

We need volunteer families to raise our specially bred pups (primarily Labrador and Golden Retrievers) so they can pursue a most important career as a guide or other assistance or detector dog.



Puppy Walker Families receive their “bundle of joy” when the pup is about 7 weeks old, and care for it until it is 11-16 months old. Puppy Walkers 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 Walkers have countless adventures socializing our pup and giving it much needed exposure to the big world. Fun outings can range from a trip to the bank, post office, local store, or even the train station.



Puppy Walkers supply the loving home and the food for the puppy. The Guide Dog Foundation provides Puppy Walkers with the training and tools needed to raise a puppy, such as training manuals, visits from volunteer “area coordinators” or professional “Puppy Advisors,” weekly obedience classes on our campus or

at other locations at no charge, and free boarding for the puppy if needed. Through our program, Puppy Walkers quickly learn all there is to know about housebreaking, basic obedience, and socializing a future assistance dog. The Foundation staff is always available to answer questions and offer guidance and support.

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 Second Sight® guide dogs, and Capable Canine service, therapy, facility, and companion dogs. The Foundation also works with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the US Department of State, and allied organizations to



provide dogs to be trained by the government as detector dogs. As it works through the training process, a dog is considered first for our breeding program, then in succession as a guide dog, assistance dog, or detector dog. When the dog successfully completes its training program and is matched with a person with disabilities, your family will be invited to a reception. When you meet people who are graduating with our dogs, perhaps even your puppy’s new teammate, you’ll see for yourself what a tremendous difference your efforts have made.

Won’t you open your heart and your home to help a puppy grow up to become a successful guide or capable canine? For more information, fill out this form and return it to the Guide Dog Foundation, or call the Puppy Department at (866) 282-8046 to learn more.

Puppy Walker Application

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

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone, Day _____

Phone, Night _____

Email _____

Please answer the following questions.

1. Is your family willing to devote time each day to the care and education of a guide 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 \$30 per month) _____

Comments? _____

Please return this form to:



371 East Jericho Turnpike, Smithtown, NY 11787
(866) 282-8046 • (631) 930-9060 • Fax (631) 930-9068

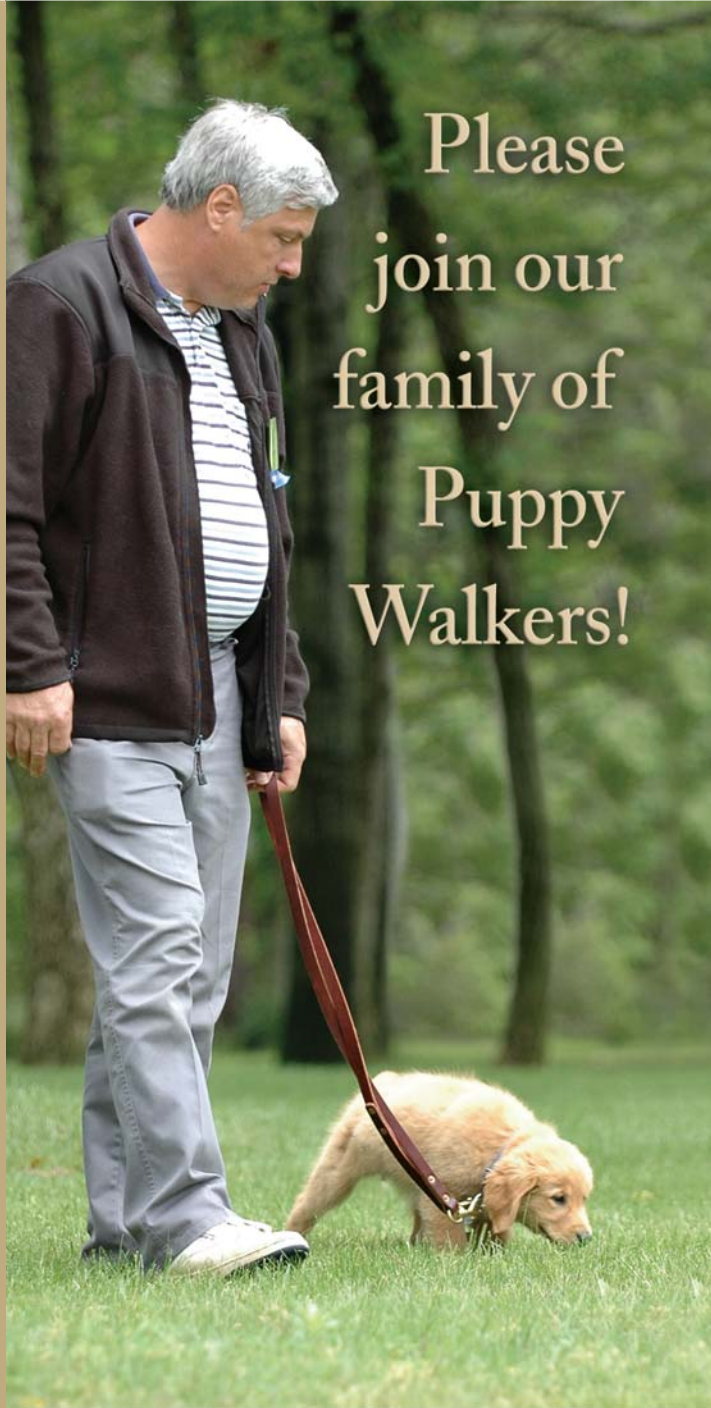


Wouldn't you like to help a puppy grow up to make a difference for a person who is blind or has another disability?



GuideDog Foundation
For The Blind, Inc.®

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Smithtown, NY 11787
(866) 282-8046 • (631) 930-9060
Fax (631) 930-9068
www.guidedog.org



Please
join our
family of
Puppy
Walkers!

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