

## Average Cost to Train a Service or Hearing Dog

*Because of your support, Dogs For Life is able to train dogs for our clients free of charge.*

### **Team Evaluation Process TOTAL**

Client Application Review	\$120	
Interview, Home Visit, Trainer Assignment	\$75	
Record Keeping and Temperament Test	\$250	
		<b>\$445</b>

### **Training Supplies**

ID Card, Jacket & Patches	\$130	
Equipment (DFL manual, leashes, collars, treats)	\$300	
Canine 911 Emergency Phone	\$280	
		<b>\$710</b>

### **Basic Obedience Training - 3 months**

Individual & Group Obedience Training	\$800	
Assigned Trainers & Record Keeping	\$1,825	
AKC - Canine Good Citizen Training	\$1,225	
		<b>\$3,850</b>

### **Specialized Training - 3 months**

Task Training: 3 Task Minimum	\$1,225	
Assigned Trainers & Record Keeping	\$1,825	
Public Access Training	\$400	
Additional Costs for Hearing Dog	\$2,500	
		<b>\$5,950</b>

### **6 Month Certification**

ID Card, Jacket & Patches	\$130	
Assigned Trainers & Record Keeping	\$1,825	
Public Access Testing	\$300	
		<b>\$2,255</b>

**Sub-Total \$13,210**

### **Annual Recertification - Over 10 years**

Assigned Trainers & Record Keeping	\$1,000	
Obedience, Task & Public Access Training	\$3,000	
Replacement ID Card, Vest & Patches	\$650	
		<b>\$4,650</b>

**GRAND TOTAL for Client Owned Dog \$17,860**

### **Additional Costs for Rescued Dogs**

Shelter Visits & Dog Temperament Test	\$175	
Cost to Adopt Dog	\$180	
Veterinary Exams & Vaccinations	\$300	
Preventative Care	\$240	
		<b>\$895</b>

### **6 Month Transition Training for Rescue Dog**

Training, Boarding & Record Keeping	\$15,000	
Food and Treats	\$600	
Crate, Bed & Training Equipment	\$900	
		<b>\$16,500</b>

**GRAND TOTAL w/Additional Costs \$35,255**

## Service Dogs Can Help Veterans with Post-Traumatic Stress

These dogs specifically help veterans by:

1. Waking them from nightmares
2. Providing space in a crowd
3. Turning lights on in a darkened room
4. Calling for help on a special K-9 emergency phone
5. Creating a distraction or finding an exit to leave a stressful situation
6. Providing deep pressure for calming effect
7. Reducing hyper-vigilance through task work

Our dogs also help provide the emotional stability that veterans and first responders, suffering from post-traumatic stress, need to restore peace in their everyday lives. Service and hearing dogs instill the confidence necessary so that owners can leave the house or to enter a confined space like an elevator. This critical help enables veterans to lead a life of self-reliance and independence.

**Dogs For Life**  
Training Service Dogs  
For Veterans

Email: [office@dogsforlifevb.org](mailto:office@dogsforlifevb.org)

[www.dogsforlifevb.org](http://www.dogsforlifevb.org)

Your donation is tax deductible as a charitable contribution for Federal income tax purposes under section 501(c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, Registration # CH15831.

A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free (800) 435-7352 within the state.

Dogs For Life, Inc. is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization as described under the Internal Revenue Code 501(c)(3). Federal ID# 31-1800397

9-2018

**Dogs For Life**  
Training Service Dogs  
For Veterans

**Improving the  
Quality of Life for  
People and Dogs**  
*AT NO COST TO OUR  
CLIENTS*



*Harmony, U.S. Army Veteran  
and her service dog "Gunny"*

**Service Dog  
Training Center**  
**1230 16th Avenue**  
**Vero Beach, FL 32960**  
**(772) 567-8969**

## Dogs For Life Mission

*DFL is a non-profit organization devoted to improving the quality of life for veterans and non-veterans, through training service & hearing dogs and owning an off-leash dog park.*

### Service Dog Training

DFL specializes in task training dogs to help their owners 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to lead a life of independence and self-reliance.



### Veterans Training Veterans

Veterans and first responders volunteer in this program to train new dogs & clients through a series of workshops. Training is free of charge to the brave men and women who honorably served our country.

### Service Dogs

Dogs are task trained to assist their owners with mobility challenges and psychological support.

### Hearing Dogs

Dogs are task trained to alert their owners to a knock at the door, a telephone ring, a smoke alarm, or an alarm clock. Many other sounds can be added to meet a client's individual needs.

## Administration and Training Center

In response to growing needs in our community and beyond, Dogs For Life constructed a 2,400 sq. ft. air-conditioned Assistance Dog Training Center at our 4 acre Off-Leash Dog Park at 1230 16th Avenue.



### Off-Leash Dog Park

Memberships are available to the public. Dogs must be inoculated, neutered and social. Dog behavior evaluations and park orientations are scheduled by appointment and a \$100 fee is required. Walking trails, water and shaded oak trees are all a part of this safe and controlled environment.

### Transition & Foster Training

DFL trains volunteers and has an in-home environment to help to rescue and train dogs year-round, which help to expand our Service Dog Program and increase the reach of our program.



## Service Dogs for Veterans

Dogs For Life, Inc., is one of only five organizations in the State of Florida accredited by Assistance Dogs International, to certify service dogs for veterans, allowing them to receive additional VA benefits.

The fastest growing **need** for service dogs is in Florida, and from our veterans. Post 911 veterans prefer dogs to traditional treatments for the effects of post-traumatic stress.

231,000+ veterans of Afghanistan and Iraq already call Florida home<sup>1</sup>.

80,000+ Iraq and Afghanistan veterans will retire to Florida in the next two years<sup>2</sup>.

Florida is home to the highest number of amputees from the Gulf War-Era<sup>3</sup>.

According to the Veteran's Administration the news is grim for our new residents:

- 3 in 10 will have a service-related disability
- 20+ % will suffer from the effects of post-traumatic stress
- 50% of those with post-traumatic stress will not seek treatment
- 19% will report post-traumatic stress symptoms classified as "serious functional impairment"

### Other studies demonstrate<sup>4</sup>:

Treatment via medication	50% effective
Talk therapy	50% effective
Service Dogs	84.5% effective

<sup>1</sup> Florida Department of Veterans Affairs

<sup>2</sup> According to local Veterans Groups

<sup>3</sup> Walter Reed Army Hospital estimate

<sup>4</sup> Operation Wolfhound