



Brigadoon Service Dogs

"Offering a Helping Paw"

4759 Mission Road
Bellingham, WA 98226
(360) 733-5388
Email: info@brigadoondogs.org

Become a Puppy Raiser

Help someone with disabilities. Raise a puppy for eight months to twelve months. You will be preparing the puppy to go on to graduate school to become a highly trained assistance dog.

You can help to give the gift of independence to a special person!

If you are interested in fostering a Brigadoon puppy, please review the following guidelines and contact Brigadoon today at: (360) 733-5388 or email: info@brigadoondogs.org

Guidelines

Basic Criteria

1. Most puppy raisers must live in the northwest Washington area.
2. If you are renting your property, a letter of permission from your landlord is required (before your personal interview) stating they agree to a Brigadoon puppy being present in your home on a full-time basis until s/he is approximately twelve months old.
3. If you work outside the home, the puppy must be able to accompany you or there must be a responsible adult in the home at all times. Puppies cannot be left alone for more than four hours per day. Please obtain permission from your employer to have the puppy accompany you to work before arranging a home interview. We can provide you with materials/letters of reference to help explain what a puppy-in-training in the work environment entails and to help you obtain permission.

In addition, puppy raisers must agree to the following in order to give their puppy the best chance to successfully complete the Service Dog training program:

4. Mandatory attendance at weekly obedience classes (approved by Brigadoon) and monthly field trips. This enables the puppy's progress to be monitored and the trainer to assist you with any problems as they arise. We embrace the Puppy Culture methodology of raising and training our puppies. This will be covered in weekly classes.
5. Regular (once per month) participation at Brigadoon displays at fundraising and special events throughout Northwest Washington.
6. Be willing to purchase basic supplies such as food, collars, leashes, gentle leaders, etc. Brigadoon supplies the puppy's kennel, service vest, spaying and neutering, vaccinations, microchip and x-rays.
7. Toilet the puppy on a leash, in a designated safe area, if your home does not have a fenced yard.
8. Involve other members of your family by assisting with the puppy's basic obedience training. Children may be involved with the puppy's training, though an adult must be primarily responsible for the puppy's training and socializing. Children under 19 years of age cannot be responsible to take the dog in public.
9. Socializing means that our puppy should accompany you wherever you go. For example, the puppy must be exposed to shopping malls, grocery stores, buses, doctor's and dentist's offices, theatres, movies, restaurants, elevators and sporting events. As a working dog, s/he will be accompanying the client to all these places and more. Brigadoon must be assured that loud noises and crowded areas are not a distraction and that the puppy has been trained to behave while in public. Daily exposure is best; once a week is not enough.
10. Puppy must live indoors and practice crate training.

11. Young puppies need to be supervised throughout the day.
12. Puppy is to be fed according to Brigadoon's specifications.
13. Brigadoon puppies are not permitted off leash unless in an enclosed safe area.
14. Puppy raiser agrees to return puppy upon request.
15. Should boarding become necessary, the puppy must be housed in a boarding facility approved by Brigadoon.
16. Brigadoon's representative shall determine a puppy raiser's age requirements. Puppy raisers under 18 years of age need a parent or guardian to participate as co-puppy raisers.
17. The Brigadoon puppy should be the only puppy (12 months and under) in the household.

If our puppy is not being trained or socialized to our expectations or your work or home situations change, we may have to remove the puppy from your care.