



Celebrate With Us

International Assistance Dog Week August 6-12th

This week, and every week we honor all working Dog Guides. Whether they are guiding people through a busy area, barking for help, or helping a child get through an overwhelming situation - no matter the program, Dog Guides are always there to lend a paw.

We also want to recognize all the dedicated volunteers that help us create successful Dog Guide teams. Currently, we are in need of Day school volunteers. Learn more about this special volunteer opportunity in our "Volunteer Corner" below.

We thank our volunteers for everything they do!

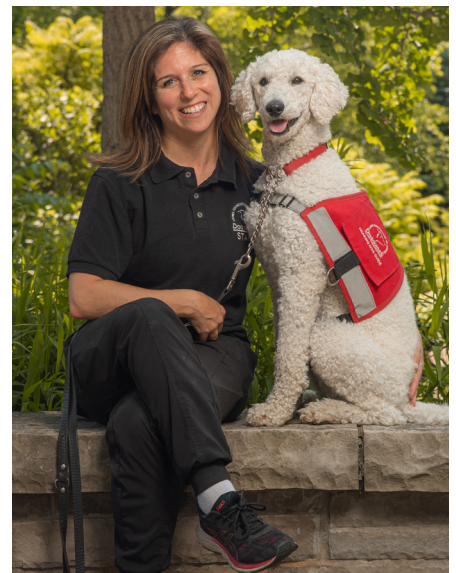


Congratulations Angela Bentivegna

We are thrilled to announce that Angela Bentivegna is now the Head Instructor for the Hearing Program. It is a testament to Angela's hard work, dedication, and exceptional performance within LFCDG.

We would also like to acknowledge and thank Rhonda Workman for providing leadership and guidance to the Hearing program until this point. Carrying two complex programs is an extraordinary task. Rhonda can now dedicate her energy to focusing on our Service Program.

Please note this change will take effect on August 8, 2023.



Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides Update

We are excited to announce that the final total for the 2022/2023 Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides is **\$1.2 million!** Thank you so much to all of the participants, walk organizers, sponsors, volunteers, and donors for all of your contributions. A big thank you to our title sponsor, Pet Valu! With their support the proceeds from the Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides are able to go directly to our Dog Guide programs.



Congratulations to our Pet Valu Walk for Dog Guides incentive draw prize winners:

\$250 E-Gift Card of Your Choice – Kelly from Springfield, ON

\$500 E-Gift Card of Your Choice – Judy from Rustico, PE

Dyson V8 Animal Cordless Stick Vacuum – Robert from Clifford, ON

Samsung 55" Smart TV – Dale from Pepperlaw, ON

Thanks again to everyone for all of your support! There are some Fall walks taking place in September and October, so be sure to check www.walkfordogguides.com for the most up to date information on locations and dates.

Graduation

Summer graduation is on the horizon! Celebrate with us on Wednesday, August 9th as we recognize grads from all our programs . Tune in at 7pm (EDT) for the live premiere on our Dog Guides YouTube channel: www.youtube.com/@dogguidescanada. The video will stay on our channel if you are not able to make the live viewing.



**You're invited to a
graduation party!**

Wednesday, August 9th, 2023

7 p.m. (EDT)

Dog Guides' YouTube Channel

www.youtube.com/@dogguidescanada



Graduate Updates

Sharing Your Impact Stories

You and your Dog Guide have such a special partnership. LFCDG is looking to share all the ways Dog Guides assist the people they are matched to so that we can start to measure the impact they have on their handler and share that with Canadians.

Does your Dog Guide help you get to work? Are you able to get decent sleep now that a trained four-legged pal is watching over you or your loved one? Does the Dog Guide have a major impact with children/people providing testimony? In addition to impact, we also love hearing about how you and your Dog Guide triumphed together. Your stories help to get across how special it is to have a Dog Guide by your side and encourage people to support LFCDG. We are always looking for success stories to share.

Please contact Angela at athibert@dogguides.com if you have any stories or accomplishments you would like to share, no matter how small you may think they are.

Client Stories of Success

Crystal and Canine Vision Dog Guide Kelvin, matched in 2016, graduated from Western University with a Bachelor of Arts with a Double Major in Criminal Justice and Disability Studies. Crystal was also the recipient of the Doris L. (Billie) Ransberry Memorial Medal, which is given to a student who overcame adversity to succeed. Congratulations Crystal!



Dog Guide Teams in Action!

If you would like to be featured, share your photos or tag us on social media! Follow us on our social media accounts:



@lfcdogguides



@lfcdogguides




@lfcdogguides






@dogguidescan

Service Team Natalie and Lila

**wheelzandtailz**

—

Meet the Service Dog Team



—Wheelz and Tailz

HANDLER NATALIE (WHEELZ)




Natalie is 23 years old and has Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA). Natalie has graduated with a BA in Psychology and is enthusiastic about continuing her education in mental health.

WHEELZ AND TAILZ

Together, Natalie and Lila are passionate about advocacy, providing support and encouragement, and fostering mental health.

SERVICE DOG LILA (TAILZ)

Lila is a 5 year old Service Dog Guide and has been working with Natalie for 3.5 years. Lila's favourite tasks are "fetch" and "push" automatic door buttons. She is enthusiastic about puppachinos and squeaky toys.



Liked by pupwithadestiny and others

wheelzandtailz Meet the Service Dog Team Wheelz and Tailz

Diabetes Alert Team Ellen and Vesper

**sweetsniffer**
Mina Okabe · Every Second





LFCDG Happenings

Upcoming Events

Sparky's Dog Days of Summer is under way!

These events are partnerships between the Oakville Fire Dept., Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides, Panago Pizza and Fortino's. These fun family evenings take place at seven different splash pads across Oakville. These events are great for both community awareness and fundraising. Oakville Fire teaches the community about fire prevention and safety and have a fire crew and truck present. We have our fundraising team and Fosters participate and sell pizza, chips and soft drinks.

Come join us at one of these upcoming events:

- August 9 – Valleyridge Park
- August 16 – Forster Park



LFCDG Open House is back

Interested in learning more about Dog Guides? You are invited to our Open House, taking place this fall.

You will have the opportunity to tour our training facility, watch demonstrations from all our programs, and learn about volunteer opportunities like fostering , Day School and more! There will also be a raffle with an amazing prize of flight passes thanks to West Jet airlines, Premium Lounge passes and Be Relax Spa vouchers thanks to Pearson International Airport!

Date: Saturday, Sept 30th

Time: 9:30 am - 3 pm

Location: Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides (152 Wilson St, Oakville ON)



open house

Interested in learning more about the magical world of Dog Guides?



**Visit our upcoming Open House on
Saturday, September 30th - 9:30a.m.-3:00p.m.
at Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides
(152 Wilson St. Oakville, ON)**



www.dogguides.com



Volunteer Corner

Day School Program

School is in session and we need your help! While some of our dogs in training enjoy bunking with their friends, others do not enjoy the kennel environment. For some Dog Guides in training, it may be stressful living in the kennels, so much so that it may interfere with their training. If you live near the Oakville or Guelph facility, consider becoming a Day School volunteer.

"Some dogs in training are unphased by the kennel environment, where others thrive when they are able to continue living in a home for the duration of their training," says Gina Lijoi, Director of Programs and Client Services.

"Kennel stress is a real issue the entire industry faces - our Day School program has been the answer for us."



"Dogs that may have otherwise been unsuccessful are being matched with clients and going on to change lives as a result of Day School. That is why we are all here, and giving a dog a temporary home is a simple and wonderful way to ensure that happens."

Autism Assistance Dog in training Tarzan has benefited greatly from our Day School sitting program. After a day of hard work and learning, he enjoys going back to his sitter's house and spending evenings and weekends in a loving home. "Being a sitter has been a ton of fun for us. Our own dog now has a playmate, which happens to be his half-brother," says Gina.

Gina and her partner Emily have been sitting Tarzan only for a short while but his trainers have seen a big difference in him. Tarzan is now able to focus better and excel during his training sessions. He has settled down a lot as a result of being in a routine and having the comforts of a home.

"Tarzan is an incredible dog. He is attentive, sweet, incredibly affectionate, and very tuned-in. He will absolutely go on to change the life of a child, the life of a family, and will even have an impact on their community. The opportunity to help make this happen is like a gift."

Day School volunteers would bring the dog back and forth to our training facility Monday-Friday, and would provide housing for the dog each weekend, including statutory holidays. Learn more about this new volunteer opportunity by visiting www.dogguides.com

Blankets needed for Dog Guides in training

Service Dog Guide in training Leonard and the rest of the dogs in our programs are looking for blankets to lay on. We are looking for blankets or quilts like the ones in the photo, not knitted or crocheted.

We are accepting [donations](#) at our Oakville and Breslau facilities. Thank you!



Adopt a Career-Changed Dog

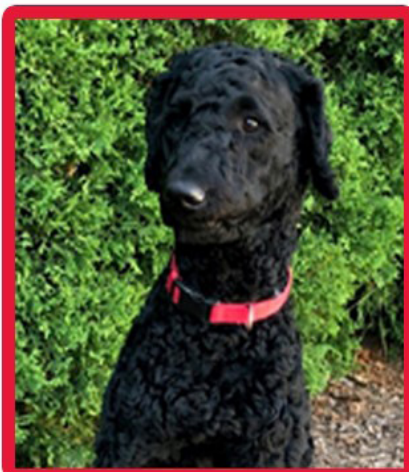
Interested in giving a dog a new home?

Not all of our foster puppies are meant for a career as a Dog Guide. Some dogs may not have the right personality or temperament for life as a Dog Guide. Right now we have a few dogs up for adoption looking for a loving home:

If you are interested in learning more about our adoption process, please visit <https://www.dogguides.com/get-a-dog-guide/adopt-a-career-change-dog/>. They would love to hear from you!



Theo



Warin



Jedi



Musca



Van

Donor Recognition

Thank You to G. Murray and Edna Forbes Foundation

(GRANTEE) gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the G. Murray and Edna Forbes Foundation Fund at the South Saskatchewan Community Foundation, which is a public foundation serving the people of South Saskatchewan. The SSCF builds permanently endowed charitable funds for the changing need and opportunities of the community and provides grants to eligible charitable organizations and qualified donees in Animal Welfare, Arts and Culture, Community Development, Education and Scholarships, Environment, Health, Social Services, Spiritual, and Sports and Recreation sectors.

Dog Guides Guardian – Become a monthly donor for as little as \$5 a/month!

Did you know that when you sign up to become a monthly donor, you can double your impact? Thanks to a generous donor, all new monthly donations will be matched for the next six months! That means more Canadians in need of a Dog Guide will be able to be matched together. From as little as \$5 per month, you will be supporting Dog Guide teams like Isabella and Ross!

"Having Ross with us has completely changed our lives in the best possible way," says Isabella's mom Jania. "Isabela has so much more independence now. Together, they are the perfect team."

Please join our pack today! To join it, visit: [Lions Foundation of Canada Dog Guides to become a Dog Guides Guardian today.](https://www.dogguides.com)

