

# VETS TO VETS UNITED, INC

November 2020 Newsletter

11/1/2020



## Our Vision

Improving lives, saving lives, one veteran and one dog at a time.

## Our Mission

We pair veterans with disabilities with rescued dogs for an enhanced quality of life.

### A Special Thank You, from our Chairman

November has become the unofficial "Thank You Month" as November 11<sup>th</sup> Veterans Day, we thank all the Veterans and active duty military for their service and sacrifices. November 26<sup>th</sup> is Thanksgiving Day where we are thankful for all the abundance we enjoy and celebrate with family. We celebrate and are thankful that our Republic that allows us to vote and select our countries leaders, a privilege many countries do not have for its citizens. As the Chairman of the



Bill and Tank

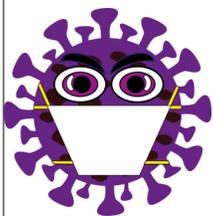
Board of Directors of Vets to Vets United, Inc. I am thankful to Dr. Terry Morris who's dream, and mission made Vets To Vets possible. I am thankful to the dedicated Board members and all the volunteers that make our mission to serve our veterans possible. As a Vietnam Veteran and participant, I am thankful being a participant in the program. My boy "Tank" is an unbelievable asset to my life and to that of my family.

I am especially thankful to our donors, with out their support none of this would be possible. The Veterinarians who give their time, expertise and funds, the individual and corporate donors are so important to our mission. I like to say we use rescue dogs to rescue Veterans. With an average of 22 a day suicides in active duty and veterans that served us and our country, Vets to Vets United is thankful that we can hopefully reduce that number. Vets to Vets United works with a veteran in need so that no veteran will be left behind because of lack of funds by the veteran. Everything the dog and its veteran needs to be a successful team is supplied thanks to your generous donations. We are proud to be able

to rescue dogs to rescue veterans in need.

As I have already stated we are thankful to Terry Morris our Executive Director and founder, our board of directors, volunteers, participants in the program and our supporters that make up a powerful team serving our veterans and their families. Thank you!

Bill Dixon  
Vets to Vets United, Inc.  
Chairman of Board



**Covid-19** has been a challenge for Vets to Vets United just as it has been to other businesses and charities. But we have adapted and still moving forward with a new group of teams.

Vets to Vets United has made the use of the Zoom platform to do training thanks to our wonderful trainers. They are doing some group sessions and private sessions for our teams. We have begun some face to face training outside with mask and social distancing requirements being observed.

New teams have begun their two years of training as the older teams continue their training. The Veteran and their dog partner train together, forming a tight bond of love and service between them both. Thanks to the adaptability of our trainers and teams, we have been able to continue our mission during these challenging situations.

The average cost of our veteran and dog teams with a two year commitment to training is approximately \$420.00 a month. This covers food, training, training supplies, testing, Veterinarian care, supplements, any treatments or medications needed as well as apparatuses needed.



Vets to Vets United and all of our Veteran/Service Dog Teams would like to give special thanks to our outstanding sponsors for their financial support and donation of training spaces. Without your support, we could not continue our mission to pair veterans with disabilities with rescued dogs for an enhanced quality of life.

TOGETHER WE ARE ALL MAKING A DIFFERENCE!



What is the meaning of Veterans Day? A lot of people get Veterans Day and Memorial Day confused. Veterans Day is the day we recognize the service and sacrifice active duty military and Veterans have made to keep us free. Memorial Day is the day we commemorate those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. It is good to wish a veteran or military member a Happy Veterans Day, but not a happy Memorial Day, because it is in remembrance of those who died for us.

Originally it was named Armistice Day, major hostilities of World War I were formally ended at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918, when the Armistice with Germany went into effect. At the urging of major U.S. veteran organizations, Armistice Day was renamed Veterans Day in 1954.

The first guide dogs were trained in the early 1900s to assist vision-impaired troops returning from WWI. Meanwhile, service dogs were first used in 1945 to help soldiers returning from WWII with signs of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).



Veterans continue to see remarkable results from therapy programs that utilize guide and service dogs. The human/animal bond is like no other. While all companion animals can provide emotional support to their humans, guide and service dogs are professionally trained to perform specific tasks. Their training teaches them how to surpass natural dog behavior to do things that their owners, or handlers, cannot do themselves.

Discover the Differences Between Guide Dogs and other types of Service Dogs.

Guide dogs receive training to help blind or vision-impaired individuals navigate through daily life. Their role is like that of a pilot, directing their handler to walk in a straight line and avoid obstacles. The handler then trains alongside the dog to learn how to give it commands and direction.

Service dogs are also trained to help veterans with other disabilities, including hearing loss, to perform daily tasks that are too difficult for the veterans to do alone. This might include retrieving items, opening doors, and even moving objects out of the way when the veteran is having a seizure.

Service dogs differ from therapy dogs in that service dogs are intended for personal use by a specific veteran, while therapy dogs provide animal assisted therapy to others in need. Service dogs are usually permitted in places regarded as off-limits to animals, such as hospitals, restaurants and on airplanes.



Dr. Terry Morris, D.V.M., Ph.D.

Dr. Terry Morris is honored and thankful to God to have an opportunity to give back to those who have sacrificed so much for us so that we are able to have the freedoms that we have today. We are fulfilling God's desire for us to help others in need. We thank you all for being a part of this mission

