

YOUR SERVICE DOG INC BACKGROUNDER

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Your Service Dog Inc

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We Provide Free Service Dogs and Training

Your Service Dog Inc (YSDI) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) devoted to training and placing Service Dogs, at little to no cost, with disabled Handlers who otherwise couldn't afford this aid. Not only do we provide fully trained Service Dogs (SDs) for free to people with disabilities through our Prospect Evaluation and Placement program, we also offer many affordable and accessible resources that a person needs to train their own Full Potential Service Dog Partner.

Unlike many other SD training methods, YSDI founder Lelah's Sullivan's approach, nurtures dogs to think critically and produces superior canine assistance, creating the best Service Team possible. Our Your Service Dog School allows Students across the country to train their own Service Dog Partner with the guidance of Lelah Sullivan, our experienced Trainers, and our highly qualified Your Service Dog School Headmistress Mary Walshe.

In collaboration with the Your Service Dog School, YSDI includes a Handler Training Program that offers free School tuition to our Program Service Dog Teams. And for those who are enrolled with their own dog, this service subsidizes the cost of tuition. The goal of this program is to ensure all people in need can enroll regardless of their funds. In addition, Lelah Sullivan publishes eBooks about SD training available to the public at a reasonable price and used over the course of our training programs.

Our Angels on Wheels Program delivers trained SDs to people who can't travel or train their own. Because so many people with disabilities live on the poverty line or experience financial instability, it is important to YSDI that disability assistance resources are affordable.

Typically acquiring a SD can cost \$20,000-\$40,000 and involve an extensive waitlist; people with disabilities often can't meet these costs but need immediate assistance, so they can't cope with a lengthy wait list. The YSDI Emergency Aid Program has covered numerous expenses for

our clients in need, including medical bills for Service Dogs (some who weren't YSDI-trained), gear for dogs, puppy diapers, and even small home improvements.

The virtual, remote component of our resources serve to make us a more accessible option for people unable to travel, leave the house very often, or attend regular training sessions due to disability-related symptoms. We bring the assistance you need directly to our clients, in a format personalized to unique circumstances.

Many other Service Dog training programs are cost-prohibitive, require in-person interaction, involve taxing schedules too difficult for a disabled person to manage, or have ridiculous waitlists. There are many people with disabilities who don't even know that training your own Service Dog is an option, they don't realize that there is help out there to create a customized but still structured training process, thinking only 'professionally-trained' SDs are covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act. And these individuals often go without necessary assistance.

With over 300 students enrolled at Your Service Dog School, and an unknown amount of people reached by Lelah's "Train Your Own Full Potential Service Dog" series of eBooks (throughout the U.S., Canada, South America, Mexico, Europe, Africa, India, and Australia and by many other SD training organizations), YSDI hopes to provide a path to recovery for individuals in need.

We want to provide an alternative to those who feel they have no options, those who feel limited by their circumstances. Your Service Dog Inc is dedicated to providing immediate, accessible, affordable assistance for a massive population of people with disabilities who often go unrecognized, unserved, and unassisted. We want to reach as many people as we can, help them reclaim their independence, enhance their quality of life, and reach their Full Human Potential with the aid of their own incredible Service Dog Partner.

History of Your Service Dog Inc

Your Service Dog Inc's founder Lelah Sullivan acquired a disability and, upon looking for one, found a lack of affordable options for attaining or training a Service Dog, so she trained one herself. As early as 2008 she began personally training SDs for the disabled individuals who came to her but, feeling that her reach was limited, from 2008-2010 Lelah started teaching people with disabilities to train their own Service Dog. To reach a broader audience, Lelah began publishing her "Train Your Full Potential Service Dog" eBook series in 2015. Since, many students were provided with these eBooks free of cost if they couldn't afford to buy them.

Lelah and her group of volunteers decided that becoming a nonprofit would further broaden their impact and attract more team members to further their mission, so, in 2018 Your Service Dog Inc became a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit. That same year Your Service Dog School opened its "virtual doors" and with it the Book Gift Program was officially founded (but technically existed since Sullivan first started publishing).

From 2018 to 2021, YSDI introduced multiple programs, all meant to improve our clients' quality of life. First among them was the Handler Training Program associated with our School. Shortly

after came the Prospect Evaluation and Placement, Angels on Wheels, and YSDI Emergency Aid Programs.

Awards & Milestones

- Amazon Best Seller: the first of the “Train Your Own Full Potential Service Dog” eBooks was listed as an Amazon Best Seller (even placing ahead of a book by Cesar Milan, “the Dog Whisperer”)
- Multiple Best Seller Awards for Sullivan’s series since
- Lelah Sullivan’s “Training Your Own Full Potential Service Dog” eBook being listed within the “7 Best Dog Training Books of 2022” article by The Spruce Pets (<https://www.thesprucepets.com/best-dog-training-books-4164678>), specifically identified as “Best for Service Dogs”
- Guidestar Platinum Seal of Transparency 2021

Company Vision and Mission Statement

Your Service Dog Inc was founded based on the idea that a Service Dog is as necessary as any other medical aid and should be accordingly accessible. By teaching people to train their own SD, we hope they can reclaim their independence, build confidence, and enjoy improved quality of life. When people can heal, engage, and regain hope, our society grows more inclusive and supportive. Through superior canine assistance, Your Service Dog Inc provides resources to help people with disabilities not just cope, but actually thrive.

Conclusion

The many financial and logistical barriers to getting a Service Dog means there is a huge population of disabled people going unserved. Your Service Dog Inc 501(c)(3) nonprofit was created to provide trained Service Dogs and Service Dog training resources free, or with minimal cost. Today we have the PEP program, Handler Training courses, Angels on Wheels, YSDI Emergency Aid, and a remote Your Service Dog School, as well as Sullivan’s best-selling eBook series available to the public. Currently, we’re in serious need of assistance to continue our invaluable work assisting people with disabilities who’d otherwise go without help. Your Service Dog Inc offers personalized canine assistance and a unique training approach to provide the best, most attentive care from a high-quality Service Dog Partner, ultimately helping a client regain hope and reach their Full Human Potential.