



In Partnership with:



Good Dog Training School  
15271 Williamsport Pike  
Greencastle, PA 17225  
Helen Carlson, trainer



Franklin County Veteran  
Affairs

425 Franklin Farm Lane  
Chambersburg, PA 17202  
717-263-4326

[jdslep@franklincountypa.gov](mailto:jdslep@franklincountypa.gov)



**FRANKLIN COUNTY  
VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**OPERATION**

**SAVE-A-VET**

**SAVE-A-PET**



## DONATION REQUEST

As you may be aware, Franklin County is home to over 13,500 veterans, many of who are rated with some level of disability by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). These numbers do not include the thousands of current military personnel who call Franklin County home. Nor do these numbers include veteran not on file with the VA, many of whom are also living with the wounds of military service.

At the Franklin County Veterans Affairs Office, we are doing more for our area veterans by expanding outreach services. Our veterans should have services to improve the quality of their life as well as the lives of their friends and families, close to their home. With that in mind, Franklin County Veterans Affairs has identified several outreach initiatives. Our goal is to bring necessary services and outreach events to our veterans.

**Our newest program is our service dog program, Operation Save-A-Vet, Save-A-Pet. We are looking to partner with people like to make this goal a reality. To be truly beneficial, we need the larger community to help us embrace and enhance the lives of our veterans.**

The Veterans Affairs Office and the Board of Commissioners ask that you join our efforts, partnering with us to support these vital programs. Any donation you make to our Veterans Outreach Fund is tax deductible and will help us get these programs up and running. It is a way of giving a little to those who have already given so much.

If you would like to donate to support this worthy cause, please make checks payable to Franklin County Veterans Affairs. This will ensure your donation is utilized for veteran outreach.

We thank you in advance for any support you may offer.

## SERVICE DOG OVERVIEW

Operation Save-A-Vet, Save-A-Pet is a program dedicated to helping Franklin County veterans with service-connected disabilities lead happier, healthier, and more productive lives. This program benefits the veteran, the dog, and the community. Service dogs have proven to be highly valuable in assisting veterans with all types of disabilities, including, but not limited to, diabetes, seizure disorders, posttraumatic stress disorder and psychiatric disorders, stability and traumatic brain injury.

Our dogs come from local rescues and shelters, and a few select breeding lines, and are provided with highly specialized training and care. These dogs are then capable of serving veterans with a number of physical and psychological needs.

While the dog is in training, the veteran will not be responsible for training costs, initial veterinary care, or other incidental expenses that might be incurred. After the dog completes a rigorous year-long, three phase training program (with the dog and veteran training together during the last phase) and if the trainer believes that they are ready, the trainer will schedule and evaluate the team for certification. If certified, it is expected that the service dog will work between six and ten years before they are retired. Health and age will be a contributing factor to the estimated time frame.

## TRAINER FOR THE PROGRAM

Our trainer for Operation Save-A-Vet, Save-A-Pet is Helen Nolan Carlson. Helen and her husband Brad own and operate Good Dog: Boarding, Doggie Day Care & Training which is located at 15271 Williamsport Pike, Greencastle, PA 17225. Helen has been training dogs for over 36 years.



## GRANT INFORMATION

Operation Save-A-Vet, Save-A-Pet is made possible in part by a grant from the Pennsylvania Veterans' Trust Fund (VTF). Donations can be made to the VTF by indicating a preference to donate on PA driver's license or registration renewal, or by purchasing an "Honoring Our Veterans" license plate.