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## **K9s For Warriors Hosts First Service Dog Class at New Location**

(Alachua Co., Fla.) – On May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the inaugural class of veterans and service dogs will commence at K9s For Warriors’ recently opened training facility. Named the Gold Family Campus, it is situated near Gainesville, FL, and is the national nonprofit’s second training location. K9s For Warriors has become the leading service dog provider for disabled American veterans suffering from PTSD. Although based in Florida, it serves post-9/11 veterans from every state, including Puerto Rico.

The first class of warrior-canine teams will consist of four males previously graduated from the program who are returning with their service dogs for additional training. Intended to be a campus that exclusively serves all-female classes, K9s For Warriors staff members expect this inaugural class to provide insight into the functionality of the new campus, and pinpoint areas of improvement before a brand-new class of veterans arrives.

“We’re ready to get this campus up and running,” said Campus Director, Randy Dexter. “The community has given us a great reception, and we welcome more people to come check us out and sign up to volunteer. There are many ways to become involved in our life-saving mission, and we especially need volunteers to bring in home-cooked dinners right now!”

K9s For Warriors has three years of experience directing service dog teams from its Ponte Vedra headquarters, and another four years of experience running classes from a large home in the same area. The headquarters, called Camp K9, hosts one three-week class each month, with the capacity to serve 12 veterans in each class. To date, K9s For Warriors has graduated 424 warrior-canine teams.

Donated by the Gold Family, the Gold Family Campus is a 9-bedroom, 7-bathroom house that sits on 67 acres, and is powered by \$1 million worth of solar energy panels. There was a dedication ceremony on March 31<sup>st</sup>, hosted by Jeannie Blaylock of local NBC/ABC affiliate First Coast News.

If you would like to schedule an interview with a K9s For Warriors representative or would like additional information, please contact Tahoma Guiry at [Tahoma@K9sForWarriors.org](mailto:Tahoma@K9sForWarriors.org), or call (904) 686-1956.

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### **About K9s For Warriors**

K9s For Warriors is the nation’s largest provider of service dogs to military veterans suffering from Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), and/or military sexual trauma (MST) as a result of military service post-9/11. The service dog program is unique and offers an innovative approach to recovering from the invisible wounds of war. Two lives are transformed with each pairing. The veteran reduces his/her risk of suicide while the rescue dog receives a newfound purpose.

Find more information at [www.k9sforwarriors.org](http://www.k9sforwarriors.org) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#)

*K9s For Warriors is a 501(c)3 dedicated to our American Warriors who have sacrificed their tomorrows for our todays.*

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