



The Basics of Dog Tags and Tails

2/2/2018

Not for profit organization based in Harford County, Maryland

Established 2015 as Verus for Veterans by Dave and Krystle Eder....DBA to Dog Tags and Tails in 2018.

Supports Veterans and their families of all branches of Armed Forces

Frequent fundraisers through the year. Main fundraiser: Freedom Famfest, a family fun event.

BATTLE BUDDY PROGRAM

- ✚ Battle Buddy Program Goal: To provide well-mannered local rescue companion canines for America's Military Service Men and Women.
- ✚ DTT:
 - Pays the adoption fee for the rescued canine
 - Pays for to up to 6 months of training (pre-determined by trainer per canine's skill set) for a local rescue canine
 - Pays and Certifies team with AKC CGC (Canine Good Citizen) and provide long term companionship to a veteran. Together, we will show our appreciation to those who served our country, while offering a homeless animal a second chance for a better life.
 - Seeks ambassadors to sponsor the team (provides 12 months of quality food, heartworm preventative, flea/tick preventatives, vetting, microchip, leash, collar)
- ✚ Veteran Program Requirements:
 - i. Combat Veteran ('Combat' dictated on case by case basis)
 - ii. Mentally, physically, and financially stable
 - iii. Must have a co-signer. A co-signer's signature is required for the Battle Buddy Team Agreement. Although the Veteran is the primary caretaker of the Battle Buddy, it is mandatory to have a co-signer in the event the Veteran is unable to care for the dog or continue the training for any reason.
- ✚ What is a Canine Companion?
 - ★ A dog kept as a pet to provide unconditional love and comfort
 - ★ NOT considered a service animal-defined by Title II and Title III of the ADA as any dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability. Should the veteran feel he/she requires a service animal- Dog Tags and Tails may recommend options
 - ★ What makes us different? Dog Tags and Tails will *not* request any medical documents be provided by the veteran. Doesn't force veteran into system if not comfortable doing so.(Some veterans don't want stigma of what the vest implies)
- ✚ Not a replacement for mental health care.
- ✚ Reward based marker training- Performed by Blue Line K-9 or trainers approved and in compliance with Blue Line K-9 training. There is zero tolerance within the program to utilize tools such as shock control collars, e-collars, spikes, or any other tool unrelated to Reward Based Marker Training. Although these tools may be acceptable for specific dogs and methods of training, the volunteers of Dog Tags and Tails do not accept these methods for the overall goal of this program.
- ✚ If veteran fails to complete the full training (including the completion of the certifications) mandated by the trainers associated with Dog Tags and Tails, they either forfeit the rights to their Battle Buddy OR will be held responsible to return the fees associated with the training and adoption to Dog Tags and Tails.
- ✚ Local rescue partners
 - Currently approved: Pugh Zoo, MAS rescue, Saving Grace, PAWS, R'Eskie Rescue
 - Why choose rescue over shelter?
 - ✓ Usually pulls from high kill shelters (decrease euthanizing statistics)
 - ✓ Better rate of success with personality pairings to veterans
 - ✓ Quality rescues provides quality care prior to home placement