

Saving Lives, Two at a Time™



SHELTER TO SOLDIER

SAVING LIVES, TWO AT A TIME™



"My service dog Riley makes me feel safe, loved, and understood in a way I never thought possible. [Riley] has become my bridge back to hope, love, and trust. He showed me that trust doesn't always come from words; it comes from consistency, presence, and action. [Riley] is more than my service dog; he is my best friend and my protector."

— Todd, USA & Riley

"I never could have imagined I could have this strong of a bond with a dog. Working toward being well has not only affected me, it has impacted everyone around me. These dogs don't just imprint on the handler, they leave their paw prints on the hearts of everybody in the family."

Aaron, USN & Murphy



"I would wake up every day wondering why I was still here, what my purpose was, and if my life even had any meaning. I now have a purpose and meaning to wake up every day."
— Autumn, USMC & Carlie

"My service dog, Koa, has become such a positive factor in my life. There are few places to make an impact on the lives of veterans and rescue dogs at the same time. Shelter to Soldier exists to do this."

— Kelley, USMC & Koa



"The gift of these dogs to us veterans in need is invaluable. I had no idea a dog would completely change my struggles and how I was navigating the world after the military. Trooper has helped calm all the chaos in me."

— Laurie, US Army & Trooper



"[Shelter to Soldier] saved both of our lives... his from the shelter and mine from my own hand. Together, we will live simply. But most importantly, we will LIVE."

— Eglantina, USN & Reginald (Reggie)



"I am beginning to regain the confidence and independence I had before my trauma, and that is big for me. There aren't enough words to express the gratitude I feel for the impact supporters have had on my life."

— Shaneka, USN & Max



EVERY DAY 18 US Veterans

On Average Die by Suicide

(U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs)

Over 1.1 million Veterans treated through the VA have been diagnosed with at least one mental health condition, including PTSD, depression, or anxiety disorders, while more than 185,000 Veterans have been diagnosed with at least one traumatic brain injury (TBI).



EVERY MINUTE Approximately 2 Dogs Are Euthanized Nationwide

(American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals)

Every day in America, nearly 900 dogs lose their lives in shelters simply because there aren't enough homes or resources; that's **1.6 dogs every minute**. At Shelter to Soldier, we're changing that story - giving rescue dogs a second chance and pairing them with post-9/11 veterans whose lives are transformed through the healing power of partnership.



SHELTER TO SOLDIER

A 501c3 Nonprofit Organization

Shelter to Soldier™ is dedicated to *Saving Lives, Two at a Time* by rescuing dogs from local shelters and preparing them for lives of purpose, service, and companionship. Through our flagship Psychiatric Service Dog Program, we pair highly trained rescue dogs with post-9/11 veterans facing the challenges of invisible wounds.

Our Emotional Support Animal Program, Canine Ambassadors Therapy Dog Team, Morale Dog Program, community outreach initiatives, and educational services further extend the healing power of the human-animal bond throughout military and first responder communities.

Together, these programs create meaningful connections that foster resilience, improve quality of life, strengthen families, and provide renewed purpose for both the people and dogs we serve.

SAVING LIVES
2
AT A TIME
2026



Media Coverage



The San Diego Union-Tribune



Los Angeles Times



Media Partnership

Our mission reaches far beyond our training campus thanks to the power of meaningful media partnerships. Through our **Dog Tales** segment on 91X, feature stories in **Ranch & Coast Magazine**, and the strategic guidance of our publicist, **BEH Media**, we've continued to elevate awareness, inspire community engagement, and share the life-changing stories of the veterans and rescue dogs we serve.





Each year, Shelter to Soldier presents an evening of thanks to our major donors and community partners who help to keep the mission moving forward to serve more homeless dogs and veterans in need. Guests enjoy small bites and cocktails while celebrating the success stories our sponsors make possible.



Thank you to Rancho Bernardo Inn for generously hosting and partially sponsoring this special event.



Our 4th Annual Sisterhood of Service event, presented by Cape Rey Carlsbad Beach in partnership with Foundation for Women Warriors, united female veterans and servicewomen for a day of wellness, connection, and empowerment, including ocean view yoga, meaningful networking, and inspiring speakers.



Our Second Annual Salute to Paws 5K & Gratitude Festival for Dogs brought together runners, supporters, veterans, and their canine companions for another unforgettable day of community, gratitude, and impact, raising critical funds to support our life-saving mission.

MORALE DOGS PROGRAM

In 2025, Shelter to Soldier launched our Canine Ambassador program, and in 2026 - we've reached exciting new milestones in our ongoing mission to support the mental well-being of active-duty personnel.

Lady officially assumed her duties aboard the USS Boxer, joining Raider, who continues his vital work on the USS Makin Island.

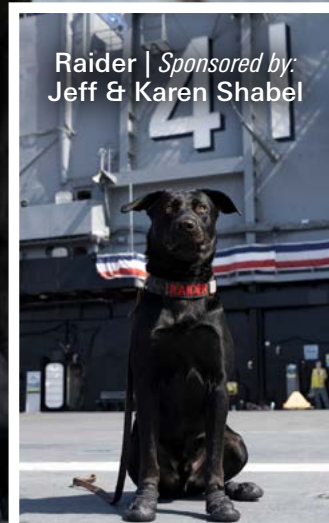
We are also thrilled to introduce Butterscotch, who is now actively serving the crew of the USS America, and Dawson who is fully trained and ready to serve a ship in need.

Together, these exceptional dogs are making a profound daily impact on the brave men and women who serve our country at sea.

Dawson | *Sponsored by:*



Butterscotch | *Sponsored by:*
Elizabeth Mueller



Raider | *Sponsored by:*
Jeff & Karen Shabel



Lady | *Sponsored by:*
Mission Beach
Women's Club

Thank You to
our 2026 Morale
Dog Sponsors:

Elizabeth Mueller



More than 300 active-duty service members died by suicide in 2024, underscoring the urgent need for continued mental health support and intervention.

Behind every statistic is a son, daughter, spouse, parent, teammate, or friend. At Shelter to Soldier, we believe no service member should have to navigate the invisible wounds of military service alone.



RED STAR Sponsorship

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 veteran suffering from PTSD, TBI, and/or military sexual trauma (MST). You will also have a special part in the graduation ceremony for the service dog and veteran.

3+ Shelter to Soldier Dogs



Logomark
Different by design

Sean Cocchia

SD | BOTOX



Rose Gonzales

**Linden Root
Dickinson
Foundation**



UNITE®

**Jack & Nanci
Simkin**



2+ Shelter to Soldier Dogs



Zander Fryer

Elizabeth Mueller

Paul Schultheis

Dr. Fred & Kim Pike



1+ Shelter to Soldier Dog

Anonymous Donor

Deborah Ashton

Pamela Burkholz

Ron Cadwell

Greg & Chris Hlavaty

Ferrill Hicks

Brian Lukacz

Los Angeles Rotary Club

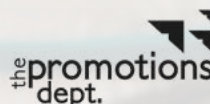
Sandy Scarsella

Rita Smith

Henry & Laura Weaks

Joshua & Valerie Volen

Sandra Zarcades



SPONSORSHIPS | MAKE A DIFFERENCE

\$22,000

It costs an average of \$22,000 to support a service dog and veteran team from adoption to graduation. This comprehensive funding covers every step of their journey, including rescue and adoption fees (when applicable), baseline medical and daily care, specialized professional training, and all the essential equipment the pair needs to succeed.

Shelter to Soldier dogs are trained over 12-18 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:

- Watch
- Front
- Behind
- Center
- Touch
- Closer
- Right
- Under



Shelter to Soldier visits local shelters and rescue groups to find ideal candidates for our training program. We evaluate healthy dogs of any breed, typically 9 to 18 months old and weighing 45 to 70 pounds. During these evaluations, we look for a stable and social demeanor, a strong desire to work, food or toy motivation, and the ability to confidently navigate new environments, people, and noises.





Once paired with a compatible service dog, **veteran handlers undergo an average of seven months of training**, which is tailored to the team's natural pace and abilities. During this time, handlers build a loving bond with their dog through effective communication. They also master essential commands and familiarize themselves with service dog laws and regulations, fully preparing them for life with a service animal.



GRADUATION!

Once a team successfully completes all training and required assessments, we honor their hard work with a graduation ceremony. This milestone not only celebrates the shared accomplishments of the veteran and their service dog, but marks **the true beginning of their lifelong journey together.**



Three tests are required prior to completion of training:

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

**ONE YEAR
+ \$22,000**

**= TWO LIVES
SAVED!**

(EFFECTIVE JAN 1, 2026)



Psychiatric Service Dog & Morale Dog | Training Program

Support of this fund allows us to provide safe housing for each service dog recruit, fair wages for our service dog training staff, and off-site training opportunities to prepare our recruits for life as service dogs in the real-world. Shelter to Soldier service dogs have enjoyed training outings at Universal Studios, the San Diego Zoo, and local dining and shopping sites as they sharpen their skills and task work.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2026 PSYCHIATRIC SERVICE DOG TRAINING PROGRAM GRANTORS:

Anonymous Donor
Elizabeth Mueller
Jeffrey Family Foundation
Linden Root Dickinson Foundation
Rancho Santa Fe Women's Fund
Robert L. and Margaret K. Balmes Family Trust

The Cushman Foundation
The Doyle Foundation
The Gibney Family Foundation
Veterans United Foundation
Walter J. and Betty C. Zable Foundation

Shelter to Soldier Food Pantry | Rescue Pups

This fund provides nourishment for our hard-working rescue pups throughout their journey to becoming psychiatric service dogs for veterans in need. From adoption through graduation, the food pantry provides each dog with necessary supplements, training treats to reward all of the great behaviors they are shaping, and enrichment items to keep them stimulated and engaged between training sessions.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2026 FOOD PANTRY GRANTORS:



Anonymous Donor
Knopf Family Foundation
Michael B. O'Donoghue Foundation Fund
Paul Schultheis
Rancho Santa Fe Rotary Foundation
Roy and Marian Holleman Foundation
Susan Morrow Legacy Foundation
The Country Friends
Vista Elks Lodge 1968



STS Wishlist

Support the
Food Pantry

Medical Fund | Veterinary Care

Behind every successful veteran-service dog team is a healthy rescue dog. Our Medical Fund covers the essential veterinary care that gives each dog the best possible start - from preventive care and diagnostics to surgeries and rehabilitation - ensuring they are physically ready to serve those who have served our nation.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2026 MEDICAL FUND GRANTORS:

Anonymous Donor

Knopf Family Foundation

Meet the Development Team

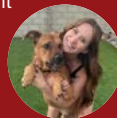


Kyrié Bloem
Cofounder, Vice President,
Director of Development

Lauren Rainwater
Development Associate
Fundraising Events



Julie Rausch
Development Associate —
Gift Management



Continuing Education Fund | Best Practices

Continuing education ensures our development, training and animal care teams remain at the forefront of best practices in nonprofit fundraising, psychiatric service dog training, and animal care - allowing us to provide the highest quality, loving experience to every rescue dog and veteran we serve while raising funds to sustain our programs long term.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2026 CONTINUING EDUCATION GRANTORS:

Hunter Industries



Shelter to Soldier Canine Ambassadors | Therapy Dog Team

With over 500,000 servicemen and women living with invisible wounds like PTSD and depression, our Certified Therapy Dogs and their handlers step in to provide critical comfort. Known as Canine Ambassadors, these teams serve veterans and active-duty military through meaningful outreach. They assist in trauma recovery therapy, support veterans during program interviews, help strengthen handling skills, and visit military families. They have even boosted morale aboard San Diego's amphibious assault ships, bringing love and relief to service members working in highly demanding conditions.



Shelter to Soldier is proud to have 8 therapy dog teams serving our community as Canine Ambassadors thanks to the support of donors

Canine Comfort & Logomark
Different by design

FUND A NEED | PROGRAMS

\$100,000 +

Sean Cocchia

Cox Charities

**The Salah
Foundation**

**Jeff & Karen
Shabel**

\$50,000 +

**Avion Law
Bridget Rose
Foundation, Inc.**

**Cox Charities
Darlene Peters Trust
Griffin Funding**

**Linden Root Dickinson
Foundation
Logomark, Inc.
Michael B. O'Donoghue**

**Foundation Fund
Paul Schultheis
The Salah Foundation**

**The Friese Foundation
UNITE Hair
Vulcan Materials
Company**

\$20,000 +

Anonymous Donor
C.W. Driver
Elizabeth Mueller
Dr. Fred & Kim Pike
Frontwave Credit Union
Knopf Family Foundation

Don Jarvis *in memory of Jan Jarvis*
Pamela Burkholz
Petco Love
Rancho Santa Fe Women's Fund
Rita Smith
Robert L. and Margaret K. Balmes

Family Trust
SDBotox
Sycuan Casino Resort
TCW Global
The Gibney Family Foundation
The Hero Company

The Jack and Nanci Simkin Foundation
Volkswagen Parts & Service
Rose Gonzales
Los Angeles Rotary Club

\$10,000 +

American Online Giving Foundation, Inc.
Anonymous Donor
Carolyn Doherty
Charitable Gift Fund/Bank of America
Goodrich Family Foundation
Henry and Laura Weeks Family Foundation
Jeff Swickard
Jeffrey Family Foundation

Jennie V. Foundation
Las Patronas
Mary Margaret Darling
O'Connell Family Foundation
Pay it Forward Processing
Pegasus Clean
Ron Cadwell
Roy and Marian Holleman Foundation

Simple Generosity/Target Circle
Smart & Final Charitable Foundation
Subaru of America Inc.
Susan Morrow Legacy Foundation
The Country Friends
The Cushman Foundation
The Doyle Foundation
Triple-S Steel / Maas Hansen

VFW Auxiliary
Viasat
Walter J. and Betty C. Zable Foundation
Westlake Realty
Leidos

\$5,000 +

Angela Peto
Anonymous Donor
Andrew and Brenda Dale
Aris Anagnos Charitable Trust
Bethel Family Charitable Fund
Bill Howe Family of Companies
BMW Car Club of America
Carol and George Henry Family
Foundation

Chase Bank
Christine Campbell-Philhower
Daniel Crabtree
Dawn Ragnar
Dennis McConnell
Evelyn Favero-Heald
Fidelity Brokerage Services
Grayson & Kelli Grove

Greg & Chris Hlavaty
Harry and Judith Collins Foundation
Heat Wave Visual
Hunter Industries
Joe & Reena Spurrier
John Tishler
Kaiser Permanente San Diego
Ritch & Lehn Goetz

Marshall & Jackie Baca
Morgan Stanley Gift Fund
Patricia Perry
Rancho Santa Fe Rotary Foundation
Rick & Chris Fink
San Diego Self Storage
San Diego Woman's Club
Sandy Scarsella

Scott A. and Elizabeth V. Christensen
Charitable Foundation
Stephanie Caldwell
The Boeing Company
The Elizabeth Jane Ennis-Thomas Trust
The Foltz Family
Tito's Vodka
Vigil Family Foundation



Expanding Our Capacity | Growing Our Impact

As demand for Shelter to Soldier's programs continues to grow, so does our need for the space, infrastructure, and resources required to serve more rescue dogs, veterans, and military personnel.

In 2026, we launched a significant capacity expansion project designed to strengthen our training operations and prepare our organization for its next chapter of growth. This fall, Shelter to Soldier will take over a second facility, providing the additional space needed to expand our programs, support our growing team, and create greater opportunity to rescue, train, and place more dogs with those who need them.

**A
Second
Home**

This important milestone is being made possible by a dedicated community of donors who believe in our vision and are helping build the foundation for lasting impact.

With heartfelt gratitude to the donors helping make this expansion possible:



**Jeff & Karen
Shabel**

Sean Cocchia

LAS PATRONAS
PARTNERING WITH THE SAN DIEGO COMMUNITY SINCE 1946



San Diego Woman's Club
Founded in 1892
Proud Members of the General Federation of Women's Clubs
& California Federation of Women's Clubs



ROOM TO GROW | MORE LIVES TO CHANGE

GRADUATED | TEAMS

Since our inception in 2012, Shelter to Soldier has adopted **168** dogs for our program and placed **105** psychiatric service dogs/**30** emotional support animals with veterans in need.

Shelter to Soldier currently has **50** dogs in training at our campuses in Oceanside, CA.

MARK + REED | AUGUST 2026

Sponsored by SDBotax

ANTHONY "GLEN" + ROSIE | AUGUST 2026

Sponsored by Vulcan Materials Company

DAVID + REMI | AUGUST 2026

Sponsored by Vulcan Materials Company

DOUGLAS + BOOMER | AUGUST 2026

Sponsored by Vulcan Materials Company

SHE-RON + CHARLIE | AUGUST 2026

Sponsored by Sandra Zarcades

DOMINIC + DOTTIE | AUGUST 2026

Sponsored by Vulcan Materials Company

DAN + NOVA | JULY 2026

Sponsored by Frontwave Credit Union

MICHAEL + MAVERICK | JULY 2026

Sponsored by TCWGlobal

KIESHAWN + LANEY | JULY 2026

Sponsored by Rose Gonzales

ANASTASIA + POLINA | JUNE 2026

Sponsored by Linden Root Dickinson Foundation

MIKE + ABIGAIL | MAY 2026

Sponsored by San Diego Womens Club

STEPHANIE + PHOEBE | FEBRUARY 2026

Sponsored by Cox Charities

DONNA + FORREST | FEBRUARY 2026

Sponsored by Subaru x 91X Dog Tales

NIC + ERNIE | FEBRUARY 2026

Sponsored by Veterans Audiology

AHMED + BIRDIE (ESA) | JANUARY 2026

Sponsored by Tea3Foundation

REBECCA + GAIL | DECEMBER 2025

Sponsored by Elizabeth Mueller

MARCUS + DIEGO | DECEMBER 2025

Sponsored by Linden Root Dickinson Foundation

MASHEELA + SHELTON | AUGUST 2025

Sponsored by Cox Communications

SHAWN + BELLA | AUGUST 2025

Sponsored by Logomark

JONATHAN + JUPITER (ESA) | JULY 2025

Sponsored by Dempsey Construction

TOM + LIBBY | JULY 2025

Sponsored by Karen and Jeff Shabel

EGLANTINA + REGGIE | JULY 2025

Sponsored by Griffin Funding

JUAN + WALDEN (ESA) | MAY 2025

Sponsored by Linden Root Dickinson Foundation

JONATHAN + JETT | MAY 2025

Sponsored by Lisbeth Eddy

KELLEY + KOA | MAY 2025

Sponsored by Jolie Budau

BRANDON + POOCHA NACUA | APRIL 2025

Sponsored by the Los Angeles Rams

AUTUMN + CARLIE | APRIL 2025

Sponsored by Dr. Fred & Kim Pike

ROBERT + ANNIE (ESA) | APRIL 2025

Sponsored by Matsuri & Seven Woods Foundations

EDGAR + BANDIT (ESA) | MARCH 2025

Sponsored by Peek Family Foundation

KEVIN + INDY | JANUARY 2025

Sponsored by Westlake Realty

BELINDA + HAMBURGER | DECEMBER 2024

Sponsored by Peek Family Foundation

ARTHUR + POSH | DECEMBER 2024

Sponsored by UNITE

SHANEKA + MAX | DECEMBER 2024

Sponsored by Logomark

JEREMY + JUPITER (ESA) | AUGUST 2024

Sponsored by Dempsey Construction

CORBIN + ROCKY (ESA) | AUGUST 2024

Sponsored by Avion Law

ANTONIO + STELLA | AUGUST 2024

Sponsored by Tea 3 Foundation

TREVOR + PALMER | AUGUST 2024

Sponsored by Melanie Mayer

JERMAINE + SALLY | AUGUST 2024

Sponsored by Nanci & Jack Simkin

RICARDO + GOOSE | AUGUST 2024

Sponsored by Team Keeping Finn

JESSICA + WAGNER | JUNE 2024

Sponsored by Subaru, USA

TIMOTHY + OLIVER | MAY 2024

Sponsored by David C. Copley Foundation

TERRANCE + DUG | MARCH 2024

Sponsored by San Diego Woman's Club

JORDAN + BARNEY | DECEMBER 2023

Sponsored by Barnes Firm

TAYLOR + SHELTON | DECEMBER 2023

Sponsored by COX Communications

LAURIE + TROOPER | DECEMBER 2023

Sponsored by Logomark

ADRIANNA + DEMPSEY | NOVEMBER 2023

Sponsored by Dempsey Construction

AARON + MURPHY | OCTOBER 2023

Sponsored by UNITE

JESSICA + LIBBY | SEPTEMBER 2023

Sponsored by Karen and Jeff Shabel

RON + DANTE | AUG 2023

Sponsored by The Boeing Company

BLAKE + EDDIE | JULY 2023

Sponsored by REACT Foundation

CLARISSA + SULLY (ESA) | JULY 2023

Sponsored by Berkshire Hathaway Charitable

LINDSEY + HARU | JUNE 2023

Sponsored by the San Diego Women's Club

ODLANIER + XANDER (ESA) | MAY 2023

Sponsored by Tea3 Foundation

MELANIE + LOLA (ESA) | MAY 2023

Sponsored by Berkshire Hathaway Charitable Foundation San Diego

Many more from 2013-2023,

visit sheltertosoldier.org

to view all success stories.

TEAMS | IN TRAINING



MARIA + LENNOX

Sponsored by Anonymous Donor

JUSTIN + BEAN

Sponsored by SDBotax

CHELSEA + BODIE

Sponsored by Logomark

ADAM + DUKE

Sponsored by Logomark

MATT + JOHNNY

Sponsored by Cox Charities

XHAVIER + PENELOPE

Sponsored by Logomark

TROY + COOPER

Sponsored by Logomark

SAM + SASSY

Sponsored by Anonymous Donor

PETER + CHIP

Sponsored by Chris & Greg Hlavaty

TOM + BAILEY

Sponsored by Logomark

LEILANI + JULES

Sponsored by Tea3Foundation

Our
2026 goal
is to graduate 20
service dog teams and 5
emotional support animal
teams this year, as well as
adopt 25 more dogs for our
program.



"Abi has given me the ability to feel comfortable again in society. Before, I was always on edge, which made me irritable with the people I love. She gives me reassurance that someone has my back—and my family's back."

Having her with us just felt like everything finally fit together.

Shelter to Soldier isn't just changing my life; you're helping me move forward with my education, my career, and my future. Thank you."

— Mike, USMC Veteran

Mike & Abi
Sponsored by



San Diego Woman's Club

Founded in 1892
Proud Members of the General Federation of Women's Clubs
& California Federation of Women's Clubs



"You're giving me the ability to maneuver again in society and feel comfortable."

OUR PACK | TRAINING & ANIMAL CARE TEAM



DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS AND TRAINING
Nicky Moore / Animal Behavior College - Certified Dog Trainer,
Bachelors of Science in Business Management



ANIMAL CARE SUPERVISOR
Lauree Gollner

DOG TRAINERS + TRAINING ASSISTANT

Shelby Burdette



Kayla Buford



Emily Andrada



Andres Orozco



Hailey Isbel



Rachael Doty



FOUNDERS

Graham Bloem | Animal Behavior College - Certified Dog Trainer

Kyrié Bloem | Bachelor of Arts, Masters of Science

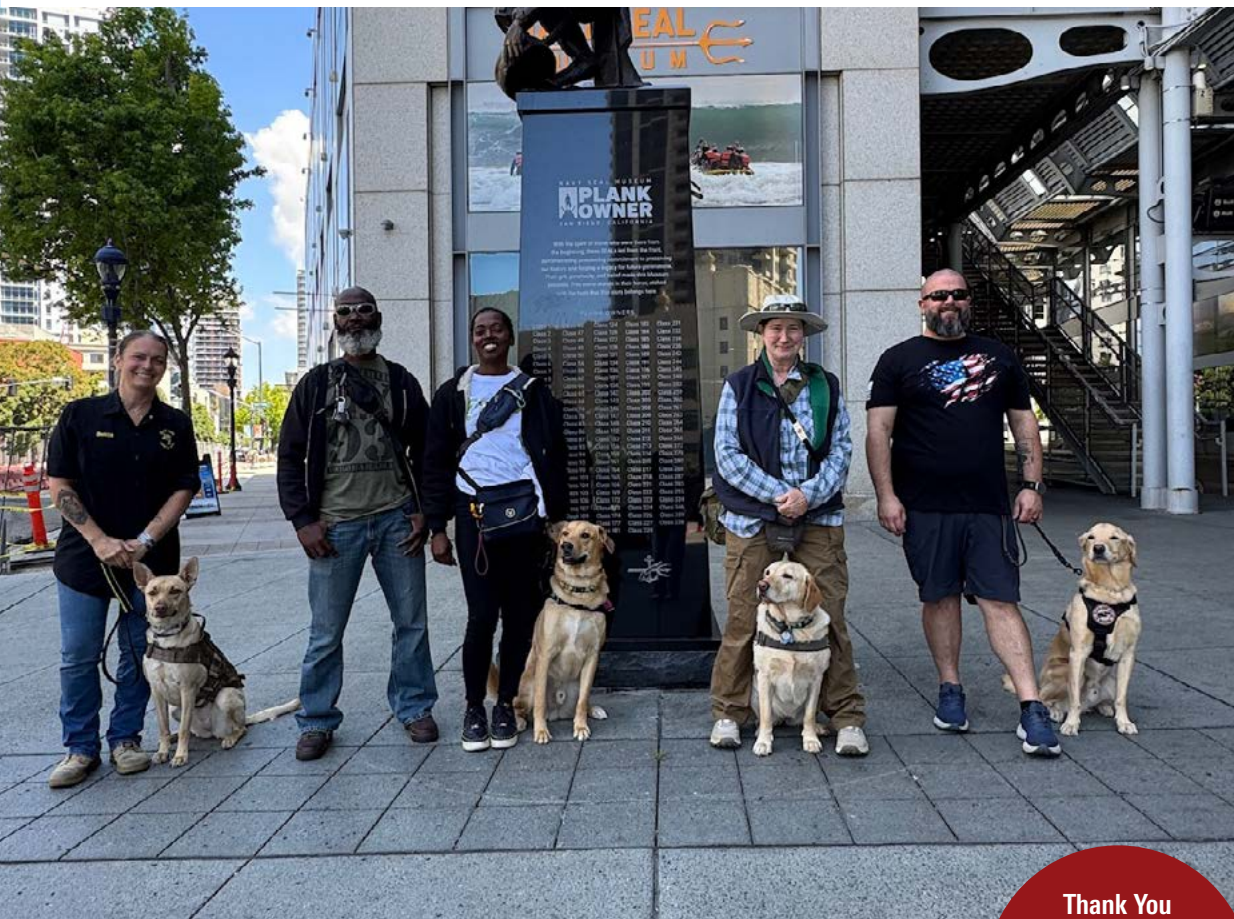
Krys Holc | Certified Public Accountant

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 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:



Shelter to Soldier is proud to employ 1 veteran, 1 military spouse, and 3 children of veterans.



Thank You
to Rita Smith
for her support of
our new Shelter to
Soldier Alumni
Fund.



David Moss, LCSW
STS Mental Health Liaison



Tommy Moore
US Navy, Veteran & Community
Outreach Representative



Callie Espinoza
Veteran Services Assistant



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.

Shelter
to Soldier
provides lifelong
training support to
all graduates of the
program, free of
charge.

YOUR IMPACT | HOW DONATIONS ARE USED



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.

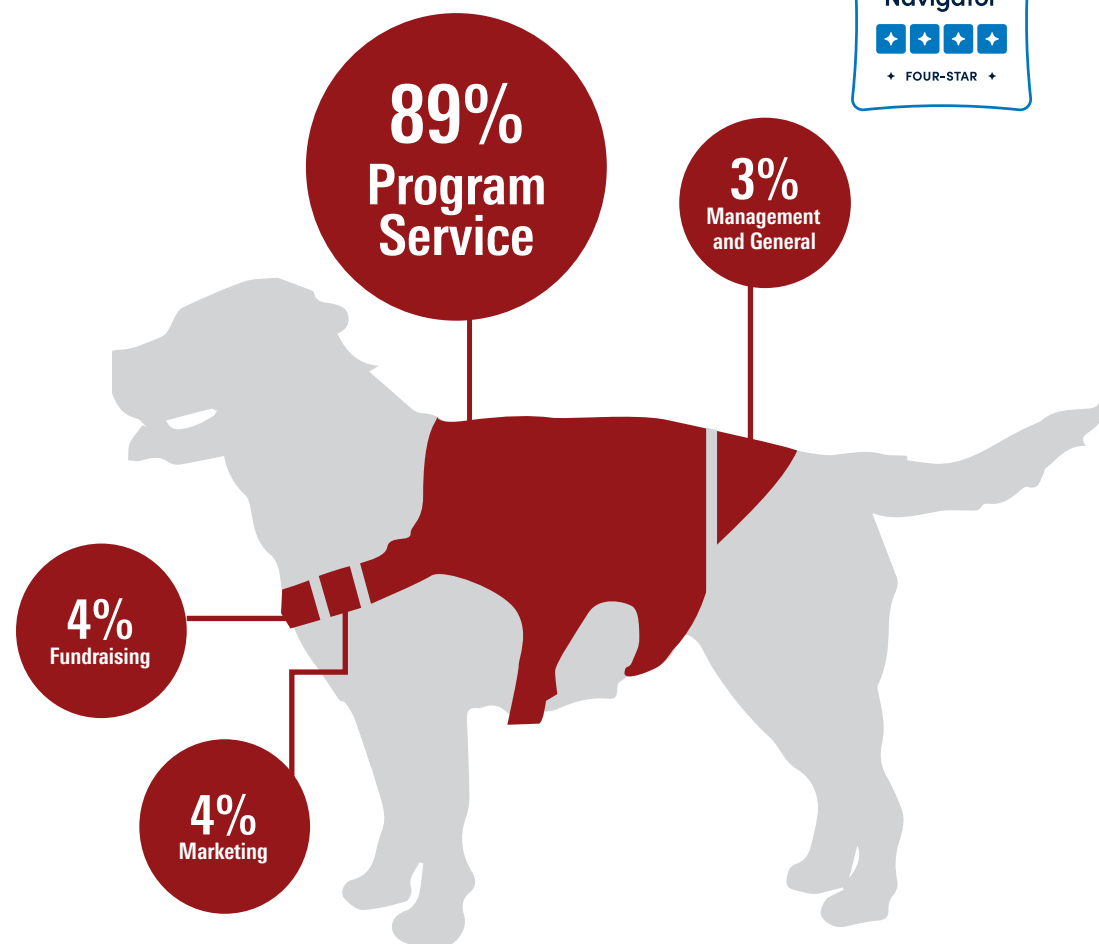
Platinum
Transparency
2026

Candid.

Charity
Navigator



+ FOUR-STAR +



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 25 years and has extensive animal related business and management experience.

KYRIÉ BLOEM, MS CO-FOUNDER | VICE PRESIDENT | BOARD SECRETARY

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. 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 dedicated to strengthening our local communities. He has spent his career in corporate public affairs, leading philanthropic initiatives, nonprofit partnerships, and employee volunteer programs throughout Southern California. A lifelong animal lover, Michael is especially passionate about animal rescue and the life-changing bond between rescue dogs and the veterans they serve through Shelter to Soldier.

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 honored to serve on the Board of Directors for Shelter to Soldier.

DAVID MOSS, LCSW BOARD MEMBER

David has 28 years of clinical social work experience specializing in grief, loss, and trauma, with a career dedicated to serving active-duty military members and veterans across private practice, nonprofit, medical, educational, and government settings. He has worked with the Department of Veterans Affairs for 18 years and currently serves as the Mental Health Clinic Coordinator for the North County Region of San Diego, providing clinical and administrative oversight for its 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.





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

**Become a lifesaver today at
shelertosoldier.org**

Mailing Address

2366 Front St., San Diego, CA 92101

Facility Address

3308 Mission Ave., Oceanside, CA 92058

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Seven

This impact report is dedicated to service dog Seven who passed this year. For more than a decade, Service Dog Seven faithfully stood beside her partner, U.S. Navy Veteran Karen, providing unwavering companionship, confidence, and support through life's challenges. Their partnership was a beautiful reminder of the profound bond that can exist between a veteran and a rescue dog whose life has been forever transformed through purpose.

Her successor service dog, Grace, has helped to carry Seven's torch - standing by Karen's side as her steadfast companion.

