



K9S FOR WARRIORS

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DOG TALES

K9s' Most Tail-Wagging News Source ★★ Warrior Update 111, May 2018



Opt-In: Just Say No To Fake Service Dogs

As the leading service dog organization for disabled American veterans, we are committed to service, education, transparency, and doing what is right. Unfortunately, there are others out there who lack this commitment. If you search "service dog" on the Internet, you will likely discover a gratuitous number of websites providing false service animal documents and aids (some going as far as to "coach" you in faking having a service dog). The actions of these imposters mislead the public and, frankly, abets the dishonest. There is no justifiable reason for an organization to sell fake service dog information and products. You may have witnessed this fraud for yourself.

Our team has stepped up to end this issue by educating leaders in the travel, retail, and service industries to recognize valid service dogs. Moreover, we are developing a prototype "opt in" system with key national partners that will give reputable access providers the opportunity to determine service dog authenticity without violating the law. The system will operate like a TSA Pre-check for service dogs.

Please stay tuned for updates on our "opt-in" system to make reasonable, efficient accommodation for our American heroes, ensure the safety of our communities, protect the integrity of our businesses, and stand firmly for what is right and just.

Rory Diamond, Chief Executive Officer, K9s For Warriors

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year-in-review highlights 2017

1,440
warrior training
hours taught

1.2 million
dog kisses given

36,540 warrior smiles worn

114 warriors
graduated

100
dogs rescued

21,848
donations
processed

544,149
volunteer hours
worked
(a value of \$4,489,229)



Justin & Scout, 2017

A Graphical Glance At 2017

Stay tuned for more compelling details from last year! Our 2017 year-in-review will be published soon!

To DONATE go to www.k9sforwarriors.org
Thanks for your continued support!

2018 Calendar

May

Military Appreciation Month

- 9th:** May Class Dog Day
- 13th:** Mother's Day
- 19th:** Armed Forces Day
- 24th:** Graduation, 6pm
- 28th:** Memorial Day

June

PTSD Awareness Month

- 6th:** June Class Dog Day
- 14th:** Flag Day
- 17th:** Father's Day
- 21st:** Graduation, 6pm
- 27th:** PTSD Awareness Day

July

- 4th:** Independence Day
- 11th:** July Class Dog Day
- 26th:** Graduation, 6pm

August

- 1st:** Air Force Day
- 8th:** August Class Dog Day
- 23rd:** Graduation, 6pm
- 26th:** National Dog Day

Class of February 2018



Class of March 2018



Class of April 2018



Gov. Rick Scott Visits Camp K9

The governor breaks big news at our headquarters

In late March, Camp K9 was honored by a visit from Florida Governor Rick Scott. It was the first time the Governor, a Navy veteran himself, visited our North Florida campus. He began the brief stop by touring our facility, and ended it with a press conference announcing funding plans in the 2018-19 state budget for Florida's active military and veteran populations and their families, stating:

"I'm honored to meet some of our nation's heroes and the great team at K9s For Warriors who work incredibly hard to support those who serve. As a Navy veteran and Governor of the most military-friendly state in the nation, I can appreciate the service of members of our Armed Forces and their families. We will never stop working to support them."

Gov. Scott then surprised all military veteran staff members with their very own Governor's Veterans Service Medal. As he casually stepped down the line of 20 grateful recipients to place the medal around their neck, he also spoke with each one, personally thanking them for their service.



Doggie Bags

Military wives hand-craft accessories for canines

R. Riveter is an innovative company created and run by military wives to benefit other military wives - wherever their spouse's orders take them across the U.S. The grit of the women who developed it led to an episode of ABC's Shark Tank in 2016, where they presented their business idea to a board of hardline investors: contract military spouses to make handbags and accessories to provide mobile, flexible income.

The "mobile, flexible" aspect is at the heart of R. Riveter's operation; each contracted, military wife designer adds a piece of the high-quality fabrics and components of every handbag, then sends it to the next designer until the bag is complete. Using this model, R. Riveter has achieved measurable success, growing in the number of wives it employs, as well as in the creative, authentic products it crafts. Since our organizations share the same values, when R. Riveter approached K9s For Warriors about a partnership idea, it was a no-brainer.

R. Riveter created the Fido + Friends Collection for all dog lovers, which includes handmade leather dog leashes, collars, and other items. In that collection, there is a Fido Support Tag, designed exclusively to represent K9s For Warriors. All profits from the support tag are donated to our program. To find the support tags and all of R. Riveter's impressively crafted handbags and accessories, visit riveter.com.



Happy Mother's Day

"Because of K9s For Warriors and Javie, I have stepped back into my kids' lives. I am a present Mom with a handsome sidekick who decided I could live again. Because Javie supports me 100%, I can support my family 100%." – Shilo, graduate & Mom



Happy Father's Day

"Dr. Chad is not just a tool to help me do things with my family, but he has become part of my family. Now, I can be a Dad present in life to experience the joys of life with my family and kids." – Andrew, graduate & Dad

The Bush Institute Lends Helping Hands of Heroes

George W. Bush Presidential Center sends some of its finest to volunteer at Camp K9



K9s For Warriors made some new friends this March when the George W. Bush Institute sent members of Team 43 Sports for a day of volunteering around our campus. The members and mission of Team 43 have a lot in common with K9s: we both serve post-9/11 veterans, and we're both dedicated to helping them rehabilitate and reintegrate to society. While Team 43 is known for leading major sporting events such as the Warrior 100K and Warrior Open, they decided to make a trip down to Camp K9 to visit with fellow post-9/11 comrades, discuss relevant veterans' issues, and volunteer in a day of heroes helping heroes. You can learn more about Team 43 and the Bush Institute by going online to bushcenter.org.

Check out the K9s For Warriors Facebook page to see updates on warrior graduates and dogs in training. Be sure to "LIKE" us when you get there!

