



## TESTIMONIALS

*"My service dog has saved me from my own destruction and continues to do so. He teaches me how to be able to function like a civilian in a world unknown to me." – Adam*

*"I am so grateful to Soldier's Best Friend for providing [my husband] with a wonderful service dog; I got my husband back." – Wife of a Veteran Graduate*

*"My life has changed drastically for the good since going through the Soldier's Best Friend (SBF) program and graduating. I feel SBF has enhanced my life because now I'm able to go out in the community. In fact, I would say SBF saved my life." – Larry*

*"Soldier's Best Friend has been a life changing experience for me and my family, because I am able to get out more and go to places, such as crowded events or certain stores. I have and will continue to make my disabilities into abilities with my service dog by my side." – Eddie*

## WHO WE ARE

We are military members, combat veterans with PTSD, professional dog trainers, veterinarians, and PTSD therapists along with many other dedicated volunteers. To learn more visit our Web site.

## APPLY. DONATE. VOLUNTEER.

[www.soldiersbestfriend.org](http://www.soldiersbestfriend.org) | 623.218.6486

14505 N 75th Avenue  
Peoria, AZ 85381

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**Apply for placement and training with a Service Dog or Therapeutic Companion Dog**

**Request application online:  
[www.SoldiersBestFriend.org](http://www.SoldiersBestFriend.org)  
Call us at 623.218.6486**



Touching 2 Lives at Once



**PTSD/TBI Service & Therapeutic  
Companion Dogs for Combat Veterans**



## OUR MISSION

Soldier's Best Friend provides United States military veterans living with combat-related Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) or Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) with Service or Therapeutic Companion Dogs, most of which are rescued from local shelters. The veteran and dog train together to build a trusting relationship that saves two lives at once and inspires countless others.

## TRAINING CAMPUS

On September 29, 2016, the Soldier's Best Friend Training Campus in Peoria, AZ opened for veteran/dog team training. For teams living within range, this new campus offers an ideal training space that provides freedom from distractions. Veterans can take advantage of flexible training hours, including evenings and weekends.

## HOW CAN A SERVICE DOG OR THERAPEUTIC COMPANION DOG HELP?

A Service or Therapeutic Companion Dog provides constant support that can make it easier for veterans to readjust to civilian life and manage symptoms such as:

**Panic attacks Depression Flashbacks Irritability  
Reclusive behavior Anxiety Nightmares  
Uneasiness in crowded places Suicidal thoughts**

## OUR PROGRAM

- 1 Veterans diagnosed with combat-related PTSD or TBI apply for admission to our program.
- 2 The veteran is evaluated for the degree of training needed.
- 3 Once accepted into our program, the veteran is paired with a rescued dog or their own personal dog.
- 4 Together, the veteran/dog team begins training with our professional trainers.
- 5 The veteran/dog team attends classes twice weekly for approximately 6 months of training and mentoring.
- 6 Currently, training is offered in Phoenix, Tucson, Flagstaff, Prescott and Sierra Vista.
- 7 Following successful completion of the program, the veteran and dog graduate.
- 8 Ongoing support and involvement are offered for graduate teams. Mentoring veterans new to the program is encouraged.

## WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A SERVICE DOG AND THERAPEUTIC COMPANION DOG?

A **Service Dog** is allowed by law to enter public places such as the veteran's work place, restaurants, stores and public transportation. These are rights set forth in the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

A **Therapeutic Companion Dog** is fully obedience trained. These dogs are not allowed by law to enter most businesses. They qualify as an Emotional Support Animal.



## HOW MUCH DOES THE PROGRAM COST?

There is no cost to the veteran for the adoption and training. Most veterinary care is offered at reduced or no cost during the training period.

