

MEDICAL ALERT ASSISTANCE DOGS:

Psychiatric – A Medical Alert Assistance Dog specially trained to enable individuals with psychiatric disabilities to lead more independent lives by performing tasks that the person otherwise could not do, or would have extreme difficulty doing for him/herself. Handlers for these dogs are generally under medical care or have been diagnosed with a psychological condition, with the most common diagnosis being: Post-Traumatic Stress (PTS), Complex-Post-Traumatic Stress (CPTS), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), Military Sexual Trauma (MST), and various personality disorders. These dogs are trained to perform tasks such as search specific rooms before their handler enters, interrupt nightmares, alert their handler to someone approaching from behind, detect changes in their handler's cortisol levels, and physically interrupt disruptive episodes.

The following is an estimate of the overall cost associated with this example of Service Dog Training. Because each dog and client is different, the length of this program will vary depending upon the dog, the commitment of the client, and each of their overall abilities. All dog and handler teams are required to successfully pass tests together for each of the 4 training phases: (1) Basic Obedience; (2) Advanced Obedience; (3) Disability Skills; and (4) Public Access.

Example #1 Training an Already Obedient Dog

For purposes of this estimated cost summary, we are hypothetically training a dog that is approximately 1 year old. The dog was purchased from a reputable breeder/shelter and has been well-socialized with various people, animals, and places. The dog is smart, trainable, and has a strong desire to please. The owner is well-committed to exercising and practicing with the dog daily.

Initial Evaluation and Consultation: This is the first step of the program. It helps us understand exactly what your wants and needs are and gives a chance to answer any and all initial questions you may have. [] \$150

Phase 1: Basic Obedience: Often, we have customers come to us with dogs that are already well behaved and have an understanding of the majority of skills and behaviors listed within Phase 1. Passing the Canine Good Citizen and the AKC Community Test will need gage where the student is in this process. Training would take 10- 20 weeks approximately \$250-\$500

Phase 2: Advanced Obedience: When a dog enters our program and they have already learned many skills, sometimes they already have a firm understanding of a portion of the Phase 2 commands in high distractions such as a mall, classroom or park. Training would take 10- 20 weeks approximately \$250-\$500

Phase 3: Disability Skills: This is typically the most intense phase of training due to its importance of refinement. In some instances we will recommend a minimum of 1 week "In Our



Home" training so we are able to work with the dog several times each day. (*Note these estimates are based on teaching disability skills of low/medium-level difficulty. Cost will vary depending on how many skills the dog is required to learn and how difficult those skills are. Training would take 10- 20 weeks approximately \$250-\$500

Phase 4: Public Access: This training is all done in public places in and around your home. For customers that have been taking their dog out to dog-friendly venues for several months, they are often able to pass through this phase relatively quickly. Training would take 10- 20 weeks approximately \$250-\$500

Total cost range: \$ 1,150 -\$2,150

Certifications: Trainer Donna Rogers, CPDT-KA*

Graduate of Queens College Charlotte NC BA

*The Certification Council for Professional Dog Trainers (CCPDT), established in 2001, is the leading independent certifying organization for the dog training profession. The CCPDT is the leader in the development of rigorous exams to demonstrate mastery of humane, science-based dog training practices. Thousands of dog training professionals worldwide maintain the CCPDT's certifications as a mark of high professional distinction.<http://www.ccpdt.org>

Professional member of the association of Professional dog Trainers # 64440 www.apdt.com

Authorized Presenter of Dogs and Storks



Evaluator for Therapy dog International www.TDI-dog.org #1107

Trained with Little Angels Service Dogs that train and place fully trained dogs with approved disabled recipients, and also help the disabled train their own dogs to assist them. Regardless of how we are helping the disabled party to be assisted by a dog, our training practices are held to a high standard, such as the standards held by Assistance Dogs International (A.D.I.).

Canine Good Citizen Evaluator with the American Kennel Club #5301

Personal dog- canine(Pongo) Certified with the North Carolina Police Dog Association - SAR

Personal dog- Certified Therapy Dog (Elle)with Therapy Dogs International

Current member of the Board of Directors for the Central Piedmont Search and Rescue Member of the North Carolina Police Dog Association



