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**ASSISTANCE
DOGS** OF THE WEST

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ADW puppies and mommy dog Wallis are bringing in Spring at our Puppy Enrichment Center, Sunrise Springs Resort and Spa. Barbara Odell Photography

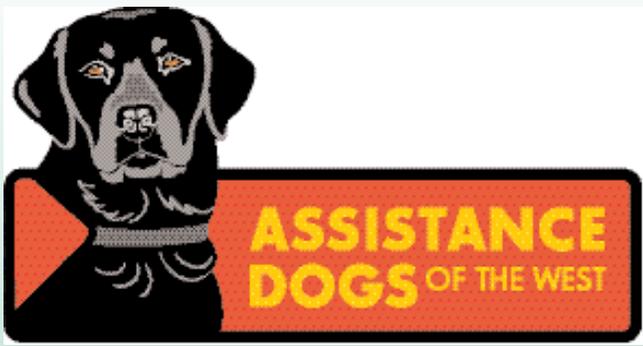
What is in the Tax Reform Act That Affects the Charitable Sector?

There has been some alarm in the charitable community about the impact of this law on charitable giving-which laws affecting planned giving have changed and which laws remain intact. Your financial advisor can give suggestions on the best ways donors can continue to make tax-efficient planned gifts.

We trust, that as in the past, donors are inspired to donate to social enterprises that successfully contribute work that is meaningful and is in alignment with their interests and values. At Assistance Dogs of the West we strive to be innovative in our response to the ever-growing need for the extraordinary work our canines are willing to give. We are ever grateful for your support and you may give here: assistedogsofthewest.org/donate/



Counting up the tax credits for charitable donations is lots of fun according to our ADW puppy. Barbara Odell Photography



Spring 2018 Newsletter



Special Victims Advocates and their loyal canines traveled from near and far to ADW training headquarters for a two-day intensive of skill training and camaraderie. Barbara Odell Photography

A Reunion of Professionals with ADW Canines Combined Excellence with Friendship

In March, professionals hailed from far and wide to come together at the ADW Training Headquarters in Santa Fe to exchange information, learn new skills and discover innovative modalities to support their work, their canines and themselves.

Easily underestimated are the rigor and demands put upon Courthouse Facility Dogs and Crisis Response Canines as they



Melissa Campbell teaches the group and Yesica Cioli canine massage. Dozer enjoyed the stress relieving session. Barbara Odell Photography

navigate successfully their work life with their able handlers. When first placed, it takes a modicum of time for the working team to really zig and zag together and find a rhythm that is fluid and refined.

Once achieved, our handlers were inquisitive as to “what next” could be possible and in response ADW designed a two-day intensive that included such topics as New Tasks & Fixing Dog Problems, Canine Fitness, Vicarious Trauma: Techniques for Self-Care, Crisis Response Deployment, Nutrition at Home and On the Road, Relieving Stress and Improving Performance through Canine Massage and more.

Founder and Program Director Jill Felice led her professional trainers, who shared a wealth of engaging animal assisted task work that helps de-traumatize victims so that they can successfully testify. Colleen Phelan, Victim Advocate, Pima County Attorney’s Office presented a hands-on segment on self-care; and Staci Beers, FBI Office for Victims Assistance/Terrorism and Special Jurisdiction Unit; with Traci Redford, Victim Advocate, Bureau

Law Enforcement Officer Finds Friendship and Compassion

I’m Shane Minick and during my career as a law enforcement officer I was unfortunately involved in some critical incidents that took their toll on me. In September of 2016 I was taken off the street and later diagnosed with PTSD, which ultimately forced me into medical retirement in May of 2017. While going through treatment it was recommended by my doctors to be placed with a service dog to help mitigate my symptoms.

A short time later I went to Assistance Dogs of the West to complete the interview process with staff and later that day to “be interviewed” by a few amazing dogs. I had a first-time match with my now best friend Bert and we were finally placed together forever in July of 2017.

Since then, he has been a great companion (BFF) and has allowed me to go places and see people that I was not



Sparks, Nevada team Bert and Shane are a happy duo navigating the world together and enjoying new-found independence.

Cash for Cars Helps Our Pups

Don Hnath and his wife Emily have been puppy parents for years. So when Don decided to part with his vintage Volvo that has tracked 350,000 miles, he donated the proceeds of the sale of his beloved auto through business partner One Community Auto where you can designate ADW as your charity of choice. They take care of all the details and will even pick up or tow the vehicle, handle the donation receipt and fix up the vehicle to make it worthy for their re-sale lot. When you give your vehicle to One Community Auto, ADW receives a larger donation than if it went to auction or the junkyard. So donate that clunker or a healthy vintage machine that has seen a lot of miles and memories and help ADW. You can fill out an online form at OneCommunityAuto.com (click Donate Now) or call the ADW office and we'll get you set up.



Cupcakes and Pupcakes Make a Sweet Donation



Shaundel Moya of Honey Bee Cupcakes, Santa Fe, featured weekend fare of deliciousness for donations to ADW. The spectacular cupcakes with such tantalizing flavors as Cookies & Cream, Coconut Pineapple, Chocolate Peanut Butter and Fresh Lemon were a huge success. Each week a different variety of the completely gorgeous confections were sold at business partner Marty's Meals along with Carrot Pupcakes for our 4-legged friends. Sweetness comes in all different flavors and is especially fine when such great business partners give so generously.

25th Anniversary Sale and Celebration is a Benefit

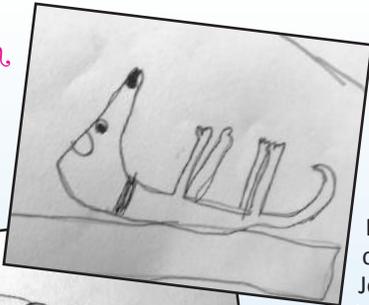
Andrea Fisher Fine Art Gallery selected 25 local nonprofits to celebrate their 25 years in business. One nonprofit each day for a benefit sale from April 6 – April 30 with Assistance Dogs of the West chosen to receive a donation for sales on April 25. The Gallery featured 25% off selected items (with even more on some) with a percentage of each sale benefitting the nonprofit of the day. Way to go Andrea Fisher Fine Art Gallery. Many thanks from the pups and peeps at ADW.

Working With Children is Jones' Love

Jones often spends Friday mornings with puppy parent Jane Gray at Amy Biehl Community School. As the school counselor she works with the children in the areas of social, emotional and academic growth. This kindergarten class is learning about service dogs. Jane is reading about Nito and Chloe written by beloved client Judith M. Newton and illustrated by Sue Blackburn. Jones demonstrates his best behavior while the children listen and learn what service dogs can do.

In addition to reading with the students, Jones is an ambassador with friendly fur relieving stress for staff and students. A quick pat on the head or rub on the belly can change a negative mood instantaneously. Frequently walking with Jones is a reward for a job done well or developing self-esteem when a student introduces him to his classroom peers. Jones, like all ADW dogs, does an amazing job in touching the lives of those around him.

10th



Seymour's Tenth

St. John's College Faculty, children of Faculty and students celebrated Faith and John Gaw Meem Library facility dog Seymour, who is a beloved presence on campus. Drawings commemorate the handsome canine who provides a calming presence to all and lives with Library Director Jennifer Sprague.



School Counselor Jane Gray and Jones are welcomed ambassadors for kindergartners at Amy Biehl Community School.

ADW Profile–Staff/Trainer: Chloe Davis-Masters

Born and raised in Santa Fe, Chloe is a recent addition to our training staff team. She has been involved with ADW ever since she was a little girl when her mom enrolled her in our Summer Camp program at eight years old.

In Chloe's own words:

"I had always been OBSESSED with dogs, and the student trainer program was an amazing outlet for that passion. I continued to participate in the summer camp and after school programs through my early teenage years. I even managed to convince my parents to participate in the puppy raiser program, so that we could take a dog home on the weekends. After high school I got a job at a dog daycare and training facility. It was at that point that I knew that dog training was my calling. I worked in animal sheltering and rescue until in the winter of 2016 when I was presented with the amazing opportunity to rejoin ADW, this time as staff. It feels like I have come full circle, and I couldn't be happier.

ADW is where I discovered my passion for training dogs as a child, something that is now so very important to me. If I had not

met Jill in 2002 I do not know that I would have followed this path."

Chloe is a valued staff member, a dedicated trainer, and committed to expanding her education and career with ADW. Welcome Chloe!



Chloe demonstrates Canine Fitness techniques at the ADW reunion of professional handlers. Barbara Odell Photography

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of Victims Services, San Bernardino County District Attorney's Office led the Crisis Response segment. Many of the handlers present were deployed to the Las Vegas mass event and participated with knowledge and compassion about their experience.

Roundtable discussions provided a forum for exchange; with camaraderie and friendship shared among ADW staff and participants around good food and fine cheer. We look forward to our next reunion and providing moments for increasing knowledge based on best practices.

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able to after being diagnosed with PTSD. He also attended Medical Assisting School with me where he received perfect attendance and was named Most Outstanding Student. He is amazing and knows when I am upset—boy will he lay on the kisses and get in my lap. My seventy-pound lap dog. I am truly blessed to have had the chance to be involved with Assistance Dogs of the West and to have Bert in my life.

I would like to thank all of the staff and volunteers that helped make this an amazingly valuable opportunity for me.

Shane Minick

Educating About Service Dogs in Domestic Violence Shelters and Programs

ADW's expertise with service animals, combined with our core values of promoting inclusion of persons with disabilities, along with healthy relationships between humans and dogs based on mutual respect, have led to an important new partnership. The New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NMCADV) and ADW, along with two ADW graduate teams, Marcie Davis and Lovey, and Nat Dean and Tommy, addressed the need to educate domestic violence shelters and programs across the state about best practices in working with survivors and service animals. The workgroup created a user-friendly, comprehensive "model guidelines" manual to help domestic violence shelter and program staffs understand the different types of animals (service animals, emotional support animals, therapy animals, and pets), which survivors seeking their services may have.

The goal of this work was to help domestic violence programs create or update their policies to be inclusive and

knowledgeable about their rights and responsibilities in serving survivors with service animals, with a special emphasis on safety from domestic violence for both the survivor and their animal, whether it is a service animal or not. The team presented the model guidelines to 30+ domestic violence programs from across the state at the NMCADV member meeting in January. Additionally, the team created a short video explaining best practices in serving survivors with service animals, and will continue to provide education and technical assistance about this topic in multiple formats. The manual, video, and quick-tip flyers are available free of charge to all domestic violence programs, as well as survivors

and the general public, on the NMCADV website here:
<http://www.nmcadv.org/2018/02/service-animals-and-emotional-support-animals-in-domestic-violence-programs/>



The New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence and ADW, From left: Denise Dumesnil with Carmel, Shana Aldahl, Nat Dean with Tommy, Liz Napieralski. This workgroup addressed the need to educate domestic violence shelters about best practices. Not pictured: Marcie Davis and Lovey.