

Guide Dogs.



Become a Guide Dog Partner

Become a Guide Dog Partner and give independence to Australians with low vision or blindness.



Close-up of yellow Labrador Zawadi as a pup.

Introducing the Guide Dog Partner Program

Become a Guide Dog Partner and directly support the breeding, training and development of our world-class Guide Dogs.

The Guide Dog Partner journey is a unique experience that provides an insight into our Guide Dog Program, while demonstrating the immense impact of your gift. As a Guide Dog Partner, you will follow a puppy through a number of amazing milestones, from naming the pup, through to tailored progress reports, opportunities to meet the puppy, watching the puppy's Graduation Ceremony and receiving a memorable keepsake to celebrate your contribution.

Because of supporters just like you, we have more than 280 hardworking Guide Dogs and 380 dogs undertaking various other vital roles out in our community at any one time, and our Guide Dog Program is constantly growing. By joining our community of dedicated supporters, you too can walk side-by-side through the journey of breeding, raising and training our iconic pups. We are so appreciative of your kindness as you consider becoming a Guide Dog Partner and helping us continue to achieve successful outcomes for those living with low vision or blindness.



Haven, a young yellow Guide Dog and a recent graduate.

While the training, development and assessment of each of our dogs is rigorous, our number one priority is always the dogs' welfare and their ability to graduate as a loyal and trusted guide to support someone living with low vision or blindness to independently and safely live the life of their choosing.

As Guide Dogs NSW/ACT receives minimal funding from the government, we rely on the generosity of the community to ensure we can continue to provide vital services and support to people living with low vision or blindness – regardless of their financial situation.

Testimonial

Zawadi, who was sponsored by the Scott family, is just one of our splendid Guide Dog Partner Program pups who was recently matched with a Client following her successful graduation as a Guide Dog.

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My mum, Barbara, enjoyed the experience of sponsoring a Guide Dog so much she wanted us to sponsor two more.

It is a joy to be able to give as a family to enable people with low vision or blindness to live a life of independence and freedom.

Maureen,
recent Guide Dog Partner.

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I saw one Guide Dog Client in particular managing her Guide Dog, her young son and, with a guitar on her back, get off the train at Macquarie University station. It showed how confident a person can be with a Guide Dog.

Marian, current Guide Dog Partner following Trixie's journey.

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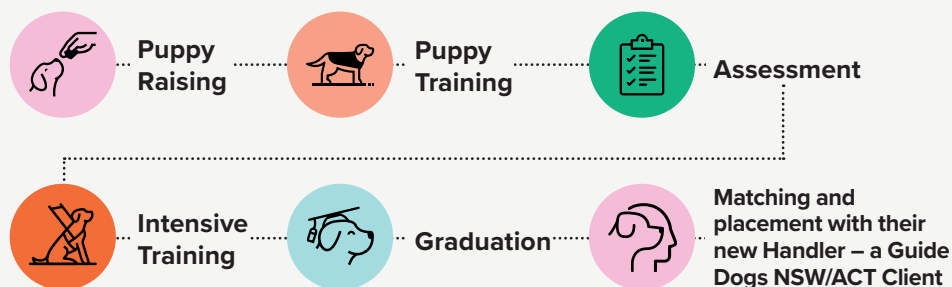
Sisters Jill and Maureen outdoors with black Labrador Jibu (Breeding Dog) and yellow Labrador Zawadi (qualified Guide Dog).

The Guide Dog Partner journey – a unique and rewarding experience

When you become a Guide Dog Partner, you become part of a special community of likeminded people helping us provide the next generation of working Guide Dogs with the best start possible.

As a Guide Dog Partner, you will get exclusive insight into our internationally-renowned Guide Dog Program, as well as the transformative and immeasurable impact you can make to the lives of people living with low vision or blindness.

We'll be sure to keep you updated during each step of the pup's journey as it reaches the following milestones in its quest to become a fully-qualified Guide Dog:



The best bit? You can choose your level of involvement in each of these milestones; from naming the pup* and receiving tailored progress reports, through to meeting the puppy**, attending the pup's graduation ceremony, and getting a memorable keepsake to celebrate your life-changing support.

*Name suggestions subject to approval.

**For long-distance Guide Dog Partners we will provide a video of your puppy.

Your impact, your way

When you become a member of our valued Guide Dog Partner community, you have the flexibility to choose the level of support that best suits you.



Training Partner

\$15,000

Follow the journey of one of our dogs as it leaves its volunteer Puppy Raiser and enters the formal Guide Dog Training and Client-matching phase of its journey.



Puppy Partner

\$35,000

Follow a pup from birth, through its Puppy Raising journey, up until it is ready to start formal Guide Dog Training.



Guide Dog Partner

\$50,000

Follow a puppy's full journey from breeding, raising, training, matching and placement with a Guide Dogs NSW/ACT Client.

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I would encourage others to consider sponsoring a Guide Dog. It has been amazing to see how a Guide Dog is able to give someone else a life of freedom and endless opportunity. It has been an extremely rewarding experience being able to follow the journey and watch Eric graduate as a Guide Dog.

Joan, recent Guide Dog Partner.

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To be able to facilitate that connection – it's the best feeling in the world.

Maureen, recent Guide Dog Partner following Zawadi's journey.

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I cannot tell you how excited I was; the independence and mobility that my Guide Dog gives me is oh my heavens.

Sue-Ellen, Guide Dog Handler.

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Zawadi wearing a Guide Dog harness on her Graduation day.

FAQs

Will the pup I'm following definitely become a Guide Dog?

Due to the specific and exceptionally high standards required in successful Guide Dog work, some puppies are not suited to the intensive Guide Dog Training process. Many, however, will still have the skills and social attributes that can lead to an alternative (but still crucial) career path.

Based on the dog's individual health and behavioural characteristics, these career paths may include becoming a Therapy Dog, a Breeding Dog or one of our beloved Ambassador Dogs.

While providing world-class Guide Dogs is certainly a high priority, these other roles are also essential in providing independence to future Guide Dog Handlers, including children learning about the process, or other people in need of companionship and support.

What is my donation used for?

Your donation supports a wide range of needs within our Guide Dog Program. These including breeding, training and enrichment equipment for our pups and maintenance of our Kennel facilities, as well as veterinary costs and expert Guide Dog Training staff.

While some of our Guide Dog Partner Program packages give you the option to name and follow a specific pup, your donation will contribute to the Guide Dogs Program as a whole, allowing Guide Dogs NSW/ACT to continue to breed and train future generations of life-changing Guide Dogs.

How much does it cost to train a Guide Dog?

It costs more than \$50,000 to breed, raise and train each of our iconic dogs in addition to the cost of providing ongoing training for our Clients throughout their Guide Dog's working life.

What if I live too far away to meet the pup I'm following?

We'll make every effort to ensure you can meet the pup you are following and can attend or watch its graduation ceremony. However, if you do reside some distance from Sydney, we can also provide photo or video updates throughout the pup's journey.

Guide Dogs.



Thank you for your interest in our Guide Dog Partner program, a unique experience that provides an insight into the breeding, training and development of our Guide Dogs, while demonstrating the immense impact of your gift.

Chat to us today.

☎ 02 9412 9371

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