



Our Mission

The OccuPaws Guide Dog Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, charitable organization based out of Madison, WI and is an International Guide Dog Federation accredited school. Our mission is to place fully trained guide dogs with Wisconsin's (and surrounding states) visually impaired residents at no charge, through an in-home training program.

Are you thinking about getting a guide dog? Contact us to apply and learn more.



Your gift lets us give dogs at no charge!

Your support matters. We exist entirely on public donations, fundraisers and grants with no government support. 93% of all donations go directly to program expenses. All your donations are tax deductible.



Correctional Institute Program

OccuPaws is proud to have developed correctional institute programs for inmates who want to train puppies and dogs. Skilled dog trainers volunteer to work with inmates on teaching the dogs socialization, basic obedience and mobility skills.

extra special mission



PawsForward runs entirely on your donations. Donations cover: veterinary services, grooming, food, training supplies and materials. Help us keep this unique program alive with your donations and support.

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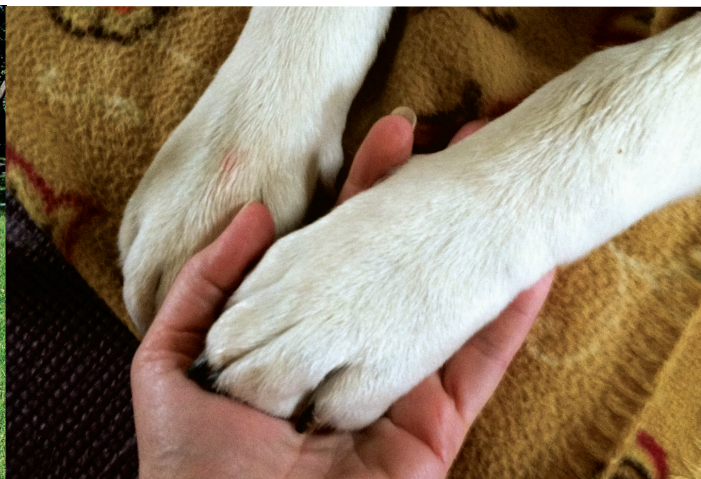
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harnessing independence through
teamwork

occupaws.org





About us

Founded in 2005, OccuPaws provides unique In-Home Training

Traditionally a guide dog student would leave their home and attend a school to learn effective handling and safety techniques for working with their new companion. Like these organizations, OccuPaws raises, trains and places the guide dogs, but unlike the others, our teaching takes place in the student's home town. Because the student learns at home, they have a personalized experience and are instructed in the best ways to work with their dog in all their life circumstances.



About guide dogs

Guide dogs become the "eyes" of a visually impaired person. Dogs are trained to help their companion in the following ways:

- Avoiding stationary and moving objects while walking or traveling
- Navigating pedestrian traffic
- Stopping for changes in elevations like curbs and stairs
- Helping their companion cross the street safely
- Promoting independence and mobility
- Providing companionship
- Assisting in location of elevators, stairs and exits in buildings in new environments.

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Be a Puppy Raiser



Raise a miracle

At OccuPaws, our puppies have a very special destiny – to assist a visually impaired person lead a more fulfilling and independent life. Volunteering to raise a puppy is key to a guide dog's success in life with their future companion.

Volunteer families work with dogs to:

- Socialize puppies in their home
- Teach basic obedience
- Discover the world by taking puppies to work, out to eat, and on various trips

Become an OccuPaws puppy raiser and help change a life forever.

 **OccuPaws**
Guide Dog Association



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