

We provide Psychiatric Service Dogs to qualified Military Veterans with PTSD, TBI, and other mental health challenges.

- 75% of the dogs in our program have come from shelters or private party rescues.
- Patriot Assistance Dogs has trained and certified over 260 service dog teams since 2012.



## Contact Us:

### Patriot Assistance Dogs

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Patriot Assistance Dogs does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, gender expression, age, national origin, marital status or sexual orientation in any of its activities or operations. These activities include, but are not limited to, hiring and firing of staff, selection of volunteers and staff, and provision of services.



# PATRIOT ASSISTANCE DOGS

*Rescued Dogs Rescuing Veterans*

a 501(c)3 Non-profit

# What We Do

Patriot Assistance Dogs (PAD) provides dogs trained to respond to the needs of Military Veterans dealing with psychiatric challenges. Placement is limited to Veterans at this time. **The dogs and training are provided at no cost to the Veteran.**

Our dogs have been trained to assist the Veterans both in home and public settings. Our dogs are taught a general set of assistance skills specific to the needs of the individual Veteran. Some of these skills are:

- FORE: Dog protects Veteran's personal space.
- AFT: Dog covers Veteran's back while completing business.
- FIND OUTSIDE: Dog guides Veteran out of stress-inducing situation.
- TOUCH: Dog initiates contact with Veteran.
- NUDGE: Dog gives Veteran attention.
- CHECK-IN: Dog comforts Veteran.
- PANIC ATTACK: Dog interrupts a panic attack and redirects Veteran's attention.
- ROAD RAGE: Dog interrupts Veteran's road rage and redirects Veteran's attention.
- NIGHT TERRORS: Dog wakes Veteran from night sweats or terrors.
- CLEAR A STAIRWAY OR CORNER: Dog negotiates last few steps of stairway, or rounds corner first, and alerts handler to any person close by.

*Training and certification of a personal dog as a service animal is also available on a limited basis.*

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Patriot Assistance Dogs is based in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota. We place dogs with Veterans who live in Minnesota, North Dakota, South Dakota, Iowa and Wisconsin.

# How Veterans Qualify

To be eligible to receive a service dog through PAD, a Veteran must:

- U.S. Military Veteran
- Resident of MN, ND, SD, IA, and WI
- Completed application form
- Completed mental health provider form
- DD214
- Two letters of recommendation from a family member or friend
- Veterinarian letter of support

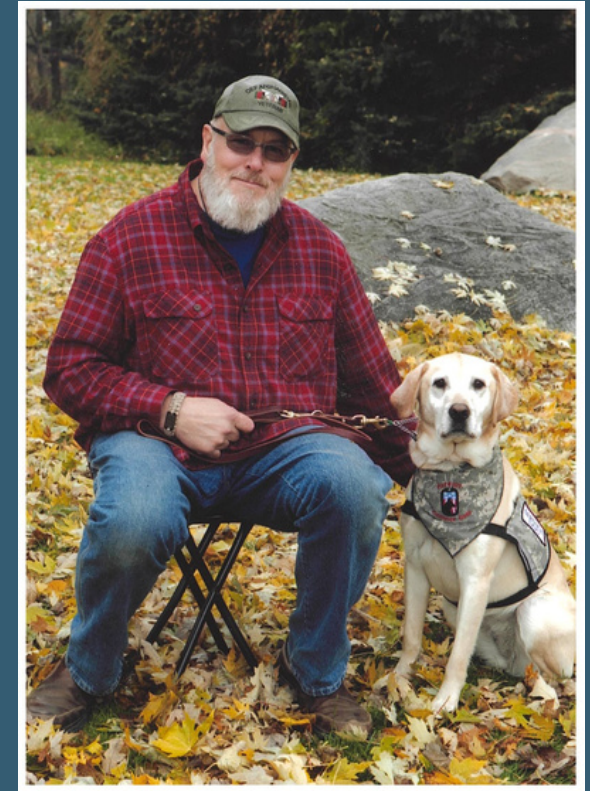
# What Funding Provides

PAD conducts fundraising to help cover program costs. To date, there have been no costs to the Veterans for the dogs, training, and equipment provided by PAD. The cost of \$19,000 for each dog includes the following:

- Radiographs of hips and elbows; cardiac and dental exams; a blood wellness profile. This allows PAD to offer as healthy a dog as possible.
- Micro-chipping for permanent identification.
- General obedience and assistance training of the dog, plus additional specific training to match the dog to the Veteran's needs.
- Handbook and training updates.
- Collars, leashes, and a backpack of supplies for the dog.
- Identification for the dog/Veteran team.
- Follow-up training for the team as needed.



# Veteran Testimonial



*"Avery helps keep me focused and relaxed when I am in stores, out and about, and always watches my six and keeps space around me. If I become anxious Avery will help me find the exit quickly. She keeps me calm and draws my attention when I get upset or angry. Avery also helps remind me to take my medication three times each day. Avery helps me sleep at night and wakes me when needed. She also reminds me to take breaks at work and spend some time outside and relax. I am a K-8 substitute teacher now and I wouldn't be able to do that without Avery. She gives me confidence to do more."*

- John Waters, U.S. Army, with Avery

[www.patriotassistedogs.com](http://www.patriotassistedogs.com)