In 1988, Lucky, pictured above, was the first dog we adopted from an animal shelter. She was homeless and was scheduled to be euthanized that day. Lucky served as our demonstration dog for 11 years. She is symbolic of our commitment to save homeless dogs while fulfilling our mission to serve people with disabilities.

Tails From Minnesota
Published quarterly for friends and supporters of

Can Do Canines
Celebrating 25 years of service

Can Do Canines is dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for people with disabilities by creating mutually beneficial partnerships with specially trained dogs.

We envision a future in which every person who needs and wants an assistance dog can have one. Assistance dogs provide the gifts of freedom, independence, and peace of mind to our clients and their families. Our fully trained dogs, often adopted from local animal shelters, are provided to our clients who live with disabilities that involve mobility challenges, hearing loss or deafness, seizure disorders, autism, or diabetes complicated by hypoglycemia unawareness.

Dogs, training and equipment are provided to each client free of charge.

Board of Directors:
MarySue Krueger  President
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To reach a staff member via phone, dial 763-331-3000. When you hear the greeting, press the extension number you need or press 2 for an employee directory.

Can Do Canines
9440 Science Center Drive
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website www.can-do-canines.org

From the Executive Director

25 Year Anniversary
During 2014, Can Do Canines is celebrating 25 years of training and placing assistance dogs in our community. We are celebrating this milestone in a number of ways, starting with a surprise for me. On January 7, I learned that our Anniversary Committee arranged for flags to fly over the U.S. and State Capitols on my birthday, January 8, as a special honor to both me and Can Do Canines. What a wonderful surprise!

As part of the celebration, a formal dedication of our facility and the unveiling of a permanent campaign donor wall in our building will be held May 17, 2014 in conjunction with our Spring Graduation. The campaign donor wall will honor all those who contributed to the Campaign for Independence. Mark your calendars now, as you won’t want to miss this special event.

Capital Campaign
The Campaign for Independence began in 2009 and has been a huge success. We completed the $4.4 million effort and concluded the campaign on December 31, 2013. Many thanks to those who supported the campaign.

As a result of this important five-year project we have acquired a permanent home for the organization, secured its future with pledges that will pay off the mortgage by 2017, and set the stage for unprecedented growth over the next four years. Our ultimate goal is to shorten or eliminate the long waiting list for assistance dogs. We estimate that 100 extra assistance dog teams will live in the community by the end of 2017 as a result!

Puppies Behind Bars
I am proud to announce that Can Do Canines will partner with the Federal Bureau of Prisons - Duluth in early 2014 to institute a new prison puppy-raising program. We expect to begin with 10 puppies. Our current programs are located at the Federal Bureau of Prisons - Waseca and the Minnesota Correctional Facility - Faribault.

Puppy Raisers Needed
Working hand-in-hand with the prison inmates and our training staff, Puppy Raisers are critical to raising, socializing and training our puppies as they grow. Puppies cannot be fully prepared for their important work without the love and attention of our dedicated Puppy Raisers!

With two litters recently born, and 10 puppies flying in from New Jersey in March, we are desperate for more of these special volunteers. If you have ever thought about volunteering in this special way, this is the time to act. Come to a tour or visit a training class to observe. We need you!
A Second Chance

Julie Thibado and Mobility Assist Dog Lilly      By Gena Rohl

Julie Thibado of Turtle Lake, Wisc. knew she needed additional help when her rheumatoid arthritis started to inhibit her lifestyle. Julie was diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis (RA) in her late thirties, and the condition has become progressively worse over time. Because RA causes inflammation of the joints, both Julie’s hands and feet are affected. She struggles with balance and needs to use a walker at night. She also has trouble using her hands, which makes dressing and undressing a challenge. Julie’s past history of falling, and even breaking some bones, prompted her to look into getting an assistance dog. An experienced dog and horse trainer, Julie knew she was capable of training a Mobility Assistance Dog, so three years ago Julie adopted Lilly, a one-year-old Border Collie.

Julie knew little of Lilly’s past life, except that she had been rescued from a hoarding situation and was now getting a second chance. After bringing her back to health, Julie began training Lilly to become her Mobility Assist Dog by enrolling her in obedience class. It was there the class instructor suggested she contact Can Do Canines for help.

“When I started training Lilly, I didn’t really know how to train a service dog,” Julie says. “Can Do Canines’ trainer Dora Schroeder gave me the encouragement to know I was doing the training right. Also I appreciated the support I received from the organization, the fact that I could call for suggestions, get encouragement, et cetera.”

Lilly was trained to perform numerous skills, such as helping Julie undress by pulling off her clothing when asked, opening and closing doors, and retrieving items such as clothing, shoes, and purses. Lilly also knows how to retrieve the emergency phone. This gives Julie great peace of mind since one of her biggest fears is falling when alone. She also knows how to find Julie’s husband, Jerry, upon command. A very useful skill, indeed!

Lilly’s most important contribution is steadily walking next to Julie. Lilly’s vest has a long handle which Julie holds while walking, steadying herself and providing balance. Having Lilly nearby decreases the need for Julie to use her walker or wheelchair and provides Julie with the independence to live the life she wants.

For fun, Julie and Lilly have also competed in several obedience trials, with Lilly receiving her Companion Dog title after just three shows. The team will also be presenting to the Turtle Lake Wisconsin Lions, where husband, Jerry, is president.

Julie says, “Lilly has given me back my life. She got me moving and going again, and gave me a purpose.”

We Thank Those Who Made This Placement Possible:

- Name-A-Puppy – Mike, Lynn, Laura and Sarah Branch
Matchmakers around the world might get a little jealous when they hear about Angie Dick and her Can Do Canines Diabetes Assist Dog, Bubba.

“The day he arrived, I fell in love immediately, and I like to think he did, too!” remarks Angie, who lives and works in Sioux Falls, SD. “I love everything about him. I don’t think I could’ve found a better match.”

What could possibly spark such instant affection for a two-year-old, 12-pound, black Schipperke?

For starters, Bubba more than makes up for his diminutive size with a huge personality and seemingly endless supply of energy. “He’s so much fun! His high energy level helps keeps me active, which is good for my diabetes and for my rheumatoid arthritis.”

In the several months they’ve been together, Bubba has returned Angie’s love many times over. As a Diabetes Assist Dog, he’s also given her peace of mind, as well as confidence to lead an active life, which includes working fulltime at Citibank, attending Stampede hockey games and volunteering for a local Special Olympics team.

Diagnosed with type 1 diabetes at age 17, Angie has experienced many episodes of low blood sugar, and usually she’s not aware it’s happening. The worst spells left her with terrible headaches for two or three days afterward, resulting in missed time at work. But that wasn’t even the worst part.

“One of my biggest fears was having a low blood sugar seizure while driving and getting into an accident. Hurting myself would be bad enough. But what if I hurt someone else?”

Bubba’s training enables him to alert Angie when her blood sugar starts to drop. Amazingly, he alerted her the very first night they were together. “He woke me up around 3 a.m. by licking me and pawing at me because I was low. We had practiced ‘get the gel’ (oral glucose gel) only a few times, but he got it for me that first night. Eventually, I was with it enough to have a little ‘Bubba is awesome’ party!”

Since then, Bubba has alerted Angie countless times in a variety of places and situations, such as at work, at hockey games, while riding in a shopping cart at Walmart (on Black Friday, no less!), at the dog park — anywhere and everywhere her life takes her.

Normally, Bubba alerts Angie by jumping. “He jumps three or four times in front of me going about three feet high, approximately at my waist level. I refer to it as ‘boinging.’ When people see it for the first time, they think it’s hilarious. I have to explain to them what he’s doing.”

During a Stampede hockey game, Bubba crawled out from under Angie’s seat to alert her. But there wasn’t enough room for jumping, so he crawled up into her lap and started whining and licking her face. “I call that thinking on his paws,” she laughs. “He had to figure out a different way to get his point across.”

Angie gratefully considers Bubba’s journey to her and all the people who made it possible. To everyone involved in Bubba’s training, she says, “I don’t think I could thank you enough — but absolutely thank you. Without your training and getting him to this point, I wouldn’t have the peace of mind or joy that I get from him every day.”

Her deep appreciation extends to Can Do Canines’ financial donors, too. “Your contributions are what make this all possible. With medical expenses from two chronic conditions, there’s no way I could afford to pay thousands of dollars for an assistance dog.”

We Thank Those Who Made This Placement Possible:

- Puppy Raiser — Laura & Adam Waudby
- Field Trainer — David Crawford
- Dog Source — Cinda Waller

Love at First Sight, Alerts the First Night

Angie Dick and Diabetes Assist Dog Bubba

by Bill Johnson
A Winning Team

Jeanne Kerans and Mobility Assist Dog Gamble

by Brita Nelson

Jeanne Kerans of Minnetonka, Minn. lives with Multiple Sclerosis (MS) and deteriorating hearing loss. Even with her hearing aid she sometimes is unable to hear sounds that effect her safety such as a smoke alarm, or basic sounds that would connect her to the outside world, such as a phone ringing or a door knock. Due to her MS, Jeanne is wobbly when she stands and needs to use a walker or scooter out in public.

Jeanne first became aware of Can Do Canines when she watched Executive Director, Al Peters, do a demonstration of assistance dog skills at a local health fair. A long-time dog lover, especially of Golden Retrievers, she decided that having an assistance dog was the solution for her to maintain her independence. So, she applied and was matched with Toby—as fate would have it—a gorgeous Golden Retriever. Mainly a Mobility Assist Dog (with additional hearing alert skills added), she and Toby were a great team and she loved him dearly. But, after six wonderful years as a team, Toby was diagnosed with cancer and passed away in 2011.

Living without an assistance dog in her life, Jeanne again felt isolated. She missed phone calls from friends and visitors at her door. She felt unable to get out and stay as busy as before because getting around without help was much more difficult. Finally, she decided it was time to open her heart to another teammate and get busy with life again.

Jeanne applied for another assistance dog from Can Do Canines and this time was matched with Gamble, a handsome black Labrador Retriever. He was trained to help her with both mobility skills and hearing assistance, and within no time began helping Jeanne in all the previous ways.

“I have neuropathy in my hands so I don’t know that items have fallen out of my grasp” Jeanne explains. “Now, Gamble goes and picks them up and hands them to me.”

Gamble also helped reconnect Jeanne with the outside world, by alerting her to helpful, everyday sounds.

“Having Gamble in my life now brings back all kinds of wonderful memories, of how it has worked with my other dogs.” Jeanne says of their partnership.

Of those who helped train Gamble, she adds “You did a very good job. He is a great gift. Thank you.”

We Thank Those Who Made This Placement Possible:

- Vet Services – Animal Wellness Center
- Puppy Raiser – Schroeder family
- Foster Home – Inmates at the MN Correctional Facility at Faribault
- Dog Source – Can Do Canines & Jennifer Leary

www.can-do-canines.org
What is a Mobility Assist Dog?

Mobility Assist Dogs are trained to help a person with physical disabilities. While the needs of the client can vary greatly, Mobility Assist Dogs are trained to provide support by:

- Opening and closing doors
- Picking up dropped items
- Retrieving an emergency phone
- Getting help from someone else in the home
- Turning light switches on and off
- Providing counterbalance with the use of a specially designed harness

These skills can be customized to meet the needs and lifestyle of the individual client.
A Part of the Family
Lu Ommen and Diabetes Assist Dog Gilbert

by Susan Lindsay

Lu Ommen of Harmony, Minn, has always been a man in motion. And, thanks to Gilbert, he doesn’t have to stop.

Lu is active and involved in so many things, it’s hard to imagine any condition could slow him down. He is the Executive Director of Maple Leaf Services, a not-for-profit organization serving people with developmental disabilities in Fillmore County, Minnesota. He’s involved at his church and sings in the choir. He’s been a member of the Harmony Lions Club for over 35 years and stays physically active, biking, golfing and making pottery. So what could stop him?

Lu was diagnosed at age 12 with type 1 diabetes and now has the added complication of hypoglycemic unawareness. This means that Lu is often unaware of the fact that his blood glucose levels may be dangerously low, as he does not experience typical symptoms of hypoglycemia (which can include sweatiness, shakiness and weakness).

Despite acute monitoring of his condition, Lu began having episodes more frequently, and over the past year had been taken to the emergency room for seizures (related to low blood sugar levels). Going low enough to elicit a seizure is a life-threatening emergency and has long-term effects on the body. These episodes were especially difficult and frightening for his wife, Susan, who has multiple sclerosis (MS). But, through his work with the Lions, whose clubs support Can Do Canines across Minnesota, learned about the organization and applied for a Diabetes Assist Dog.

Enter Gilbert, a two-year-old black Labrador retriever. Gilbert’s job is to alert Lu to lows in his blood glucose level starting by a tap on his leg and then, if necessary, persisting with a look or a bark. An added benefit is that Gilbert is also alerting when his blood glucose is high. This is not something trained at Can Do Canines, but certain dogs are attuned to pick up and alert to highs levels as well. Lu says the alerts Gilbert gives him are different for highs than the alerts he gives him for lows. “He is very persistent if I don’t respond and doesn’t give up until I follow through and check my blood sugar.”

Gilbert has truly become Lu’s partner in more ways than just alerting to his condition. He goes with Lu to the office every day, rides in the cart during Lu’s golf outings, and sits at Lu’s feet during choir practice. Gilbert gets a lot of attention wherever they go, especially the grocery store where Gilbert amazes people with how patiently he will wait for Lu to checkout, then pick up his own leash when it’s time to go.

Lu had not previously had a dog and went through a period of adjustment to the new responsibilities. But now, he and his family are happy Gilbert has joined them and praise him for doing such a great job. Lu says it has changed his life. “Gilbert is part of the family now,” says Lu with a big smile. ♥

We Thank Those Who Made This Placement Possible:
- Vet Services – Animal Wellness Center
- Puppy Raiser – Jerry Schendel
- Foster Home – Inmates at the MN Correctional Facility at Fairbault
- Field Trainer – Julia Breza
- Dog Source – Can Do Canines

Gifts In Honor Of

Gifts given in honor of and received between December 1, 2013 to February 28, 2014

Lu Ommen and Diabetes Assist Dog Gilbert

Our Dogs Fetch Amazing Things
Assistance Dogs International, our trade association, will hold its 2014 conference this fall in Denver Colorado.

This conference only happens every two years and is often held in other countries, making it less accessible. We believe in the dedication and hard work that goes into creating every Certified Assistance Dog Team. Each teams’ unique story is told as the graduate is presented with their certificate. Also on tap will be the dedication of our new building and some 25th Anniversary fun.

Stop by and support our new teams! We hope to see you there.

How could you help? Airline tickets or hotel points for Hyatt Hotels would be a significant help, as these are the largest expenses. We would also welcome scholarship dollars to specifically fund the $350 Trainer’s Conference fee or the $450 International Conference fee.

Please share your ideas of support with Al Peters at apeters@can-do-canines.org or 763-331-3000 x 116.

On Saturday, May 17 at 1:00 p.m., Can Do Canines will graduate more than 15 new assistance dogs teams! The one-hour ceremony will take place at our facility at 9440 Science Center Dr. in New Hope, Minn.

This wonderful event celebrates the dedication and hard work that goes into creating every Certified Assistance Dog Team. Each teams’ unique story is told as the graduate is presented with their certificate. Also on tap will be the dedication of our new building and some 25th Anniversary fun.

Please share your ideas of support with Al Peters at apeters@can-do-canines.org or 763-331-3000 x 116.

Spring Graduation
Saturday, May 17
1:00 p.m.

Gifts in Memory Of

Holly Anderson ........................................... “Nevada”
Animal Wellness Center .......................... “Melvin”
Kellie Barry .............................................. “Buddy”
Kathy Bos ................................................... Andy Nerhus
Dottie Brewer .......................................... Karen Butler
Lynn Cox .................................................. Pat Cox
Rebecca Davison ...................................... “Lilly”

Rita Eckert .............................................. “Josie”
Lisa Espeleth ......................................... Arnold Espeleth
Family Memorial Fund of The Minneapolis Foundation, ............................................................... Marilyn Lingard
Joan Ficker .............................................. Jack Ficker
Barbara Frame ......................................... RJ Fastner
Mariza Frazier ......................................... Will Harrison, Kelsey Pris
Bonnie Genin ......................................... Sherry Montella
Bonnie Genin ......................................... Ken Devtiver
Amy Hanson ........................................... “Wally”
Wendi Harmsen ....................................... “Patti”
Ornis Hereid .......................................... Andy Nerhus
Susan Hobmann ....................................... “Ginger” the cat
Margaret Johnson ...................................... “Tally” Ho and “Tyler”
Cathy Kaliska .......................................... “Sam”
Pete Kleingartner ................................. Donnie Polkikamp
Florence Knopick ................................... Stan Knopick
Lee and Gruff Lautensch .................................. “Kody” and “Sasha”
Michael Machacek ................................ “Tanner”
Brenda Martinson ...................................... Lee Perish
Janet McKean ......................................... “Maggie” and “Matly”
Rosemary Moneta Rosengren ....................... C. Jon Rosengren

Morgan Lions Club ................................. Florance Engholm
Ann Mortimore ....................................... “Babe” and “Dusty”
Terri Muennborg ...................................... “Alfred”
Sandee Nester ........................................... Nikolas Otto Wersal
StefaniNie ........................................... Hendrix Weber
Ann Ord .................................................. “Ringo”
Carol Petersen ......................................... “Shelby”
Karen Peterson ......................................... Gene Mainville
Laura Powers ......................................... Margaret Barkowski
Philip Reilly ........................................... Phoebe Fenske, loving mother who loved animals
Barry Riven ........................................... “Alex” and “Mitch”
Scott Rudolph ......................................... “Cuda” and “Daisy”
Dennis Sanstone ....................................... “Winston”
Jeanne Sorenson ..................................... “Yoshi”
Jane Steck ........................................... Katy Boone Hegna
Jackie Strobel ......... Dave Strobel and service dog “Faith”
Luciee Sukalo ......................................... My Parents
George Ulmer ........................................... Andy Nerhus
Marian Veaasen ..................................... Debra K. Anderson
Sue Will .................................................. Natascha Smrekar
Sara Wills .............................................. “ToFfee”
Naomi Wilkins ........................................ Keira Jean Wilkins
Toni Yearman ......................................... Karen Wendt

Anniversaries are a chance to look back at our successes and challenges, and take a moment to appreciate the special moments we enjoyed over the years. As part of our 25th Anniversary, we want to capture your recollections, unique stories and photos to help to paint a picture about why Can Do Canines is so special.

Maybe it’s a story about a shelter dog or other trainee, a great picture from one of our events, or a tale about a graduate team. Did something happen here that changed your life, or the life of someone you know? Tell us that story!
The Freedom of a Hobby
Shawn Calzaretta and Mobility Assist Dog Hobbs

Living just outside the small, rural town of Delta, Iowa can be a dream come true—until your way of life is threatened by something no one can put a name to.

When it is too much effort to get into the car and drive to the store, let alone get out and shop, or simple chores become overwhelming, you feel that not only your independence and freedom have been stolen, but also your family’s. Shawn Calzaretta knows these challenges all too well. He joined support groups and journaled about his struggle to get by. Now, his writing has taken on a different tone.

Here are Shawn’s words:

“Having multiple sclerosis (MS) means every day is an extreme challenge. Limited mobility, extreme fatigue, no use of hands, concentration and memory problems, etc. The tremors and spasticity that come with it affect me pretty hard. The sleep deprivation they cause is so very difficult.

I remember very clearly four years ago when my Doctor told me I had MS. Sitting in his office, he said “You have MS. You can’t continue to work. You need to find a hobby.” Well on October 17, 2013, a black Lab Mobility Assist Dog named Hobbs, aka “Hobby”, arrived to change my life forever.

Day 1 — This is the first time in 5 or 6 years that I have slept thru the night without waking up. A full 9 hours. Hobbs sensed my tremors and put his head and body against mine. His body not only gave me the little bit of heat where I needed it, it also provided my body resistance.

It still startles me at times when I wake in the morning, with sun light coming through the window, knowing I slept through the night. And Hobbs is just there sleeping, knowing he accomplished his job. I have tried different medications for tremors and spasticity; all of which left me with nasty side effects. Hobbs is my 70 pound sleeping pill. He continues to do this every night, sometimes moving from my leg tremors to my core muscle tremors and spasticity. Now I sleep without waking in the fetal position with terrible night sweats.

Hobbs has now started to do this throughout our day together. When I am sitting, he lays across my feet to provide the resistance I need. This is very important while I am eating. It allows me to chew and swallow my food without having core muscle spasms.

Day 3 — Helped me do wash. Removed clothes from basket and gave to me. Picked up dirty clothes and had him put in basket. Dora says he was not trained to do that, he just seemed to know that I needed it.

The laundry room is one of the “danger zones” in my house. It is narrow and bending over to gets things from the basket or dryer causes me to lose my balance and fall, often hitting my head. With Hobbs, I feel so much safer.

Day 4 — Hobbs is giving me my life back. Which allows me to give my family’s lives back to them. Last night my father left the house to attend his grandson’s school concert. Just the thought of him not having to worry about me was freedom. He was able to relax and not have to rush back to the house. Six years in the Army and I thought I knew. You really don’t know what freedom is until it is taken away from you.

I thought I knew what an assistance dog could do for me. I had no idea. He is everything I imagined and so much more.

How do I say thank you?

I have been searching for an answer to this question for the past four months. (I know I say it to Hobbs a hundred times a day). If I had to put it into one sentence, I would say ... “Thank you for all you have given me today and for allowing me to see my future in a different light.”

We Thank Those Who Made This Placement Possible:
- Vet Services – Maryland Avenue Pet Hospital
- Puppy Raiser – Inmate Handlers at the Federal Correctional Facility at Waseca
- Foster Home – Judy Schwab
- Field Trainer – Melissa Childs
- Dog Source – Can Do Canines
Wish List

Dog Supplies
✓ Gift cards to pet supply stores
✓ I.Clic Training Clickers
✓ Car Seat Belt Harnesses – M & L
✓ Halti Head Collars sizes 2 & 3
✓ 4’ Leashes
18’ Martingale collars
✓ Medium Gentle Leaders
✓ Soft Treats (BilJac, Zukes)
✓ Small and medium biscuit style treats
✓ Giant Nylabones and Large Kong
✓ L or XL Vari-Kennels
✓ 36” and 42” Wire Dog Kennels (new or gently used)
✓ Frontline Flea and Tick Preventative
✓ Nature’s Miracle Cleaner
✓ Easy Walk, Freedom or Halti Harnesses
✓ Stuffing free, Chuck-It or JW dog toys
✓ Donated veterinary services
✓ Purebred puppies

Electronics
✓ Laptops & Computers, Windows 7 and/or Mac 10.7 or newer
✓ Adobe InDesign CS4 or newer
✓ Speakerphone
✓ Flat screen TV (30” or larger)
✓ LCD Computer Monitors

Automotive
✓ Gasoline cards
✓ Minivan
✓ Auto repair/maintenance
✓ Small station wagon

Miscellaneous
✓ Two-stage snow blower
✓ Coffee Maker 100 cup
✓ No-Iron Black Tablecloth/Draping for 6’ tables
✓ Silverware set and sharp kitchen knives
✓ General hand tools
✓ Gift cards to:
  Grocery stores
  Office supply stores
  Michael’s craft store
  Party City
  Home improvement stores
✓ Office supplies (paper, markers, stamps)
✓ Bleach, glass cleaner
✓ HE laundry detergent
✓ Framed dog-related art

Building Materials
✓ Pipe and drape, black (6 - 8ft x 10 ft sections)
✓ Stage skirting, black (24 inch x 32 ft)

Items in bold are our most pressing needs! For more wish list items, please go to www.can-do-canines.org.

A special thanks to all of you who previously supplied us with wish list items! You made our wishes come true! ❤️

Development News

Wish List

Dog Supplies
✓ Gift cards to pet supply stores
✓ I.Clic Training Clickers
✓ Car Seat Belt Harnesses – M & L
✓ Halti Head Collars sizes 2 & 3
✓ 4’ Leashes
18’ Martingale collars
✓ Medium Gentle Leaders
✓ Soft Treats (BilJac, Zukes)
✓ Small and medium biscuit style treats
✓ Giant Nylabones and Large Kong
✓ L or XL Vari-Kennels
✓ 36” and 42” Wire Dog Kennels (new or gently used)
✓ Frontline Flea and Tick Preventative
✓ Nature’s Miracle Cleaner
✓ Easy Walk, Freedom or Halti Harnesses
✓ Stuffing free, Chuck-It or JW dog toys
✓ Donated veterinary services
✓ Purebred puppies

Electronics
✓ Laptops & Computers, Windows 7 and/or Mac 10.7 or newer
✓ Adobe InDesign CS4 or newer
✓ Speakerphone
✓ Flat screen TV (30” or larger)
✓ LCD Computer Monitors

Automotive
✓ Gasoline cards
✓ Minivan
✓ Auto repair/maintenance
✓ Small station wagon

Miscellaneous
✓ Two-stage snow blower
✓ Coffee Maker 100 cup
✓ No-Iron Black Tablecloth/Draping for 6’ tables
✓ Silverware set and sharp kitchen knives
✓ General hand tools
✓ Gift cards to:
  Grocery stores
  Office supply stores
  Michael’s craft store
  Party City
  Home improvement stores
✓ Office supplies (paper, markers, stamps)
✓ Bleach, glass cleaner
✓ HE laundry detergent
✓ Framed dog-related art

Building Materials
✓ Pipe and drape, black (6 - 8ft x 10 ft sections)
✓ Stage skirting, black (24 inch x 32 ft)

Items in bold are our most pressing needs! For more wish list items, please go to www.can-do-canines.org.

A special thanks to all of you who previously supplied us with wish list items! You made our wishes come true! ❤️

Workplace Giving

Did you know your employer may be able to strengthen your support of Can Do Canines? Find out now if your company has a program like the ones listed below. Every dollar donated and hour volunteered helps Can Do Canines provide vital lifesaving services and resources to people with disabilities.

Matching Dollars

Many companies offer matching gift programs that will double, even triple a donation’s value! To find out if your company will match your contribution to Can Do Canines, check with your organization or visit can-do-canines.org for our online directory of employers that match employee gifts. If you have questions about your company’s program, contact your personnel or Human Resources Department.

Dollars for Doers

According to the Committee Encouraging Corporate Philanthropy (CECP), “Dollars for Doers has been the most frequently offered employee-volunteer program” for the past few years. More companies offer Dollars for Doers than any other employee volunteering incentive.

Dollars for Doers programs enable employers to recognize the volunteer efforts of their employees with cash. When an employee volunteers with an eligible nonprofit, the company matches their volunteer hours with a financial donation to that nonprofit. Contact your personnel or human resources department for details.

Love is in the Air: Name a Puppy

Puppies have arrived as a few of our “Moms” gave birth around Valentine’s Day. Would you like a very special gift for someone you love? Name a Puppy in their honor!

For a minimum donation of $3,000 for individuals or adult groups and $1,500 for youth groups, you or your group can join over 100 generous Name A Puppy Participants who have helped provide funding as their puppy learned to become an incredible assistance dog. For a Name A Puppy brochure and fundraising kit, contact Janet Cobus, jcobus@can-do-canines.org.

25th Anniversary Events Need Your Support

You can make your gift to Can Do Canines more meaningful by becoming a Can Do Canines Event Partner! Your sponsorship gift can come from an employee group, service club or serve as a way to advertise your business. There are a variety of opportunities and benefit levels available through the following events:

- May Tails of Independence Fundraising Luncheon: $250 to $10,000
- May and October Graduation Luncheon: $250 to $2,500
- April Volunteer Luncheon: $500 to $1,500
- September Woofaroo Fundraising Walk: $250 to $10,000
- November Fetching Ball Gala: $500 to $30,000

To learn more about any Development News items, please contact Development Director, Janet Cobus, at 763-331-3000 ext. 153 or email jcobus@can-do-canines.org.
Volunteer Spotlight – Bob Copus

When Can Do Canines moved to our own facility in 2010, we were surprised at how many “fix-its” and maintenance issues arise when caring for such a large building. Not having a staff member to handle the various tasks, Can Do Canines relied on the generosity of several volunteers. However, we really needed one primary volunteer to handle the regular needs on a weekly basis.

We limped along for several years, until retired veteran, Bob Copus, stopped by the building in the fall of 2011. He was looking for ways to keep busy during retirement and to share his talents. He sure came to the right place!

We’ve kept Bob busy ever since. From ensuring all our lights are working throughout the building, fixing our snow blower and lawn mower when needed, to checking and changing filters: Bob is irreplaceable.

This year he even braved the weather to fix our roof-top furnace at -20 degrees! We have many events at our facility and Bob has become an expert at setting up and taking down our stage.

A dog lover with two German Shepherds at home, Bob has helped several times with our puppy socialization as well.

A simple thank you cannot fully express our appreciation for all the ways Bob helps Can Do Canines. Bob, you are an invaluable volunteer to us indeed! ♥

What about you?

Can you donate a few hours to the cause? We need help in the following areas:

- Event Planning committees
- Puppy Raisers (14-16 months commitment)
- Foster families (1-2 weeks)
- Receptionist
- Graphic Design/Marketing

Contact Volunteer Coordinator Laurie Carlson at lcarlson@can-do-canines.org or 763-331-3000 ext. 113.

Dog + Exercise = Support Can Do Canines!

Want to take Fido for a walk and help raise some serious assistance dog funds? Then come out to the Fast and the Furry on May 31, 2014 at Harriet Island in St. Paul.

On of the Twin Cities’ premier outdoor pet-friendly events, runners, walkers and their pups can partake in a 5K run/walk or an 8K competitive timed run. More than just an athletic event, Fast and the Furry showcases a pet expo and other festivities for the entire family!

Can Do Canines was chosen as one of five participating charities, so when you register select our name and we will receive $10.00 of the registration fee. You can even sign up as a fundraiser for a chance to win great prizes!

To register for the race or to help raise money for Can Do Canines visit fastandthefurry.com. Thanks in advance for the support and we’ll see you on the course! ♥
Upcoming Events

April 3  Can Do Canines Day
         @ Whole Foods
April 8  Tails to Tell Tour, 10 a.m.
May 17  Spring Graduation 1 p.m.
May 20  Tails to Tell Tour, 7 p.m.

*All Tails to Tell tours take place at our facility, located at 9440 Science Center Drive, New Hope, MN 55428

Please call our office at 763-331-3000 or email tour@can-do-canines.org to reserve your spot!

Save the Dates!

Saturday September 13th

Mark your calendars and gather your team to join us for a fun-filled day at the Can Do Woofaroo fundraising walk! Music, demonstrations, and exhibitor booths will make this a perfect day to spend with your four-legged friend.

Saturday November 15th

Get out your black tie and tails for this year’s Fetching Ball. Dinner and laughter are on the plate and waiting for you. You won’t want to miss this amazing evening featuring musician Scott Helmer and, of course, Can Do Canines!