



Brigadoon
SERVICE DOGS

IMPACT REPORT



2025

Thank you for supporting
Brigadoon's mission to
provide independence, foster hope,
and enrich the lives of many.



A Veteran's Path to Independence

Adam's Life with Koda – Thanks to Your Support

Adam and his service dog, Koda, were partnered in December 2024. One year later, they are enjoying a **partnership that has reshaped Adam's daily life.**

Adam is a post-9/11 Army veteran living with service-connected PTSD. For years, crowded and unpredictable environments required constant vigilance and careful planning. Even everyday tasks could feel overwhelming.

While exploring treatment options, Adam began learning about service dogs. At the same time, he felt hesitant. One of his biggest concerns was the visibility that comes with a service dog. Having Koda by his side would make an otherwise invisible disability visible to the world. As Adam put it, "It makes your unseen disability seen."

After careful consideration, Adam ultimately decided that the benefits outweighed the drawbacks and chose to pursue a service dog as a path to support his independence and long-term well-being.

From the beginning, Koda brought a calm and steady presence. Adam describes him as "curious, loving, and attentive," with a grounded, intuitive personality. Over time, Koda became a trusted partner.

In public spaces, Koda helps Adam feel safer and more grounded. Through trained behaviors such as "post" and "anchor," Koda creates physical space in crowded

// He's changed my life in every possible way," Adam shares. "We go everywhere together. //

environments and helps Adam feel calmer and centered. Situations that once felt overwhelming are now manageable.

At home, Koda's impact continues. He provides grounding support during moments of stress and has learned to wake Adam from nightmares. Over time, Koda has begun anticipating Adam's needs without verbal cues. "We're really gelling as a team," Adam says. "He has my back."

As a veteran, Adam describes having access to this kind of support as life-changing. For him, the impact goes beyond Koda's trained tasks. It's the constant presence, trust, and sense of partnership that... *Continued on page 7*



You Made 2025 Amazing!



100+ Volunteers

Dedicated individuals who give their time and hearts to help make our mission possible

6 New Teams

Five placed Brigadoon service dog teams and one launched via transfer

60+ Service Dog Teams

Active service dog teams supported during the year

9 Puppies Welcomed

Seven of the nine puppies that joined our program were the offspring of a Brigadoon dog

2025 was a year of momentum for Brigadoon Service Dogs. Join us in celebrating our five service dog team placements, intentional breeding efforts, training progress, and future service dogs beginning their journey.

This work is only possible because of your unwavering support and that of our dedicated volunteers, donors, corporate partners, and grant funders. Training a single service dog costs more than \$50,000 and 4,000 hours of specialized instruction, care, and commitment.

Your generosity changes lives. Read a bit from Adam about the difference Koda has been for him on page 2.

I'm excited to share that our admissions process reopened this January. Today, our waitlist includes approximately 12 individuals, in addition to many clients nearing the need for successor dogs. And we've already heard from **dozens more across the Pacific Northwest** also hoping for a service dog. This rising need highlights why continued support is critical—we hope to **admit more people into the program while maintaining manageable wait times.**

To better meet the growing demand and maintain the high standards our program requires, we have recently hired a full-time professional service dog instructor and two other part-time positions. This growth increases our operating budget for 2026, but I'm confident that this amazing community understands the necessity and will step up to make it happen.

I and the whole Brigadoon team are **deeply grateful for your belief in our mission.** We look forward to another year of progress, partnership, and purpose!

With sincere appreciation,



Carrie Murphree
Executive Director

Catching up with the Brigadoon Pups

Their Training and Placement is Thanks to Your Support



Team Mia & Polaris

Graduated Summer 2025 as Mia's successor service dog. Po provides mobility and other assistance. He sired Brigadoon service dog candidate Danny.



Team Vesper & Hope

Graduated Fall 2025. Hope provides mobility and PTSD assistance. She represented Brigadoon in interviews, presentations, and community outreach.



Team Michael & Rusty

Graduated December 2025. Rusty provides PTSD assistance. He was hosted by Guide Dogs of America as a short-term breeder; sired Archie, Juju, and Sunny.



Team Jessica & Benjamin

Graduated December 2025. Ben provides mobility and psychiatric assistance. He supported community outreach with his notably friendly nature.



Team Shawn & Sparkle

Graduated Fall 2025. Sparkle is Shawn's successor service dog. She also represents Brigadoon at presentations, demos, and office events.



Star

Transferred Fall 2025 to Atlas Assistance Dogs as Team Molly & Star. He is a successor service dog candidate for Molly.



Phoenix was selected as a Brigadoon breeder. Her first litter of seven arrived August 2025 — Emmy, Paxton, and Ruby joined our program; four entered other assistance dog programs.



Yume is entering advanced training at Brigadoon this winter. She whelped one puppy in Fall 2025 while hosted by Joys of Living Assistance Dogs (JLAD).



Banjo began advanced training in Fall 2025 and is hoping to make a preliminary match soon! He spent 2025 rotating between our prison programs and volunteer homes.



Burnaby began advanced training in early 2026. He spent 2025 in our prison programs and volunteer homes. Burnaby was named by the Vink family in June 2024.



Louie is currently training with handlers at Coyote Ridge Corrections Center. He completed health clearances for service work. He was named by Louis Auto Glass at Brigadoon's 2024 Gala.



Molly began advanced training in early 2026. Molly visits an assisted living facility, where she brings love and smiles. She was named by Dave Sem with The Sebo Family Foundation.



Journey is currently training with handlers at Stafford Creek Corrections Center. She completed health clearances for service work. She was named by Lindsey Family Foundation.



Champion was raised attending local social gatherings with his puppy raiser. Now rotating between the prison programs and volunteer homes. Named by Dave Sem with Sebo Family Foundation.



Danny joined his puppy raiser in travel, events, and outreach. He began rotating between our prison programs and volunteer homes. He was sired by Polaris and named by Barron Heating.



Moose enjoys trail walks with Brigadoon volunteers. He began rotating between our prison programs and volunteer homes. He was named by Hempler's and The Seattle Mariners.



Searra began rotating between our prison programs and volunteer homes. Searra represented Brigadoon at Summer 2025 outreach events. She was named by The Order of the Eastern Star.



Archie enjoys training, playing with other dogs, and spending time with people. He began rotating between our prison programs and volunteer homes. He was sired by Rusty and named by Superfeet.



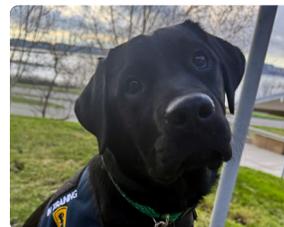
Juju enjoys training, playing with other dogs, and being with people. She was named at the 2025 Gala by Julianne Sem with The Sebo Family Foundation.



Paxton completed her four-month puppy assessment. One of Phoenix's puppies. She spent time with her puppy raiser in California. She was named by Dave Sem with The Sebo Family Foundation.



Ruby completed her four-month puppy assessment. One of Phoenix's puppies. She was named by Lisa Austin and Dan Sammons.



Emmy completed her four-month puppy assessment. One of Phoenix's puppies. She was named by the Flory Family.



Sunny was sired by Rusty and came to Brigadoon from Guide Dogs of America in California. She was named by Dave Sem with The Sebo Family Foundation.

Inside Brigadoon's Prison Programs

Transforming Lives on Both Ends of the Leash

Behind many Brigadoon service dogs is another story of transformation unfolding inside Washington's correctional facilities. Carefully selected incarcerated handlers are working daily with dogs, preparing them for lives of service with people living with disabilities.

Handlers teach foundation skills and reinforce manners that their future partners will need. The work demands consistency, patience, and compassion—qualities that often grow in handlers as much as in the dogs.

Carl B., who joined the program in April 2019, says working with the dogs reshaped how he approaches challenges. "I have learned that patience and kindness go further than rushing and stubbornness. You get better and quicker results."

For many participants, the program brings purpose during a difficult chapter of life. Robert L., who began training dogs in July 2025, shares, **"I don't feel like I'm just wasting my time in prison—I'm learning a lot."**

David D., who joined the program in August 2024, offered this message to Brigadoon supporters: "Prisoners are productive members of our communities. We are not the worst thing that we have ever done."

// Training dogs encourages us to recognize the selfless aspect of ourselves and helps increase our sense of being part of a larger community. //

Program participants gain purpose, responsibility, and hope. Brigadoon pups are changing lives even before they meet their future partners.



3 Prison Programs

In 2025, Brigadoon partnered with Washington Corrections Center, Stafford Creek, and Coyote Ridge Correctional Facilities

40+ Handlers

Brigadoon partnered with more than 40 incarcerated handlers across the three facilities

25+ Veterans

More than 25 of the incarcerated handlers are veterans

Volunteer Spotlight

Catching up with Pat Holmes



Pat Holmes has been a Brigadoon volunteer for nearly three years. After losing her beloved pet dog, Pat wanted dogs in her life again, but she wasn't sure she was ready for another long-term commitment. **Puppy raising offered a way to love a dog deeply while helping someone else at the same time.**

Ben (Benjamin) was the first puppy she raised from puppyhood to placement, and he kept her on her toes. Pat laughs that she had forgotten how intense the puppy stage can be, but she also credits the experience with teaching her about training, patience, and trust. Raising a puppy also showed Pat the importance of respite fostering. Over the past two years, Pat has welcomed more than eight other Brigadoon dogs into her home, providing each with love and care.

Graduation was both joyful and hard. Pat calls it “happy-sad,” because you fall in love knowing you will let go. Your goodbye is the first step toward someone else’s hello—their hello to independence, confidence, and companionship. She says that while **“saying goodbye to dogs you’ve raised is never easy,” watching Ben step into his purpose “makes it all worth it.”** It’s a reminder that loving a dog enough to let go can change someone’s life forever.



Interested in Fostering a Brigadoon Dog?

No prior experience is needed—we provide training and cover costs for dog food and veterinary care. If you love dogs and want to make a meaningful impact, we’d love to hear from you.

brigadoondogs.org/volunteer

Adam’s Story Continued

Continued from page 2... matter most. “It’s extraordinary,” Adam says. “He’s an absolute gift.”

Looking ahead, Adam is excited about the future. He looks forward to continued training, new adventures, and spending more time outdoors together. With Koda by his side, independence feels possible again.

Because of your support, this made Adam and Koda’s partnership a reality at no cost to Adam. As Adam reflects, **“It literally takes a small army to make every one of these dogs possible.”**



Welcome to the Brigadoon Team



Jessica Hess
Development Director

As the Development Director at Brigadoon Service Dogs, Jessica is dedicated to connecting people with meaningful opportunities to serve their community. Her deep

respect for those who serve is personal, inspired by her close friendship with a Marine Corps veteran. Outside of her professional role, Jessica is a devoted wife and foster mom and an animal lover with a Labradoodle of her own. Whether she's out for a walk, lost in a book, or crafting with friends, Jessica brings a spirit of creativity and compassion to everything she does.



Paul Grosart
Prison Program Director

Paul values building meaningful connections with Brigadoon's incarcerated handlers while strengthening the program. Paul holds CPDT-KA and IAABC-

ADT certifications, and is a Certified Control Unleashed instructor. Their passion for positive and accessible dog training has led them to work with multiple service dog organizations since 2016.

Paul also teaches a variety of dog training classes in Olympia, WA. In their free time, Paul and their dogs enjoy a wide range of sports, including rally-obedience, herding, scent work, and conformation.

The Gift of "Yes"

When we talk with folks waiting for a service dog, we hear the same thing over and over: their world has become very small.

They miss out on the moments that make life sweet because they lack the right support. Health challenges—whether physical or psychiatric—shouldn't mean a life of "no." It just means we need to find a different way to get to "yes."

Imagine finally being able to attend your niece's ballet recital without anxiety, or grabbing coffee with a friend for the first time in five years because you now feel safe navigating the shop. Whether it's counter-balancing a veteran during a dizzy spell, creating a "buffer" in a crowded grocery store, or picking up dropped keys so their partner doesn't have to struggle—these dogs aren't just pets. A service dog is the key to a reclaimed life.

You can help someone reclaim their independence by making a gift today.

You already know this: Brigadoon dogs give their absolute all. They are elite workers during the day, and the world's best snugglers at night.

Here is the hard part: our phones don't stop ringing and our email inboxes are full. Every day we hear from at least one person who is desperate for this kind of independence.

Will you help us say "yes" to the next person on our waiting list?

Training a pup to this level of service takes time, patience, and significant funding. When you give, you aren't just buying a vest or some dog food; you are providing an entire decade of daily, life-saving support for someone who has been waiting long enough. Donate today!

SCAN TO DONATE
brigadoondogs.org/donate

