



SAVING LIVES  
2  
AT A TIME





# SHELTER TO SOLDIER

SAVING LIVES 2 AT A TIME



**Post Traumatic Stress (PTS)** is a major problem for our men and women in uniform, and its effects last far and beyond the battlefield. One in five veterans returning from combat tours suffers from PTS. Many of them are so debilitated that they are unable to leave their homes or engage in any meaningful way in society. With the combination of therapy, medications and the companionship of a service dog who does not judge them but does inspire and require them to get up and out, we are seeing our veterans experience a new lease on life with a boost in their confidence, increased productivity, and improved relationships through the sense of security and companionship that their service dog provides.

***"There is a distinct difference in my life from where I was without Shelter to Soldier and my service dog to where I am now with their support and help. I have seen the power of our service dogs. I have seen them change the perspective of the hopeless into a driven leader devoted to help others."***

**— Vic Martin U.S. Navy Ret.**



**EVERY 69 MINUTES** ON AVERAGE  
**A US Veteran Commits Suicide**

20 veterans and 1 active duty military personnel commit suicide every day across the US. They sacrificed everything to protect our freedom and it's our turn to give back to them.



**EVERY DAY 3200 Dogs** ON AVERAGE  
**Are Euthanized Nationwide**

Some dogs are better suited for a life with a job. We provide them a future with a purpose and a life that is fulfilled by their bond with a veteran in need.



*Photo Credit: Nicky Moore*

**SHELTER TO SOLDIER**  
**A 501c3 Nonprofit Organization**

Shelter to Soldier adopts dogs from local shelters and trains them to become psychiatric service dogs for post-9/11 combat veterans suffering from Post Traumatic Stress (PTS), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and/or other psychological injuries associated with traumatic service experiences.

SAVING LIVES  
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AT A TIME



GIVING

SUPPORT OUR MISSION



Media Coverage

Rancho Santa Fe  
REVIEW



MAGIC  
92.5

abc  
10 NEWS

San Diego  
6 THE CW



RANCH & COAST  
San Diego's Ultimate Lifestyle Magazine

NBC  
SAN DIEGO

KUS  
NEWS  
SAN DIEGO'S NEWS CHANNEL

The San Diego Union-Tribune

BusinessWire  
A Beckwith Hathaway Company

YAHOO!  
FINANCE

Military Press

HOMELAND  
MAGAZINE  
Recommender Supporter Inspiration

dogster  
Magazine



# HOW SPONSORS **MAKE A DIFFERENCE**



## **Red Star Sponsorship | \$15,000**

Becoming a Red Star Corporate Sponsor begins a year-long co-marketing campaign with your company and Shelter to Soldier working closely with our Public Relations Director. Shelter to Soldier will adopt a dog from a local shelter, give it a special name to reflect your support, train the dog over 12-18 months and then place the dog with a post-9/11 combat veteran suffering from PTSD and/or TBI. Your company will also have a special part in the graduation ceremony for the service dog and veteran.



## **Event Sponsorship**

Event sponsorship of any amount allows us to use your funds to offset the costs of running our fundraising events. Event sponsor branding is important to us, and is included in marketing materials and media coverage involved in our fundraising events.

Contributing to or hosting a fundraising event for Shelter to Soldier also helps us continue our mission, and allows your company to demonstrate your philanthropic efforts and commitment to our veteran community and shelter dogs in need.



## **Employees Volunteer**

To get your company more involved in giving, we encourage your employees to support our cause, hands on, by participating on our event volunteer team at one of our many events throughout the year.



**pioneers**  
a volunteer network

De Anza Chapter



*Carol Mountains Ranch  
Visiting Hospital*



Chris & Rick Fink



GRIFFIN FUNDING



Rotary Club  
of La Mesa

Seven Woods  
Foundation

Family and Friends  
of Seth Friedell



The Wintercreek  
Foundation

## \$15,000

Each service dog/veteran team costs our program an average of **\$15,000** from adoption to graduation. This includes the adoption, housing, medical care, grooming, food, treats, training, training equipment, bedding, toys, testing, handling training, service dog equipment and documents, graduation and materials for the veteran recipient and service dog pair.

**Shelter to Soldier visits local shelters and rescue groups** and evaluates dogs 4 months to 2 years of age, of any breed, weighing 45-70 lbs, and in good health for our service dog training program.

*We evaluate temperament for: desire to work and have a job, food or moderate toy drive, the way the dog handles new environments, people and noises, and an overall stable and social demeanor.*

**Shelter to Soldier dogs are trained over 9-18 months** to be highly obedient and handler-focused in all environments, to ignore distractions, and to mitigate symptoms of stress, anxiety, and depression through task-related work.

*Some commands learned:*

- |         |              |           |
|---------|--------------|-----------|
| – Under | – Right Side | – Touch   |
| – Over  | – Behind     | – Closer  |
| – Block | – Center     | – Find it |



*Mason Lane Photography*







## GRADUATION!

We celebrate the dedication of the dog and handler once they successfully complete all necessary training and pass required tests.

***This is where the journey truly begins for the veteran/service dog team!***

Upon qualified match – **veteran handlers train for 4-6 months** (on average) time depending upon handling abilities and how well the team picks up on training.

*Handlers learn to communicate effectively with their dog to create a loving bond while learning all commands and service dog laws/regulations to prepare them for a life with a service animal.*

Three tests are required prior to completion of training:

- Canine Good Citizen
- ADI Public Access Test
- Task-Related Test



**ONE YEAR  
+ \$15,000**

**= TWO LIVES  
SAVED!**



Shelter to Soldier is proud to have a new home at Pacific Pet Resort, with accommodations and training facility made possible in part by:

**Anonymous Donor**



**Rennie Gabriel**



**The Wintercreek Foundation**



# THANK | YOU

Thank you to our community partners who continue to support our program and our service dogs in training.



*Carmel Mountain Ranch  
Veterinary Hospital*



**REDFEARN &  
ASSOCIATES**

**RANCH & COAST  
MAGAZINE**



Mason Lane Photography

**COMMUNITY | PARTNERS**



Directed  
by Vic Martin,  
US Navy Ret. and  
Shelter to Soldier  
Recipient.



## MAKING A WAY FOR A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Shelter to Soldier is paving the way of support for veterans on the homefront. With the growth of our program this year, we have expanded our services to veterans and have created job opportunities for some of our graduates.



## INDIVIDUAL THERAPY

Approved veteran applicants have the opportunity to attend one-on-one therapy sessions with our mental health liaison, David Moss LCSW, at no cost to the patient.



## PEER TO PEER COUNSELING

Peer support is now available at no cost to approved veteran applicants and recipients thanks to the volunteer support of Ben Kilhefner, US Navy Ret. Ben is a Shelter to Soldier Service Dog Recipient and Certified Peer Support Specialist.







Liberty's adoption, care, training, and placement with Aaron was generously sponsored by Mission Beach Women's Club.



**"Liberty has been a game changer! Before her, I was barely leaving the house alone and struggling to connect with anybody outside my immediate family. Since entering the program I have found new confidence and a desire to experience life. I'm reconnecting with old friends and making new ones. Previously, I felt as if I was dying of a mental illness. Now, I feel like I am really living."**

**— Aaron Neely, USN Ret.**



# OUR TRAINING PROGRAM | TEAMWORK



## **PRESIDENT | Graham Bloem**

*Recipient of: 10News Leadership Award, Waggy Award for Animal Welfare, American Red Cross Real Heroes Award, Honeywell Life Safety Award, and the CBS8 Change It Up Award .*

**Shelter to Soldier is committed to operating our service dog training program in an efficient manner, utilizing the skills from our certified team of dog trainers to take shelter dogs with no training and a potentially troubled past to the elite level of training required of them to become psychiatric service dogs.**

**Shelter to Soldier's training department has accreditations, certifications and memberships through organizations like:**



Animal Behavior  
College



Experience. Knowledge. Excellence.  
National Association of Dog  
Obedience Instructors



International Association of  
Canine Professionals



AKC Canine Good Citizen  
Evaluators



Starmark Academy



The Association of Professional  
Dog Trainers



**HEAD DOG TRAINER | Stephen Snyder**



**DOG TRAINER AND FACILITY MANAGER | Nicky Moore**



## **SERVICE DOG TRAINERS**

**Perry Chapman | Julie McLaughlin | Vince Martell  
Dustin Campbell | Alayna Devalasco | Lisa Johnson  
Lynne Ramsey**



# TOGETHER | SINCE

**AARON & LIBERTY | December 2018**

*Sponsored by Mission Beach Women's Club*

**EVAN & BANDIT | November 2018**

*Sponsored by Berkshire Hathaway Home Services  
Charitable Foundation Los Angeles*

**VIC & MIA | September 2018**

*Sponsored by: Griffin Funding*

**JOSH & JULIO | August 2018**

*Sponsored by David C. Copley Foundation*

**DAVE & THURSDAY | July 2018**

*\*Emotional Support Dog\**

*Sponsored by The Thursday Club Juniors*

**ANGEL & JAX | March 2018**

*Sponsored by UNITE*

**JAYSON & MIESHA | January 2018**

*Sponsored by Griffin Funding*

**KEVIN & ANNIE | October 2017**

*Sponsored by Berkshire Hathaway Home Services  
Calabasas*

**JEREMY & LUNA | June 2017**

*Sponsored by: Integriv*

**JONATHON & BERKELEY | November 2016**

*Sponsored by: Berkshire Hathaway Home Services  
(BHHS) Calabasas Office*

**LIZ & CHARLIE | October 2016**

*Sponsored by: Schubach Aviation*

**KAREN & SEVEN | July, 2016**

*Sponsored by: FINE Magazine with Schubach Aviation*

**MASON & GRIFFIN | April 2016**

*Sponsored by: Griffin Funding*

**RICKY & PLATO | February, 2016**

*Sponsored by: Plato Pet Treats*

**CHRIS & JADE | January, 2016**

*Sponsored by: Integriv*

**BEN & TANK | August 2015**

*Sponsored by: Wintercreek Foundation*

**TOM & SANDY | August 2015**

*Sponsored by: Ranch & Coast Magazine & Wintercreek  
Foundation*

**JAMES & CALVER | August 2015**

*Sponsored by: Wintercreek Foundation*

**VIC & KIRA (\*RETIRED) | November 2014**

*Sponsored by: Wintercreek Foundation*

**JAMES & TYBERIUS | May 2013**

*Sponsored by: Magic 92.5 and Cafe Coyote*

To date, Shelter to Soldier has placed 18 dogs with veterans. 17 have been placed as psychiatric service dogs and 1 as an Emotional Support Dog. We have had four career change dogs and one dog retire from working service. Since 2012, we have adopted 37 dogs through our program.

GRADUATED TEAMS | HANDLERS & DOGS

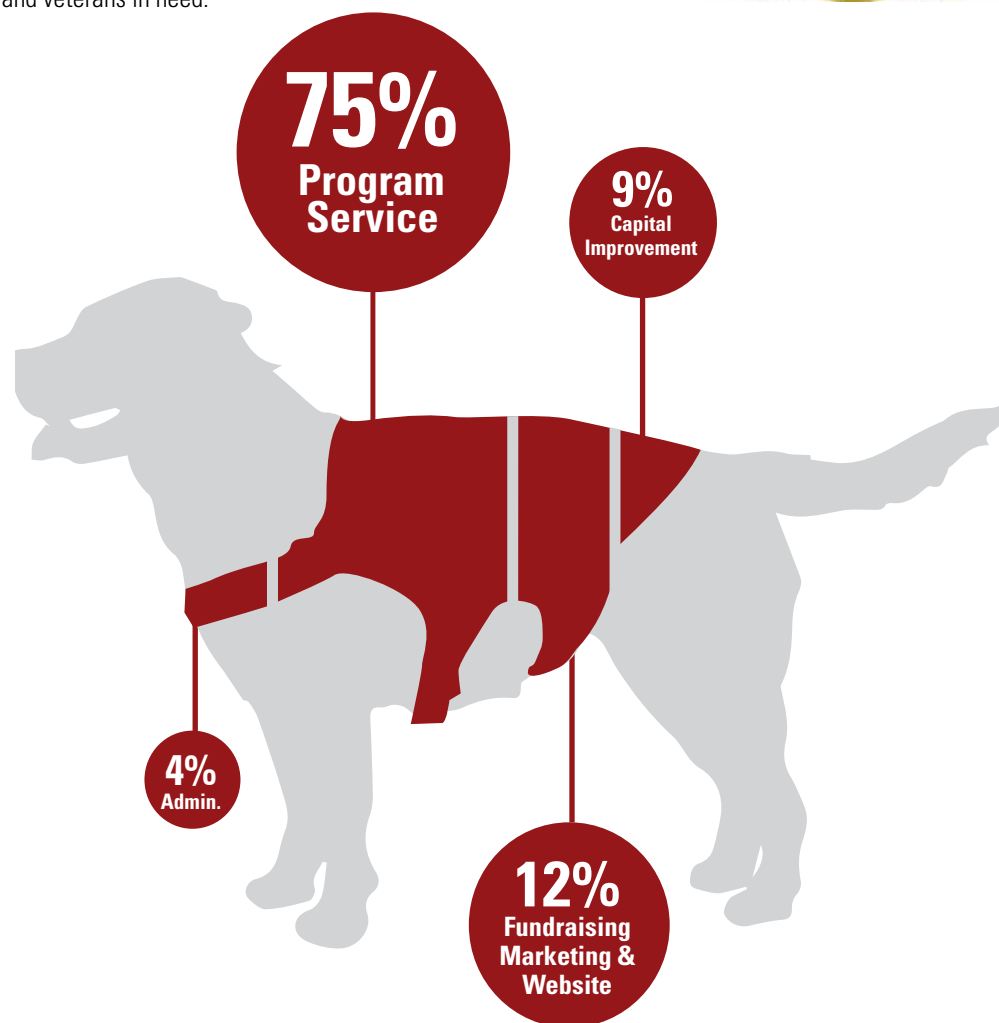
# FINANCING | A MATCH



\*Julio's adoption, care, housing, training and placement with Josh was generously sponsored by the David C. Copley Foundation.

## HOW DONATIONS ARE USED

Shelter to Soldier has amazing community support and a strong volunteer team behind us. Thanks to these relationships, we are able to direct the vast majority of revenue to programs and services. Our steady growth has allowed us to build a strong leadership and administrative team to run the program efficiently. We believe in making each donor dollar go as far as possible to making our program impact the lives of more dogs and veterans in need.



## ACCREDITED BY



TPi independently examines and evaluates nonprofits to identify those doing only the finest work and engaging in best practices that most effectively support our nation's armed forces communities.

[www.ThePatriotsInitiative.org](http://www.ThePatriotsInitiative.org)



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**GRAHAM BLOEM, ABCDT** CO-FOUNDER | PRESIDENT | TRAINING DIRECTOR

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Graham's passion for helping and working with dogs and veterans runs deep. He has been a professional dog trainer for 17 years and has extensive animal related business and management experience.

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**KYRIÉ BLOEM, MS** CO-FOUNDER | DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

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As the administrative director for our program, she plans all events and fundraising programs, serves as our grant writer, coordinates our volunteer team, and facilitates day to day operations of the charity.

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**KRYSTYNA HOLC, CPA** CO-FOUNDER | TREASURER

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Krys keeps all Shelter to Soldier financials organized and ensures our program is working to its fullest potential for efficiency. She is the Vice President and CFO of Goodsell and Company CPA firm.

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**LtCol BRIAN DENNIS** BOARD MEMBER

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Brian is an accomplished marine who has and continues to honorably serve our country. His life changed for the better when he rescued a wounded, earless dog named Nubs in war-torn Iraq. He is currently stationed in Texas and continues to give back through his military service and through his work with Shelter to Soldier.

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**DR. LIZ GREY, DVM** BOARD MEMBER

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Dr. Grey is a veterinary doctor and owner of a private practice Carmel Mountain Ranch Veterinary Hospital, located in Carmel Mountain Ranch, San Diego. She has been practicing veterinary medicine for 31 years and her family is very patriotic. With a desire to give back to the brave men and women who protect our freedoms and a love for animals, Dr. Grey feels honored to serve on the Board of Directors for Shelter to Soldier.

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**DAVID MOSS, LCSW** BOARD MEMBER

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David has been working as a clinical social worker since 2001 in many capacities. He has had the honor of working in the private sector, public sector at the County, State, and Federal levels, multiple non-profit arenas, and in various medical, educational, research, and home health settings. Working full-time for the Department of Veteran Affairs for the past 9 years, David currently serves as the Mental Health Clinic Coordinator for the entire North County Region of San Diego providing clinical and administrative coordination/oversight of the North County Outpatient Mental Health Clinics.

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**MICHAEL FORD** BOARD MEMBER

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Michael is a San Diego native passionate about supporting the communities in which we live and work. He has worked with Cox Communications for 12 years and is a member of their Public Affairs team, specifically focused on Community Relations and corporate giving. He currently oversees the programs and support for the Cox Charities Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Cox Communications, which to date has given over 6 million dollars throughout Southern California. Mike is passionate about animal rescue.







**Bringing Post-9/11  
Combat Veterans  
Together with Trained,  
Rescue Dogs to Help  
Both Recover and  
Move Forward**

**Discover How You  
Can Make a Difference  
in Two Lives at  
[sheltertotosoldier.org](http://sheltertotosoldier.org)**

**Mailing Address**  
2665 Fourth Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92103

**Facility Address**  
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Oceanside, CA 92058

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[sheltertotosoldier.org](http://sheltertotosoldier.org)

