



# **EVERY DAY 20 US Veterans**

# **On Average Commit Suicide**

(U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs)

More than 500,000 servicemen and women are living with invisible wounds, from depression to post-traumatic stress disorder and 320,000 are experiencing debilitating brain trauma (Wounded Warrior Project).



# **EVERY DAY Approximately 1,800 Dogs**

## **Are Euthanized Nationwide**

(American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals)

Each year, America sees approximately 3.3 million dogs enter U.S. animal shelters nationwide. Shelter to Soldier provides them a future with a purpose and a life that is fulfilled by their bond with a veteran in need.



# **SHELTER TO SOLDIER**

A 501c3 Nonprofit Organization

Shelter to Soldier is a 501c3 nonprofit organization that adopts dogs from local rescues and shelters and trains them to become psychiatric service dogs for post-9/11 veterans suffering from Post Traumatic Stress (PTS), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) and/or Military Sexual Trauma (MST). The program also places emotional support animals (ESAs) with active duty military and veterans in need and deploys the Shelter to Soldier Canine Ambassadors, a team of therapy dogs, to provide visits of love and comfort to local military, veterans and their families.



2021-22











































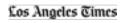
































# **Partnership**

Presented by Subaru and in partnership with 100.7 BIG FM, Dog Tales On the Road shares the success stories of the Shelter to Soldier program with the community weekly, on air, while also serving as a platform for quarterly fundraising events engaging community partners.







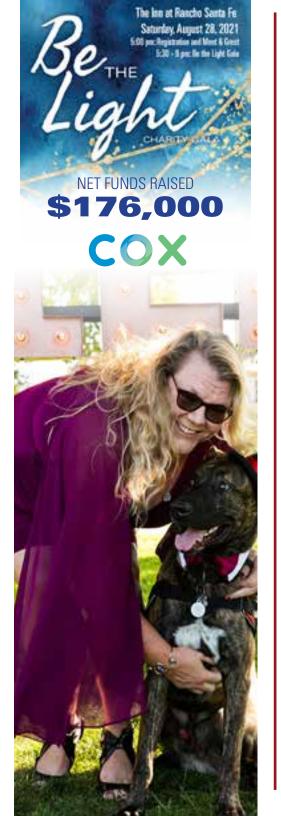


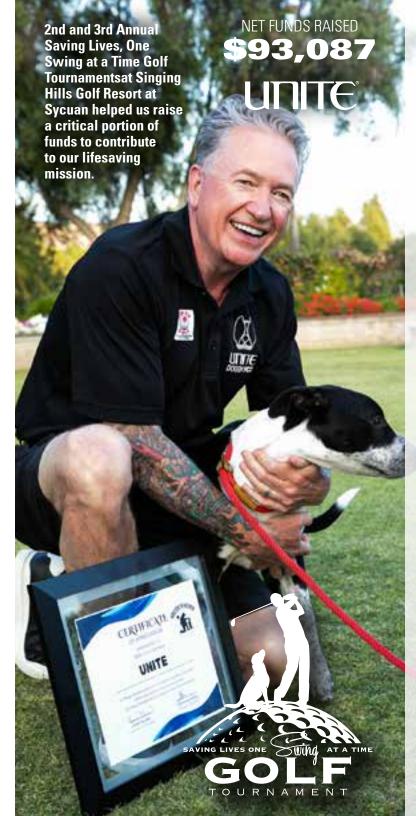




Each year, Shelter to Soldier presents an evening of thanks to its Red Star Sponsors who help to keep the mission moving forward to serve more homeless dogs and veterans in need. Guests enjoy small bites, cocktails, dessert and live music while celebrating the success stories our sponsors make possible.







# **OPERATIONS | THANK YOU**

**Anaheim Ducks Foundation, Inc.** 



**Henry Friedman** 

**Friese Family Foundation** 

**Don Jarvis** 

Jennie V. Foundation

**LPL Financial** 

**Manitou Fund** 

T. June and Simon K. C. Li Charitable Fund

Michael B. O'Donoghue Foundation

**Olivia Rotert Trust** 



Wintercreek Foundation



Thank you to Henry Schubach for funding our HENRY SCHUBACH MEDICAL WARD which supports our dogs recovering from surgeries, new dogs requiring quarantine post-adoption, and special care and isolation for dogs that become ill.



Thank you to the sponsors who have contributed to our training facility in

Oceanside, CA.











**Rennie Gabriel** & Dianne Merryl





The Wintercreek **Foundation** 



# Red Star Sponsorship | \$15,000

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. You will also have a special part in the graduation ceremony for the service dog and veteran.

\*Due to annual increases in costs, the Red Star Sponsorship level will increase to \$18,000 effective January 1, 2023.























Matsuri **Foundation**  Dianne Merryl







**Seven Woods Foundation** 



The Wintercreek **Foundation** 

+ Shelter to Soldier Dog

**Don Jarvis** 

**Morrow Legacy Foundation** 







**Ann & Andy Evans** 

# \$18,000

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.



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:

- Watch
- Behind
- Touch
- Right Under

Front

• Center

Closer



**Shelter to Soldier visits local shelters** and rescue groups and evaluates dogs 9 months to 1.5 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.

Upon qualified match — **veteran handlers train for an average of 7 months** 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.





# **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!



Three tests are required prior to completion of training:

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

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

# = TWO LIVES SAVED!

Due to increasing costs of the program, Red Star Sponsorship will increase to \$18,000 in 2023.



## Career Change Dogs | ESAs + Pet Dogs

Dogs who are not able to complete our psychiatric service dog training program due to training progress are career-changed to Emotional Support Animals (ESAs). ESAs are placed with active duty military or veterans who are recommended an ESA by a mental healthcare professional. While ESAs do not have the same public access rights as service dogs, they still serve a very important role as a companion to a deserving recipient.

- Shelter to Soldier is honored to have graduated five Emotional Support Animals in 2021-22
- Dogs who display behavioral challenges making them unsuitable as psychiatric service dogs or ESAs are adopted out as pet dogs.
- Shelter to Soldier had two pet adoption in 2021-22.









# Shelter to Soldier Canine Ambassadors | Therapy Dog Team

This is a group of certified Therapy Dogs and their dedicated handlers. These teams work in a variety of capacities to provide comfort and love to members of the veteran and active duty military community. Our Canine Ambassadors attend each STS Veteran Applicant interview, work with our veterans to strengthen their handling prior to placement with a service dog, attend Shelter to Soldier events, visit with active duty military and their families, work with active duty service members and veterans during trauma recovery therapy, and participate in veteran group therapies and events in the community.







# White Star Sponsorship | \$10,000

This sponsorship funds our Department of Veteran Services, which is committed to providing support to applicants and students of our program, increasing outreach efforts to support more veterans through Southern California, as well as supporting the Shelter to Soldier student through handler training, graduation and beyond.



100.7 BIG<sup>™</sup>

Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, **Garrett & Dunner, LLP** 

**Flagstar Foundation** 







# Blue Star Sponsorship | \$5,000

This sponsorship level supports our general operating expenses for the program. This sponsor level is also dedicated to youth initiatives in fundraising for our program.

William Clark

**Carolyn Doherty** 

**Andrew Dale** 

**Don Jarvis** 

Joyous Living, Inc.

**Military Spouse** Kickball Association



**Suzanne Witter** 





# **COMMUNITY | THANK YOU**

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



















































# **GRADUATED TEAMS**

COREY + ANGUS | MAY 2022

Sponsored by Matsuri & Seven Woods Foundations

ANONYMOUS + JASPER | MAY 2022

Sponsored by React Foundation

KELLY + JAGGER | MARCH 2022

Sponsored by Boeing

RICHIE + MILKDUD JAN 2022

Sponsored by Morrow Legacy Foundation

PETER + KOBE | JAN 2022

Sponsored by Boeing

CHELSEA + THISTLE | DEC 2021

Sponsored by Rennie Gabriel & Three Dog Bakery Encino

JOHN + TIGER | DEC 2021

Sponsored by Ensight

SHAWN + ANNIE | NOV 2021

Sponsored by Matsuri & Seven Woods Foundations

KAREN + GRACE | AUG 2021

Sponsored by David C. Copley Foundation

**BRADLEY + BERKLEY (ESA) | AUG 2021** 

Sponsored by Berkshire Hathaway Home Services

DARREN + VALOR | JULY 2021

Sponsored by Care Credit

KRISTINE + SCOUT MAY 2021

Sponsored by Petco Love

SHANE + BUDDY MARCH 2021

Sponsored by David C. Copley Foundation

COLLIN + RAMSEY JAN 2021

Sponsored by The Los Angeles Rams

DUSTIN + NIGEL JAN 2021

Sponsored by UNITE Doggy 'Poo

SHAWN + WILSON JAN 2021

Sponsored by The Fish Market

HENRY + PENNY (ESA) JAN 2021

Sponsored by Jack & Nanci Simkin

TONY + LOLA (ESA) DEC 2020

Sponsored by The Charitable Foundation (San Diego)

LITO + HALIA DEC 2020

Sponsored by Northrop Grumman

ALONSO + GLORY | NOV 2020

Sponsored by Rennie Gabriel & Dianne Merryl

BRANDON + COOPER AUG 2020

Sponsored by Los Angeles Rams

ANONYMOUS + GRUMMAN (ESA) AUG 2020

Sponsored by Northrop Grumman

BEN + LIMA AUG 2020 (\*RETIRED)

Sponsored by Petco Foundation

MATT + JULIO AUG 2020

Sponsored by David C. Copley Foundation

BRENDAN + THISTLE | AUG 2020 (\*RETIRED)

Sponsored by Rennie Gabriel & Three Dog Bakery Encino

BILLY + SOPHIA (ESA) | SEPT 2020

Sponsored by HolliDay...Anyday!

KENDRICK + KAI (ESA) JULY 2020

Sponsored by ASMC PDI

TROY + MILLIE (ESA) JULY 2020

Sponsored by Dianne Merryl

REY + KEETA JULY 2020

Sponsored by Chris & Rick Fink

TYLER + BENNY (ESA) MARCH 2020

Sponsored by The Thursday Club Juniors

KIOWA + MARLOW | MARCH 2020

Sponsored by La Mesa Rotary

TERI + RIDDLER JAN 2020

Sponsored by NCSSTS

ADAM + BASH

Sponsored by Wintercreek Foundation

JOSEPH + CHEETO

Sponsored by Petco Foundation

RICHARD + SETH

Sponsored by the Friends + Family of Seth Freidell

JOEL + DUKE

Sponsored by Rotary Club of La Mesa

JOHN + ACE

Sponsored by Matsuri + Seven Woods Foundations

JAIMIE + MOOSE (\*RETIRED)

Sponsored by Petco Foundation

AADON HIDEDTY

AARON + LIBERTY

Sponsored by Mission Beach Women's Club

**EVAN + BANDIT** 

Sponsored by Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Charitable Foundation Los Angeles

VIC + MIA

Sponsored by: Griffin Funding

DAVE + THURSDAY

\*Emotional Support Dog\*
Sponsored by The Thursday Club Juniors

ANGEL + JAX

Sponsored by UNITE

JAYSON + MIESHA (\*RETIRED)

Sponsored by Griffin Funding

**KEVIN + ANNIE** 

Sponsored by Berkshire Hathaway Home Services Brentwood

JEREMY + LUNA

Sponsored by: Integriv

JONATHON + BERKELEY (\*RETIRED)

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

LIZ + CHARLIE (\*RETIRED)

Sponsored by: Schubach Aviation

KAREN + SEVEN (\*RETIRED)

Sponsored by: FINE Magazine with Schubach Aviation

MASON + GRIFFIN (\*RETIRED)

Sponsored by: Griffin Funding

RICKY + PLATO (\*RETIRED)

Sponsored by: Plato Pet Treats

CHRIS + JADE

Sponsored by: Integriv

BEN + TANK (\*RETIRED)

Sponsored by: Wintercreek Foundation

TOM + SANDY

Sponsored by: Ranch + Coast Magazine + Wintercreek Foundation

JAMES + CALVER

Sponsored by: Wintercreek Foundation

VIC + KIRA (\*RETIRED)

Sponsored by: Wintercreek Foundation

JAMES + TYBERIUS

Sponsored by: Magic 92.5 and Cafe Coyote

MICHAEL + ZEUS | OCT 2022

Sponsored by Tea3 Foundation

TODD + RILEY | NOV 2022

Sponsored by Tea3 Foundation

TODD + JACK | DEC 2022

Sponsored by Cox Communications

SEAMUS + CHIEF (ESA) | FEB 2023

Sponsored by Griffin Funding



LINDSEY + HARU

Sponsored by San Diego Woman's Club

MERAKI + BARLEY

Sponsored by Mollie Carter & Kevin Mignogna

**HEATHER + SULLY** 

Sponsored by The Charitable Foundation Los Angeles

JESSICA + LIBBY

Sponsored by Karen & Jeff Shabel

AARON + MURPHY

Sponsored by UNITE

BLAKE + EDDIE

Sponsored by REACT Foundation

**RONEL + GUNNER** 

Sponsored by Maddie & Zander Fryer

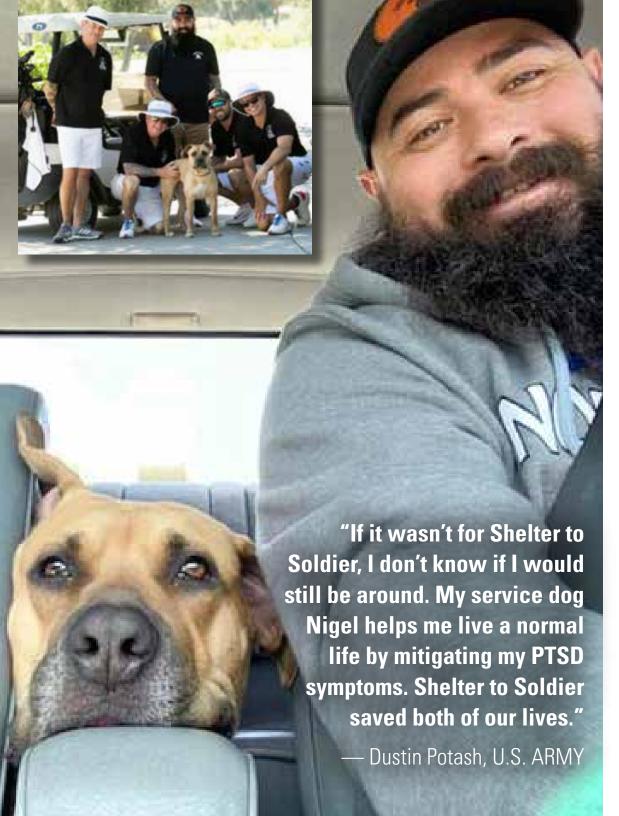
RON + DANTE

Sponsored by The Boeing Company

ADRIANNA + DEMPSEY

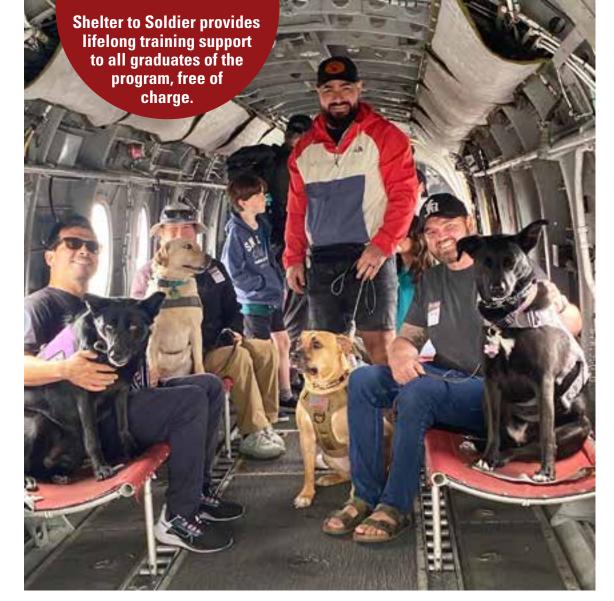
Sponsored by Dempsey Construction

Since
2012 we have
placed 65 dogs and
graduated 50 service dog
veteran/teams. 13 dogs have
been placed as Emotional
Support Animals. We currently
have 25 dogs in training.















# **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.



# **COMMUNITY OUTREACH & RESOURCE CONNECTIONS**

Shelter to Soldier has expanded our network with the Veterans Administration and supporting clinics, enhancing our collaborative efforts with case managers and nurse practitioners at Southern California VA Hospitals, and veteran advocates at regional Vet Centers.



# **SUPPORTING OUR GRADUATES LONGTERM**

Though a joyous new beginning in a positive direction, graduation for our veterans can come with challenges. We work together with the training team to engage and support our graduates to encourage and promote their continued success. We are proud to share exclusive social opportunities such as theater tickets, concert tickets, sporting events, museums, and more donated to us by our community partners as well as host social events where graduates can come together in a safe environment to continue training and share their journey with their service dog.

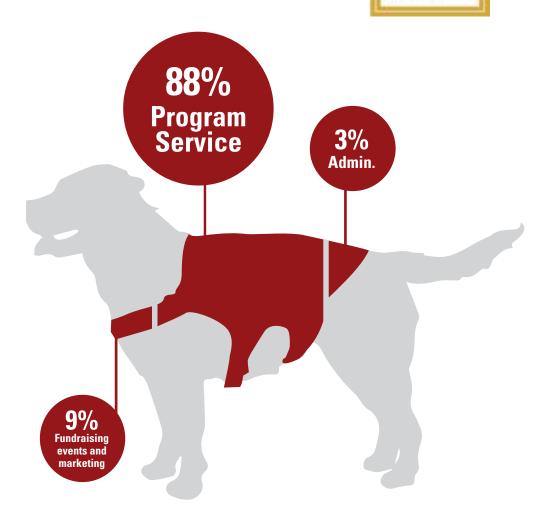


## **HOW DONATIONS ARE USED**

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. Each dollar donated has a direct impact on the success of our dogs and veterans in need.

Gold Transparency 2022

Candid.



**ACCREDITED BY** 



## **GRAHAM BLOEM, ABCDT CO-FOUNDER | PRESIDENT**

Graham's passion for helping and working with dogs and veterans runs deep. He has been a professional dog trainer for 21 years and has extensive animal related business and management experience.

## KYRIÉ BLOEM, MS CO-FOUNDER | VICE PRESIDENT

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

## KRYSTYNA HOLC. CPA CO-FOUNDER | TREASURER

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.

## **NICKY MOORE, BS BOARD MEMBER**

Nicky is our Director of Training and Operations, and a graduate of Animal Behavior College's Professional Dog Training Certification program. Originally from Cincinnati, OH, Nicky has a Bachelors of Science degree in Business Management. Nicky joined the Shelter to Soldier team in 2017 as a Dog Training Assistant and has rapidly grown into a talented dog trainer and excellent leader, with a wealth of knowledge in this field. When she's not leading this pack, she loves doing Therapy Work with STS Canine Ambassador (and Nicky's personal dog), Moose, as well as training and hiking with her Dutch Shepherd, Bodhi and "Pocket Pittie", Swayze.

## MICHAEL FORD BOARD MEMBER

Michael is a San Diego native passionate about supporting the communities in which we live and work. He has worked with Cox Communications for 14 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.

## DR. LIZ GREY, DVM BOARD MEMBER

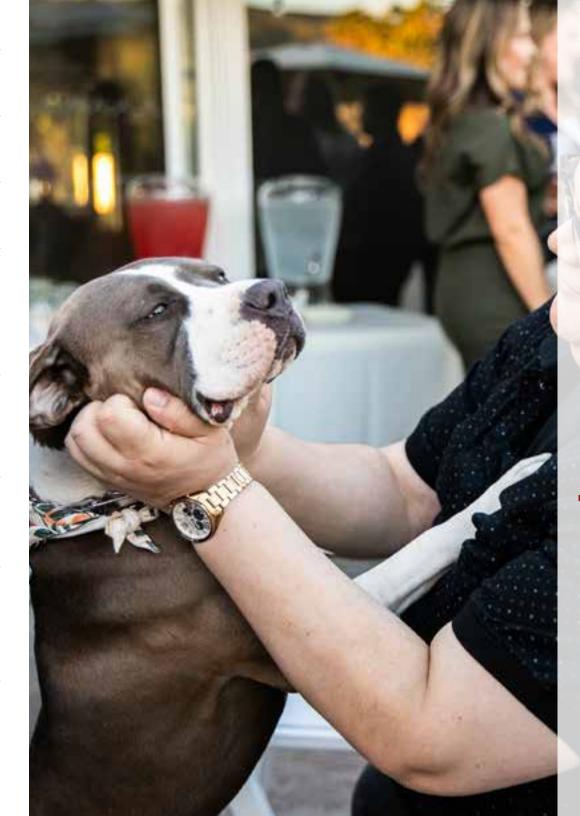
Dr. Grey is a veterinary doctor and owner of a private practice Carmel Mountain Ranch Veterinary Hospital, located in Carmel Mountain Ranch, San Diego. She has been practicing veterinary medicine for 33 years and her family is very patriotic. With a desire to give back to the brave men and women who protect our freedoms and a love for animals, Dr. Grey feels bongred to serve on the Board of Directors for Shelter to Soldier.

## DAVID MOSS, LCSW BOARD MEMBER

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 11 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.

#### **BRIAN LUKACZ BOARD MEMBER**

Brian is originally from the east coast but moved to San Diego when he was stationed at Camp Pendleton. Brian flew helicopters in the Marine Corps for 13 years and completed two combat tours in Iraq in '04-'05. Seeing the ravages of PTSD on his fellow veterans first hand has made him determined to help support Shelter to Soldier. He also loves dogs and has three Rhodesian Ridgebacks at home.



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS** 

EADERSHIP



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

Become a lifesaver today at sheltertosoldier.org

**Mailing Address** 

2366 Front Street San Diego, CA 92101

**Facility Address** 

2909 San Luis Rey Rd. Oceanside, CA 92058

760.870.5338 sheltertosoldier.org @sheltertosoldier

