



# PRESS RELEASE

## FRANKLIN COUNTY GOVERNMENT

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### Franklin County “Save-A-Vet, Save-A-Pet” Receives National Attention

**July 20, 2021 - Chambersburg, PA** – Earlier this month, Congressman John Joyce visited Greencastle to meet with the "Save-A-Vet, Save-A-Pet" program. The initiative, implemented at the direction of the Franklin County Commissioners through the Veterans Affairs Department, pairs disabled veterans with service dogs in Franklin County.

During the Congressman’s visit, Blaine Beam of Greencastle, a veteran and participant of Save-A-Vet, Save-A-Pet program (pictured below), received a service dog along with two other veterans. Blaine and his new companion, Freedom, make up one of nine veteran/dog pairs since the program’s inception in 2015. The Save-A-Vet, Save-A-Pet program is operated from community donations and grant funding.

Congressman Joyce remarked about his visit, “I was proud to see the Save-A-Vet, Save-A-Pet initiative connect service dogs with our nation’s veterans. I am humbled by the service and sacrifice of those who choose country over self, and am thankful for the work being done by the Good Dog Paws team to support our veteran communities.”

“These ceremonies where the veterans take ownership of their service dogs are always very moving. Hearing the veterans and their families describe what a difference the dogs have made in the veteran’s life really drives home the importance of this program,” said Commissioner Chairman Dave Keller.

If you would like to donate to support this worthy cause, please make checks payable to Franklin County Veterans Affairs and mail it to Franklin County Veteran Affairs, 425 Franklin Farm Lane, Chambersburg, PA 17202. Additionally, Veteran Affairs is hosting a golf tournament on Friday, September 3, 2021 at the Penn National Golf Club on the Iron Forge Course. Visit <https://bit.ly/3elK5sY> to learn more.



Pictured left to right are: Good Dog Owner Helen Nolan Carlson, Franklin County Commissioner Chairman Dave Keller, Veteran Blaine Beam, Franklin County Director of Veterans Affairs Justin Slep, and Congressman John Joyce, M.D.

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