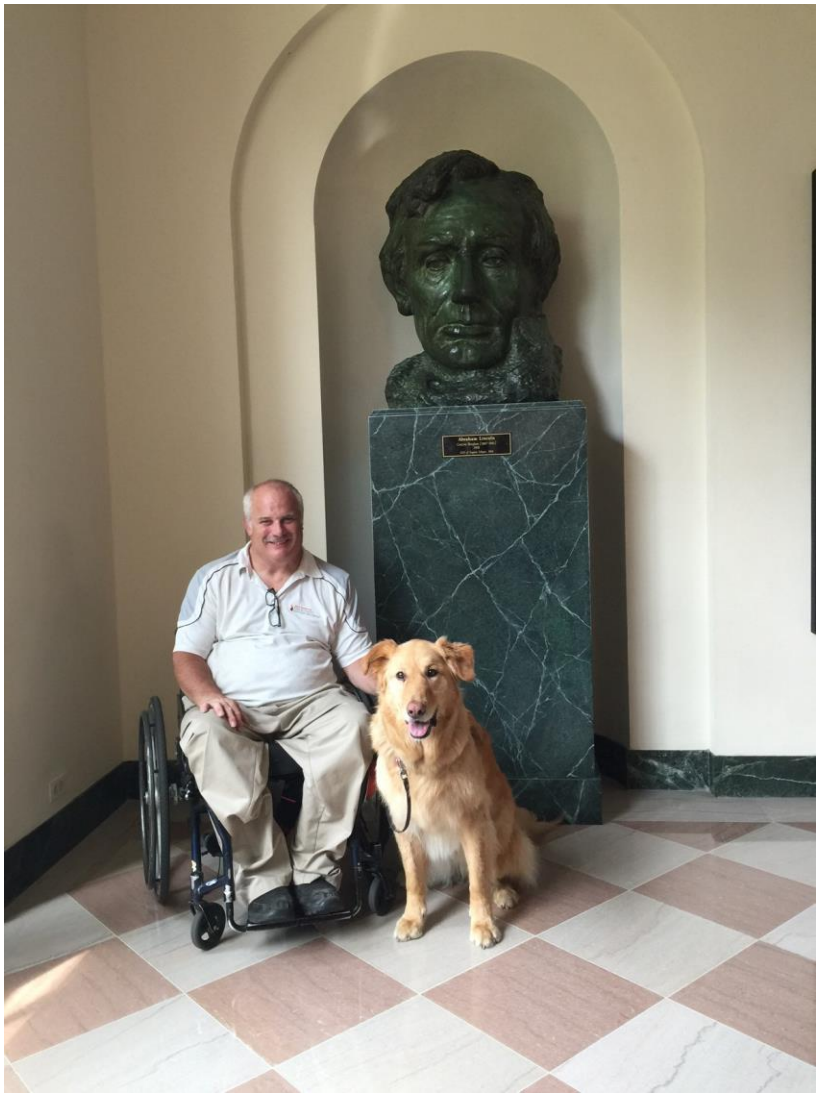
CHRISTOPHER & DANA REEVE FOUNDATION
TODAY'S CARE. TOMORROW'S CURE.®

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

Assistance Dogs International (ADI)
http://www.assistancedogsinternational.org/
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.

Canine Companions
https://canine.org/
P.O. Box 446
Santa Rosa, CA 95402-0446
Phone: 866-CCI-DOGS (224-3647)
Canine Companions is a non-profit organization that enhances the lives of people with disabilities by providing highly trained assistance dogs at no charge to the recipient since 1975. They have six regional offices across the U.S.

Federal Register: ruling on Traveling by Air with Service Animals 12/10/20
https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/12/10/2020-26679/traveling-by-air-with-service-animals

Helping Hands: Monkey Helpers for the Disabled
http://www.monkeyhelpers.org/
541 Cambridge St.
Boston, MA 02134
Phone: 617-787-4419
Email: info@monkeyhelpers.org
Helping Hands is 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, Helping Hands' monkey helpers provide 20-30 years of service, bringing the gifts of independence, companionship, dignity and hope to the people they help.

International Association of Assistance Dog Partners (IAADP)
http://www.iaadp.org
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.

Merlin's Kids
http://www.merlinskids.org/
PO Box 21
Midland Park, NJ 07432
Merlin's Kids rescues, rehabilitates and trains shelter dogs to become service dogs that help people with mobility impairments. They provide dogs nationally and at no charge to qualified applicants.

National Rehabilitation Information Center (NARIC): What Are Key Factors in Successfully Integrating Service Dogs in the Workplace
http://www.naric.com/?q=en/RIF/What%20Are%20Key%20Factors%20In%20Successfully%20Integrating%20Service%20Dogs%20In%20The%20Workplace%3F

NCHPAD: Service Animals
https://www.nchpad.org/1613/6642/Service~Animals
Includes info on service animals in public housing and transportation situations.

Owner Trained Service (Assistance) Dogs Mailing List
http://sdog.danawheels.net/maillist.shtml
An e-mail discussion list for those who train their own assistance dogs.
(To subscribe send a blank email to: ot-adogs@egroups.com)

Service Dog Census Project
http://www.censusproject.org/
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.

U.S. Justice Dept.: Frequently Asked Questions about Service Animals and the ADA
July 2015
http://www.ada.gov/regs2010/service_animal_qa.html

U.S. Justice Department: Revised Service Animals Regulations
http://www.ada.gov/service_animals_2010.htm
The Department of Justice issued new regulations which took effect on March 15, 2011 on the types of animals and their requirements to quality as service animals under the ADA.

United States Service Dog Registry
http://www.usservicedogregistry.org
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.

Wolf Packs: Service Dog Trainers
http://wolfpacks.com/products/servicedog/trainers.html#c
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.

Island Dolphin Care
http://www.islanddolphincare.org/
150 Lorelane Place
Key Largo, FL 33037
Phone: 305-451-5884
Email: fonzie@islanddolphincare.org
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.

Curacao Dolphin Therapy & Research Center (CDTC)
https://www.cdtc.info/web/
Willemstad, Curacao, Netherlands Antilles
E-mail: info@cdtc.info
CDTC 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.

Dolphin Research Center (DRC)
http://www.dolphins.org
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.

DRC's Special Needs Program
https://dolphins.org/special_needs

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.
Email: specialneeds@dolphins.org

Financial Assistance:

Assistance Dog United Campaign (ADUC)
http://www.assistancedogunitedcampaign.org/
10201 Old Redwood Hwy
Pengrove, CA 94951
Phone: 707-545-0800
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.

California Department of Social Services: Assistance Dog Special Allowance (ADSA) Program
http://www.cdss.ca.gov/Assistance-Dogs
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 open to residents of California.

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 should be construed nor is intended to be used for medical diagnosis or treatment. It should not be used in place of the advice of your physician or other qualified health care provider. Should you have any health care related questions, please call or see your physician or other qualified health care provider promptly. Always consult with your physician or other qualified health care provider before embarking on a new treatment, diet or fitness program. You should never disregard medical advice or delay in seeking it because of something you have read in this message.

This publication is supported by the Administration for Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award totaling $9,447,037 with 100 percent funding by ACL/HHS. The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by ACL/HHS, or the U.S. Government.