



MOBILITY SERVICE DOGS WEST COAST PROJECT

Putting the FUN in FUNctional Independence,
raising awareness and resources for the disabled community

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



OUR MISSION

At Mobility Service Dogs West Coast Project (MSD-WCP), we train service dogs with love and offer life tools, while educating the mobility-disabled community, their people and the public to improve the quality of life of the individual living with disabilities through **FUNctional independence**, giving them confidence and a voice in the community at large.



SERVICE DOG IN TRAINING (SDIT) PUPPY RAISING PROGRAM

Our volunteer Puppy Raisers introduce our dogs to the world and provide our dogs with lots of love and the critical foundation to be successful Mobility Service Dogs. This program teaches the dogs basic obedience, exposes and socializes the dogs to the outside world, and introduces the foundations for key tasks the dogs will learn to perform. Puppy Raisers attend weekly virtual meetups to discuss the dogs' growth and development milestones, key training tools, tips, fun games to play as well as challenges and successes.



SERVICE DOG PROGRAM ~MOBILITY~

MSD-WCP raises, trains, and matches poodles with mobility-impaired individuals. Our poodles are donated from top-shelf breeders whose priorities are the health, temperament, working ability, and longevity of their dogs. A Service Dog is a living, breathing animal who is our responsibility to care for as they care for the Handlers. A happy dog makes the best service dog! When the work harness comes off, then it is playtime with its Handler. It takes a remarkable canine to become a Service Dog.



PAWS THAT EMPOWER

Paws that Empower is a reading circle program held in classrooms and community centers that teaches equity and equality for all, covering themes of Tolerance, Kindness, Compassion, Integrity, Gratitude, and Empathy with the ultimate goal of empowering individuals with knowledge, art, and confidence to discuss perceived differences to create positive pathways forward.



EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY

The ADA protects all people in the USA with disabilities. Our Education and Advocacy Program, WAG, provides interactive workshops for businesses, government, colleges, community, and medical offices teaching what full accessibility means. What is a Service Dog Team? What does life look like from a mobility disabled human's perspective? We show how to create an accessible pathway for all people with disabilities.



BUILDING COMMUNITY

We offer two meetups each week! PUPPY MEETUP is for our SD Handlers and Raisers. TOGETHER is for disabled individuals who are unable to have a Service Dog. MSD-WCP provides a network to support a community to share with, enhance life, training, ADA rights, speakers, art, and education to live a full life. MSD-WCP is here to support each individual's journey towards FUNctional independence.

2020 BY THE NUMBERS

1,150

PARTICIPANTS IN PAWS THAT
EMPOWER PROGRAM

25

BUSINESSES SERVICED (IN-
PERSON/VIRTUAL) THROUGH THE
EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY
WORKSHOPS



3

New Service
Dogs in
Training in
2020

3

New Service
Dogs complete
PAT* Evaluation
in 2020

4

Puppy
Raisers in
2020

18

Service
Dog/Handler
Teams

27

Dogs
donated
since 2018

*Public Access Test with Certified PAT Evaluator

THERE IS STILL WORK TO DO...

57

INDIVIDUALS IN THE MSD-WCP DISABILITY
NETWORK WHO DO NOT HAVE DOGS



MSD-WCP AND THE COMMUNITY

ADVOCATING, EDUCATING, RAISING AWARENESS



Working with individuals living with disabilities puts us on the front lines to witness the challenges, barriers, and hurdles that those living with disabilities encounter daily, motivating us to work harder to put the FUN in FUNctional independence.

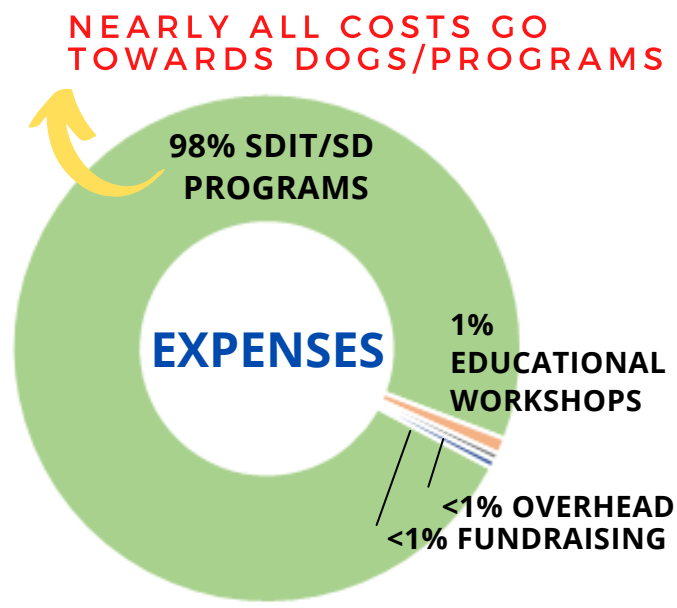
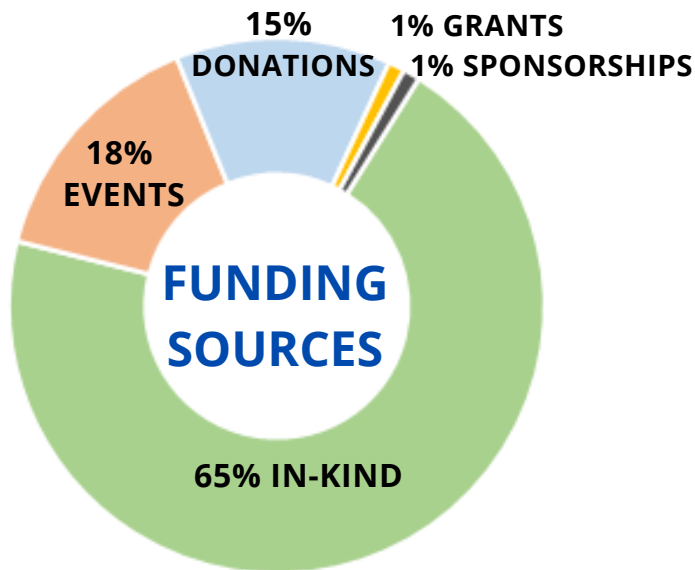
At one of our virtual weekly Puppy Meet-Ups, a Service Dog Handler shared how his morning unfolded. With a shaky voice, he recounted, "I signed in at my substitute teaching assignment, then headed to my classroom. Soon, the principal came in to inform me that I did not notify the school, upon acceptance of this teaching job, that I had a service dog. I explained the Service Dog was fully disclosed in my application." The principal went on to say that because of the service dog, the Handler was to leave immediately. The Service Dog was clearly labeled on her vest.

Our advocacy team stepped into motion to support our Handler. We requested a detailed timeline and worked with him to compose a letter to the School District. Upon receiving the letter, the Superintendent's office reached out to discuss the situation. MSD-WCP joined the phone call, educating them on the rights of a Service Dog Team. With gentle voices and clarity, we discussed ADA Laws, California and Local School District Policies, and the rights of Service Dog Teams. We answered questions, shared facts, and stated the violation of rights. The district apologized, compensating him for the day he was required to go home, paving the way for further advocacy! In 2021, our educational workshops will be facilitated for the district office personnel, teaching staff, and students. Now, this Service Dog Team is regularly in the classroom, teaching by example every day they are on campus and we are pretty sure they are a favorite teaching team!



Unfortunately, this is NOT an isolated situation. People with disabilities have to advocate for all the things that non-disabled people take for granted. Our work is NECESSARY because of stories like this. We not only raise and train SDs, we also support our Handlers for the working lifetime of their dogs AND we educate the public and actively advocate for the disabled. MSD-WCP empowers equality for all people. Really it is simple, regardless of how society classifies you: you still want to be able to work, follow your dreams, and provide for your family.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



WE
NEED
OODLES
TO
RAISE
OUR
POODLES

- PUPPY**
Donation of Standard Poodle puppy or finding of a rescue puppy.
- EQUIPMENT AND TOOLS**
Collars, vest harnesses, leashes, 48" metal crate, 48" pad, stainless steel bowls, boots, balls, Kong, wheelchairs, hook, packs, etc.
- SERVICE DOG TRAINING**
Experienced Service Dog Trainers teaching advanced obedience, task training, and service dog etiquette. 6 to 36 months with raisers, one-on-one SD trainer, and handlers.
- ROUTINE VETERINARY CARE**
Vaccines, spay/neuter, heartworm, X-rays to begin bracing, tick & flea prevention, well-puppy visits.
- MAINTENANCE**
Food, teeth, grooming, bathing, treats, vitamins and insurance.
- PUPPY RAISERS**
Basic obedience, etiquette training, socialization, tasking SD training, games, preparation for the Canine Good Citizenship (CGC) and Public Access Test (PAT).
- SERVICE DOG TEAM**
Lifetime support of our SD teams, service dog training continues. Tasking and weekly online workshops.

Small or large - any oodle will help us meet our goal

\$23,500
TOTAL REQUIRED TO RAISE 1 DOG

MSD-WCP is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization EIN: 82-4426022

Text "PAW" to 44-321.
Donate today and help us reach our goal!

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THANK YOU TO OUR 2020 DONORS

MSD-WCP gratefully acknowledges each of the generous donations made in 2020. Each gift we received goes directly towards puppy raising, training, and placing a mobility service dog with a mobility-impaired individual. Your donation makes a huge difference in the lives of our dogs and humans.

We are sincerely appreciative of each of our 198 donors. Our work would not be possible without your support.



2020 TOP CONTRIBUTORS

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