Hello CPL family,

The CPL family has shown their patience and understanding over the past year with the challenges of the pandemic. With spring upon us, we can celebrate the first crocus, signs of the daffodils and the nice weather to come. This spring is bringing great hope to our community, as our friends and family members receive the vaccine and new vaccine distribution sites become available.

The work toward our mission continues with the support of our donors, the spirit of our volunteers and the work of our dedicated staff and Board of Directors. The CPL puppies are growing and finding fun ways to practice their basic obedience skills in both community puppy homes and in several of our prisons. We are currently holding very small, in-person puppy classes on-site and other classes via Zoom. Since we are expecting two litters of puppies this spring, we are looking for additional puppy homes. If you feel you could help in this role, please contact Diane Henney, our Volunteer Coordinator.

We have slowly started to welcome our volunteers back on campus, beginning with our walkers and socialization handlers. We currently have two walkers per day, one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Our socialization trips are limited to one trainer and one volunteer to keep everyone safe but we are so grateful to see our volunteers back on campus.

If you do find yourself on campus over the next few months, look up and check out the new Kennel roof! The roofers were determined and got the job done! Thank you to each donor who made this project possible.

Training doesn’t end after a team graduates. As a team grows together, they seek to learn new skills, strengthen old ones, and adapt to changes. Our Graduate Support Program fortifies all aspects of a service dog partnership, including how to tackle a global pandemic! As with most activities over the last year, in-person group training classes, personal appointments, and recertifications ceased due to COVID-19 restrictions; and graduate support turned virtual. Christina Billy, CPL’s Graduate Support Coordinator, adapted by providing assistance to each team’s individual needs via phone, e-mail and over Zoom. A commonly-asked question has been, “How do we keep our dog’s mind and body active and keep up with their skills during lockdown?”

Christina has created online activities that challenge our teams, such as an internet scavenger hunt, an informative video on Canine First Aid, tailoreddog workout routines, an art project, and so much more. Additionally, she has held Zoom classes, giving the opportunity for teams to meet fellow recipients from all over the country! Our latest Zoom topic, Recertification Q&A, discussed our requirement to certify teams for public access. With teams located in diverse areas of the country, and due to different local regulations and personal comfort levels, teams discussed alternative locations for the test and adaptations to certain tasks.

The connection between service dog teams was further encouraged by use of CPL’s Graduate Facebook page, a private page where our graduates can connect with one another. By reaching out with stories, questions, and concerns, fellowship has been strengthened. With so much uncertainty, such communication has been key in ensuring successful partnerships.

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You may have seen on CPL’s social media pages that a few mixed breeds joined our training program over the winter. It’s been a goal of ours to incorporate rescue dogs in our program, to increase the number of dogs in training which will ultimately result in new partnerships. It’s also giving the dog an amazing second chance in life. So far, we’ve welcomed two rescues, Leo and Colin, into our program and look forward to adding additional rescues in the future.
NAMING OUR FUTURE HEROES

Have you heard about Canine Partners for Life’s Puppy Naming Program? Our youngest puppy heroes formally enter CPL’s training program when they receive their assigned name. If born at Canine Partners for Life, puppies are identified by their collar color for their first 8 weeks of life, then at their 8-week birthday, we select the next names from the waiting list and determine the best name suited for each puppy.

The naming program has a waitlist of puppy names which comes from an exclusive opportunity for our most generous supporters. It can take anywhere from 9 months to over a year for a name to come to the top of the list. This is due to the unpredictability of Mother Nature, and when we have puppies born or donated to the breeding program. We encourage namers to select unique and meaningful names for our future heroes. With each name that is submitted we ask for the story behind that name so we can share that with everyone the puppy meets throughout their training, including their human partner when they are matched.

A namer receives milestone updates and photos as the puppy progresses through the two-year training program. This includes training progress updates at 6 months, 12 months, 18 months and other relevant updates. Once the puppy returns to the kennel, the namer is invited to meet the puppy on campus and again before graduation, if they are matched a photo certificate of the puppy at the end of training. This up-close and personal look into our program is a small way to show our appreciation for an investment in the lives of the people we serve.

CPL’s Puppy Naming Program has been in place for many years at the gift level of $1,000. Beginning July 1, 2021 this exclusive opportunity will increase to $1,250. If you are interested in making a leadership gift or have questions about naming a future CPL puppy hero, contact Kirstin Downie, Director of Development and Communications at kdownie@k94life.org or (610) 869-4902 x214.

RAISING OUR FUTURE HEROES

Our volunteer puppy raisers have been busy this year!

In addition to attending puppy classes in small groups on campus and virtually by Zoom, they have been completing monthly challenges. Each challenge is meant to help the puppies and volunteers practice their skills in fun and easy ways during the day. CPL puppy Eleanor completed the January challenge (see photos) and earned a certificate for her puppy raiser to cherish forever! Eleanor’s raiser even added photos to the challenge sheet to commemorate this special phase of her life.

We are accepting volunteer applications from people who are interested in raising puppies! If you’ve admired our puppies in person or through our social media accounts, and you’re interested in making a difference in someone’s life, please reach out to Diane Henney, our Volunteer Coordinator, at dhenny@k94life.org. The first step is to fill out and return a volunteer application. From there, we will be in touch to guide you through the rest of the process. Our puppies look forward to meeting you!
The Independence Society
a tradition of giving

Independence Society members belong to a distinctive group of generous and compassionate friends of Canine Partners for Life. Members make an annual leadership donation of $1,000 or more to support CPL’s general operations during our fiscal year (July 1 – June 30). Many choose to contribute their support via automated monthly giving.

Members receive special invitations to exclusive member events throughout the year, an opportunity to name a puppy, and are also invited to provide ongoing feedback and guidance pertaining to the future of CPL.

We are incredibly grateful to our Independence Society members for their belief in our mission!

The following list was created based on general operating gifts made July 1, 2020 through April 5, 2021.

VISIONARIES – $50,000+  
Dorothy C. Burley*  
Mr. and Mrs. Foster S. Friess

PARTNERS  
$25,000 – $49,999  
Mr. Arnold F. Krause  
Mr. and Mrs. Guy L. Malick

SERVICE LEADERS  
$10,000 – $24,999  
Anonymous  
Mr. and Mrs. Gerret van S. Copeland*  
Anonymous

FREEDOM FRIENDS  
$5,000 – $9,999  
Mr. and Mrs. Clifford D. Towan

PUPPY PATRONS  
$1,000 – $2,499  
Anonymous  
Mr. and Mrs. J. Michael Dzuba  
Mrs. Caroline R. Duxbury

COMPANIONS  
$2,500 – $4,999  
Mr. and Mrs. John P. Collins  
Mr. and Mrs. Michael D. Flynn  
Mr. Kevin M. Ford

DOGS IN KENNEL
Dog  
Name  
Namer  
Puppy Home
Bo  
SCI Somerset  
SCI Abenki/SCI Laurel Highlands
Chris  
SCI Somerart  
Dorothy Looby/SCI Huntingtson/SCI Laurel Highlands
Flip  
SCI Somerart  
David and Terri Wyllys/Payette College
Happy  
SCI Laurel Highlands  
Cindi Chamberlain and Buck Bullen/SCI Muncy
Jersey  
SCI Laurel Highlands  
Lisa and Alan Treffinger/SCI Muncy
Lai  
SCI Somerart  
John and Jill Sundquist
Lill  
SCI Somerart  
John and Grace Gisnay

DOGS IN HOME COMPANION TRAINING HOMES
Home Companion Home
Keith Knazek  
Cindy Bincalak  
John and Grace Gisnay

IN OUR THOUGHTS
Adele  
Recipient to service dog to Marta
Adela  
Recipient to companion dog to Emily
Ed  
Recipient to service dog to Cynthia
Eldw  
Recipient to service dog to Galin
Gusto  
Recipient to service dog to Bernardette
Jessie  
Recipient to companion dog to Emily
Leslie  
Recipient to companion dog to Kate
Marjorie  
Recipient to service dog to Lisa
Puck  
Recipient to companion dog to Carol
Sara  
Recipient to companion dog to Lanny
Elizabeth D.  
CPL Volunteer
Brandi G.  
Recipient to companion dog to Sandy
Michael H.  
Recipient to home companion dog Harley
Marilyn M.  
Recipient to home companion dog Wells
Joseph P.  
Recipient to companion dog to Sue
Lee P.  
Recipient to service dog to Carol

For more information about how to become a member of the Independence Society, please contact Kristin Domico, Director of Development, at 610-869-4902 ext. 214 or kdomico@CaninePartnersforLife.org.
If you wish to be removed from the mailing list, please e-mail info@k94life.org.

**VETERINARY SPONSORS**

CPL veterinary sponsors donate care to our puppies in training, providing regular examinations, vaccinations, preventative medications and more. Thank you to our current vet sponsors for keeping our puppies healthy!

Albion Animal Center  
Animal Medical Center  
Brownstown Animal Hospital  
Cambria Veterinary Care  
Centreville Veterinary Hospital  
Colebrook Manor Animal Hospital  
Conneaut Lake Veterinary Hospital  
Crest View Animal Clinic, LLC  
Eagle Animal Hospital  
Forest Hills Veterinary  
Fort Washington Veterinary Hospital

French Creek Veterinary Hospital  
Furdunkin Mobile Pet  
Dr. Jane Latta  
Laurel Highlands Animal Health  
Longwood Veterinary Center  
Loyalsock Animal Hospital, Inc.  
Malvern Veterinary Hospital  
Montgomery Animal Hospital  
Montoursville Veterinary Hospital  
Quakertown Veterinary Clinic  
Richland Veterinary Hospital  
Sugartown Veterinary Hospital  
Twinbrook Veterinary Hospital  
Waynesburg Animal Hospital  
Windcrest Animal Hospital  
Wolf Run Veterinary Hospital

We are always in need of more vet sponsors. If you are interested or would like more details, please contact Jan D'Arcy at jdarcy@k94life.org.