



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.

"Shelter to Soldier's gradual and comprehensive training approach has re-familiarized me with the innate goodness of my soul. For far too long, I had become focused on my pain, anxiety and anger. I no longer knew how to get out of the PTSD cyclone and was taking my family on a downward spiral."

"For years, I confused anger as a way to show love, and I had forgotten to give my wife and kids positive reinforcement and a healthy dose of praise. I immediately came home from training and apologized to my family and vowed to be forward leaning with love. Training with Moose re-trained me to become more aware of my positivity, to not hold a grudge, and to love (not because I have to) but because love is my true nature."

— Leo Casiple, US ARMY Ret.



EVERY 69 MINUTES **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.



Allison Shamrell Photography

EVERYDAY 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.



Brock Scott Photography

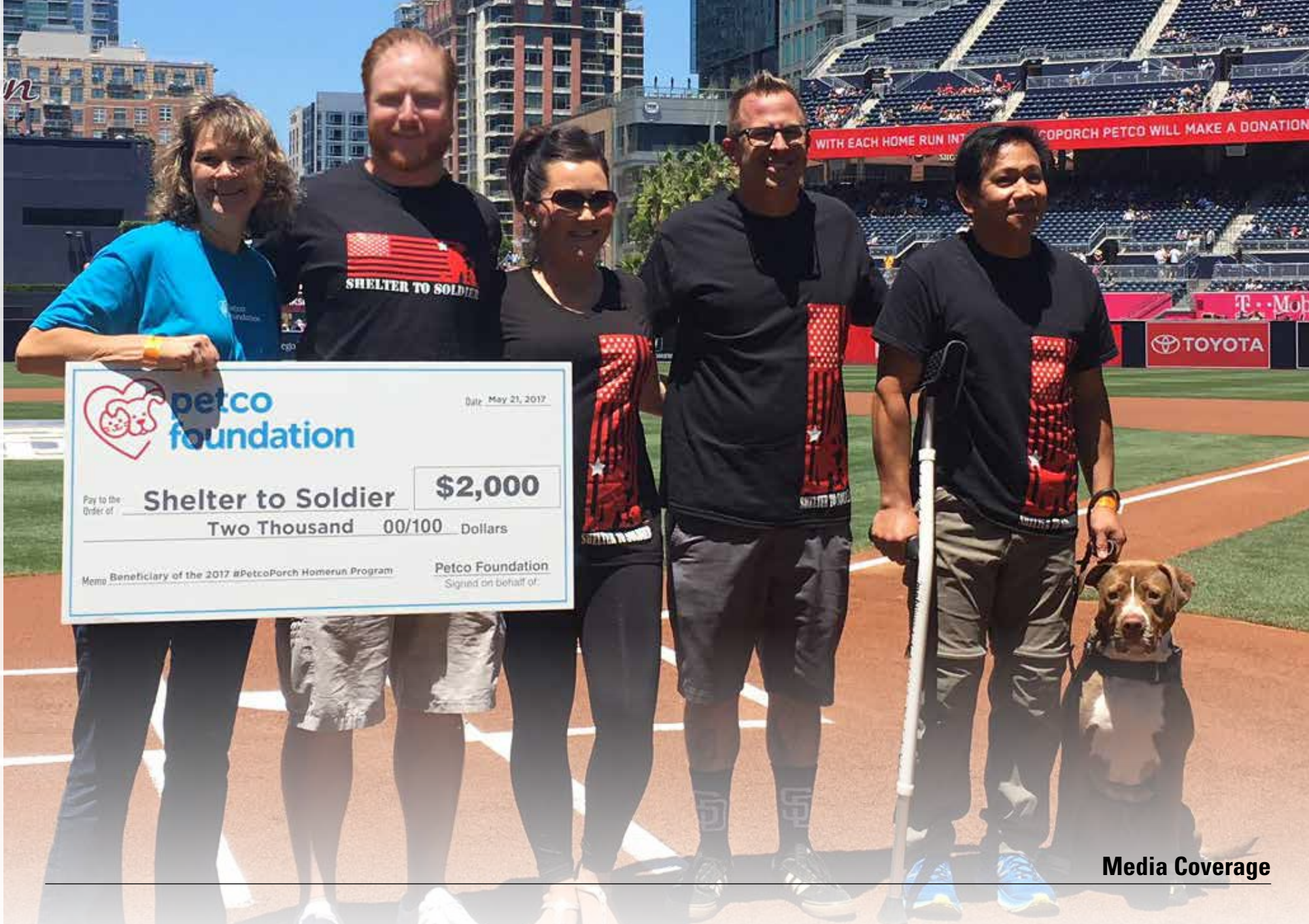
SHELTER TO SOLDIER **A 501c3 Nonprofit Organization**

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.

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GIVING

SUPPORT OUR MISSION



Media Coverage

Rancho Santa Fe
REVIEW

8

MAGIC
92.5

abc
10NEWS

San Diego
6 *the CW*

FOX
5
SAN DIEGO

RANCH & COAST
San Diego's Ultimate Lifestyle Magazine

NBC
SAN DIEGO

The San Diego Union-Tribune

BusinessWire
A Berkshire Hathaway Company

YAHOO!
FINANCE

MilitaryPress

HOMELAND
MAGAZINE

dogster
Magazine

HOW SPONSORS **MAKE A DIFFERENCE**



Red Star Sponsorship | \$12,000

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.

Arlene and
Michael Rosen
Foundation

BERKSHIRE
HATHAWAY
HomeServices



David C. Copley
FOUNDATION

Goodsell
& Company Inc.
Certified Public Accountants



Integriv™
IT TRANSFORMING BUSINESS

Matsuri
Foundation



NORTHROP GRUMMAN



Rotary Club
of La Mesa

Rennie Gabriel

Seven Woods
Foundation



The Wintercreek
Foundation



\$12,000

Each service dog/veteran team costs our program \$12,000 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.



Three tests are required prior to completion of training:

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



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

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 3-5 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.

**ONE YEAR
+ \$12,000
= TWO LIVES
SAVED!**





The continued support of our community partners allows us to serve more shelter dogs and veterans in need. Through discounted prices and in-kind donations, these businesses have helped us keep our training program costs down while providing our service dogs in training with the best care possible during their journey with us.

*Carmel Mountain Ranch
Veterinary Hospital*

 **Canine
Caviar**





In Fall 2016, Shelter to Soldier service dog recipient Vic Martin proposed a volunteer role so that he could get more involved in serving veterans who are battling the same issues with which he was so familiar. Very quickly,

Vic began accepting all incoming veteran applications, explaining our application process to them in full detail, and guiding them along their application journey including working with health care providers to obtain their letter of recommendation for a service dog and proof of combat-related diagnoses. He also volunteered his time to connect with our veteran graduates and veterans in handler training to get them together for fun meet-ups with their service dogs, worked with our training team to help those graduates in need of follow up training schedule time at our facility, and sent very valuable information regarding veteran services and events within the community to our veteran team on a regular basis.

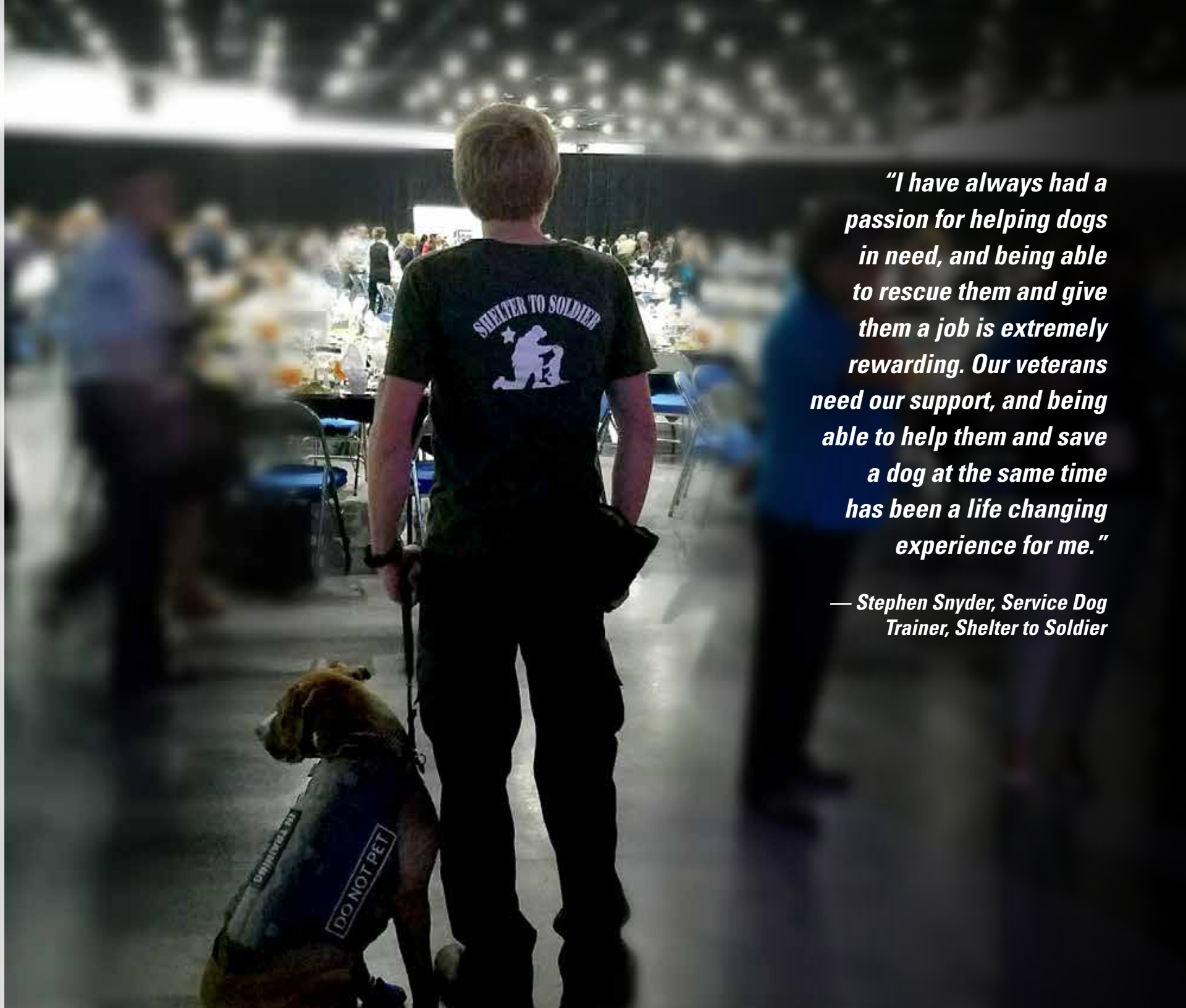
In January 2017, Vic came on board as an employee and Veteran Advocate under our Service Dog Training program. He has continued his extraordinary work to expand support services for veteran applicants in our program and has helped to streamline the application process, making it more accessible for the veterans and more thorough for the means of our program and Board of Directors' communication regarding applicants. Vic is also an ambassador for the organization, representing our program at various speaking engagements throughout Southern California.

Through your contributions, Shelter to Soldier was able to create a job for a deserving veteran who had already given back so much to our country and to fellow veterans like him.

Veteran applicants from our program are receiving the guidance they need from someone who completely understands what they are struggling with on a personal level. They are completing the application process with more success than we have ever before seen.



DOGS | IN TRAINING



"I have always had a passion for helping dogs in need, and being able to rescue them and give them a job is extremely rewarding. Our veterans need our support, and being able to help them and save a dog at the same time has been a life changing experience for me."

— Stephen Snyder, Service Dog Trainer, Shelter to Soldier



JULIO 1 YEAR OLD

After a rough start at life with Parvovirus, Julio is now happy and thriving and showing off his talent during his training sessions with Shelter to Soldier service dog trainers. Though his past has seen struggle, we can see that his strength lies in his capacity to love, and we know that one day he will pay forward the compassion he has received and help a veteran to heal as a psychiatric service dog.

Sponsored by David C. Copley Foundation



MIA 2 YEARS OLD

Mia found her way to us by way of a family friend. Although our program does not accept owner surrenders, we couldn't pass up this extraordinary girl. Mia has the right temperament and drive to fulfill a greater purpose than a pet dog. She has a huge heart and is always looking to her handlers for direction. Mia has progressed quickly with her training in a short amount of time and we are confident that she will make a great service dog for a veteran in need. *Sponsored by Griffin Funding*



JAX 1 YEAR OLD

Jax is full of spunk and life, and we are thrilled to have him in our program. He had a rough start in our program as he recovered from some GI issues that he had in his life before the shelter, but thanks to our veterinary partner and his sponsors, we have been able to find a special diet that is working well for him and making him happy! He is very affectionate, loves to train, and enjoys going for walks. While there is some time to go in his service dog training, he has made steady improvements and really enjoys working in his new job! *Sponsored by UNITE Eurotherapy and Doggy 'Poo by UNITE*



THURSDAY 10 MONTHS OLD

Thursday is an energetic, happy little girl with a strong drive to work, even at her young age. She is sweet, kind, and incredibly goofy, and will learn quickly in our program. She is our youngest adoption to-date (at 6 months of age at time of adoption), but we were so confident in her behavior and demeanor that we even modified our acceptance criteria to accept approved dogs as young as 6 months. We are so lucky to have found this sweet girl and we look forward to being a special part of her bright future. *Sponsored by The Thursday Club Juniors*



MIESHA 3 YEARS OLD

Allison Shamrell Photography

Miesha is a 3 year old blue/brindle pitbull mix who we adopted from San Diego Department of Animal Services Bonita shelter where she was highly cared for, but yearning for a life in a new home. Today, Miesha is loving her service dog training program, and especially her training breaks to swim in the doggie pool! Named Miesha after UFC fighter Miesha Tate, this girl has a strong heart and is looking forward to being matched with a veteran from our wait list very soon. *Sponsored by Griffin Funding*



BANDIT 9 MONTHS OLD

This energetic pup's behavior was not thriving in the shelter environment, and our good friends at San Diego Department of Animal Services Central Campus reached out to us because they knew he was a good catch simply being overlooked. Our training team loves him and his sweet personality. He's a bright pup who loves to learn, which will make his time in our service dog training program extra fun. He's appropriately named Bandit from the black patches on his eyes. *Sponsored by (Berkshire Hathaway Home Services) The Charitable Foundation Los Angeles Chapter*



Mr. Casiple completed 21 years in the United States Army, 13+ years of his service as a Green Beret. He began in Special Forces as an Engineer and Demolitions Sergeant and as a Linguist. In 2006, he was advanced to the position of Special Forces Operations Sergeant. Leo was medically retired in September 2011.

After the 9/11 attacks, Leo deployed on overseas assignments as an advisor for allied nations where he helped countries protect its citizens from aggressors; recovered hostages; captured designated enemies of the United States; and responded to terrorist activities abroad. The physical toll resulted in a C3-C4 cervical disc replacement, hip resection surgery, 3 knee surgeries, 3 heat strokes, and neuropathic nerve pain from multiple bulging spinal discs. During the medical retirement process, Leo declined a PTSD diagnosis from the Army; however, less than two years after medical retirement, he faced multiple costly legal battles and was even hospitalized at an

inpatient facility as a direct result of PTSD-induced intense rage and impulsiveness. Without an outlet for the mindset that had become habituated to chaos, crises, and adrenaline, Leo became a person without a purpose, turned his energy toward hating himself, and became a villain to his family and the community.

During their first meeting, Leo sensed Moose's quiet confidence and was impressed by Moose's intuition to try to heal Leo's injured hip. Leo immediately appreciated Moose's subtle but solid personality, elements that Leo lost when he became a disabled veteran. During their first casual walk, (Leo hobbled on crutches, Moose walked) Leo was touched when Moose refused to continue walking uphill until after Leo's breathing returned to normal. It felt like a team event. Leo sees Moose as his fourth son, as his brother on an A-Team, as one of his best friends, and as a daily reminder of the goodness within Leo's heart.

TOGETHER | SINCE

JAMES & TYBERIUS | May 2013

Sponsored by: Magic 92.5 and Cafe Coyote

VIC & KIRA (*RETIRED) | November 2014

Sponsored by: Wintercreek Foundation

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

CHRIS & JADE | January, 2016

Sponsored by: Integriv

RICKY & PLATO | February, 2016

Sponsored by: Plato Pet Treats

KAREN & SEVEN | July, 2016

Sponsored by: FINE Magazine with Schubach Aviation

MASON & GRIFFIN | April 2016

Sponsored by: Griffin Funding

LIZ & CHARLIE | October 2016

Sponsored by: Schubach Aviation

JONATHON & BERKELEY | November 2016

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

LEO & MOOSE | Handler Training, Graduating Summer 2017

Sponsored by: Petco Foundation

KEVIN & ANNIE | Handler Training, Graduating Summer 2017

Sponsored by: BHHS Charitable Foundation LA Chapter, BHHS Brentwood Office and The Wintercreek Foundation

MATHEW & SHELLEY | Graduating Summer 2017

Sponsored by: Northrop Grumman

JEREMY & LUNA | Graduating Summer 2017

Sponsored by: Integriv

VIC & MIA | Graduating Late 2017

Sponsored by: Griffin Funding

**We retired our first service dog this year: Kira, was an incredible working companion for recipient Vic Martin for over two years. However, an onset of new behavioral issues that we could not modify pushed her into early retirement. This was difficult on the recipient, but ultimately the most responsible decision we could make. Vic is now matched with another incredible service dog named Mia, and will graduate in late 2017.*



GRADUATED TEAMS | HANDLERS & DOGS

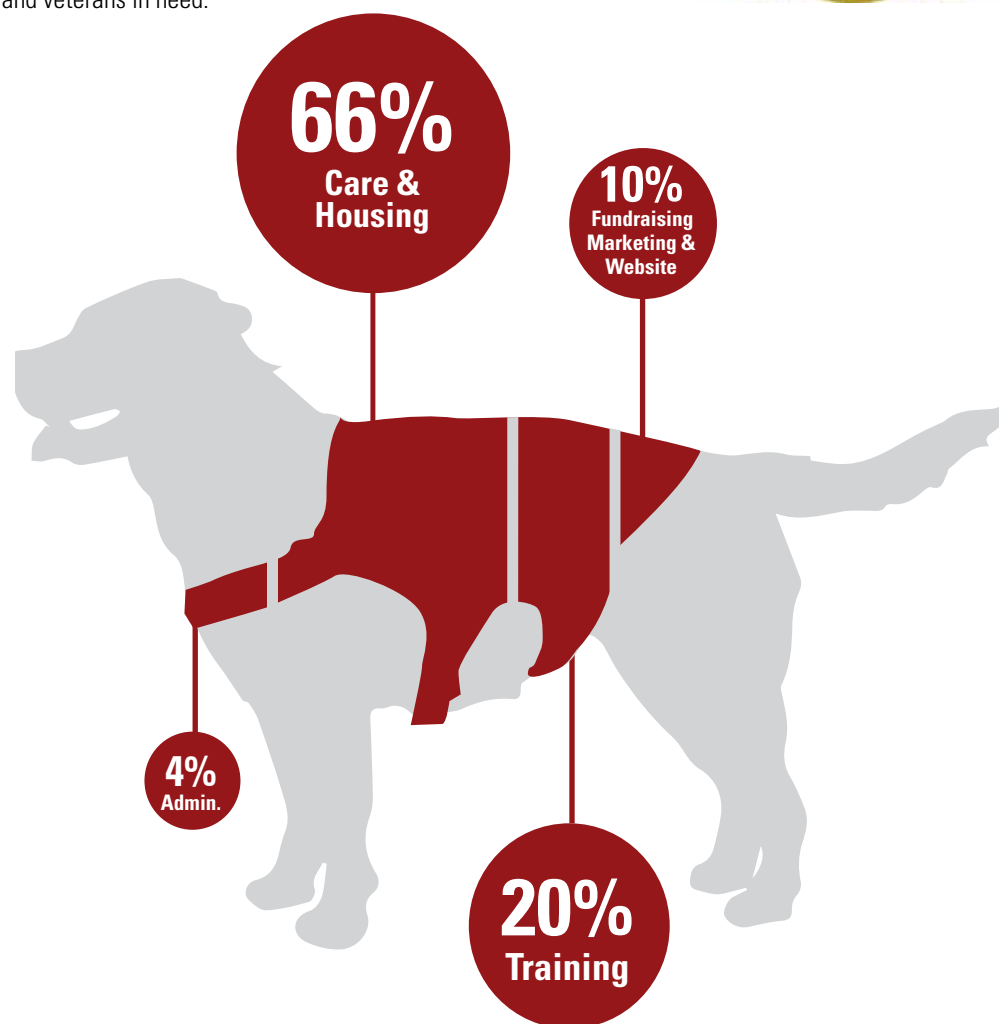
Allison Shamrell Photography
www.AllisonShamrell.com

FINANCING | A MATCH



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



GRAHAM AND KYRIÉ BLOEM & KRYS HOLC FOUNDERS

With a mutual love for animals and commitment to do something about the troubling epidemic of veteran suicide affecting our nation, Shelter to Soldier Cofounders formed Shelter to Soldier with a mission to "Save Lives, Two at a Time."

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.

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

Graham's passion for helping and working with dogs and veterans runs deep. He has been a professional dog trainer for 16 years and has extensive animal related business and management experience.

KYRIÉ BLOEM, MS CO-FOUNDER | DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

As the administrative director for our program, she plans all events and fundraising programs, serves as our grant writer, coordinates our volunteer team, and manages all veteran applications and social media platforms.

LtCol BRIAN DENNIS BOARD MEMBER

Brian is an accomplished marine that 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 Japan and continues to give back through his military service and through his work with 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 30 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 is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) in private practice as well as the VA Medical Center. David joined our Board of Directors this year to help serve our veterans as the mental health liaison.





**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**

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