

Your gift will  
transform lives.

# Guide Dogs.





# Your legacy; a future of inclusion and independence

## **Thank you for considering a gift in your Will to Guide Dogs SA/NT.**

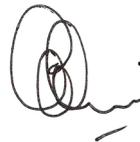
There is something very special about seeing a client, who was unsure of their surroundings, embrace their independence. The decision to include a gift in your Will to Guide Dogs SA/NT can make such an incredibly profound difference to a person living with low vision, blindness or specialised support needs.

Every day I'm privileged to see how transformational our work is

to our clients and I want to ensure the future success of Guide Dogs SA/NT well beyond my tenure as CEO.

That's why I decided to become a Buddy for Life and include a gift in my Will to Guide Dogs SA/NT.

Your gift is a wonderful legacy that will support South Australians and Northern Territorians with low vision, blindness or specialised support needs achieve their goals and lead independent lives, now and into the future.



**Aaron Chia**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Guide Dogs SA/NT

# About Guide Dogs SA/NT

For more than 65 years, Guide Dogs SA/NT has used our expertise in dogs and vision to promote independence, participation, inclusion and wellbeing for people living with low vision, blindness or specialised support needs.

Guide Dogs in South Australia was started by the Adelaide and Unley Apex Groups in 1957.

In 1959 South Australia joined with Northern Territory to become Guide Dogs Association of SA and NT Incorporated.

Since our founding days, our services have grown far beyond just Guide Dogs to include a wide range of community initiatives and training and education programs.

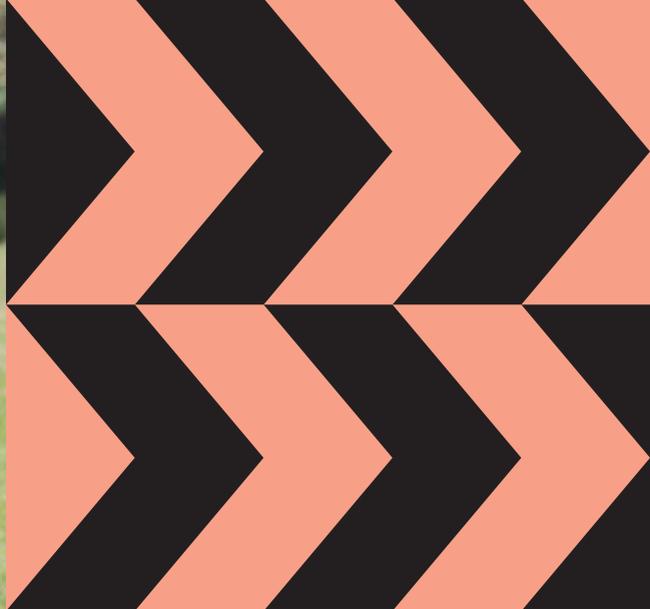
Today we work to ensure people living with low vision, blindness or specialised support needs are active and involved members of the community.

We do this by teaching practical skills to help children and adults reach their personal potential, regardless of when or how they became affected by low vision or blindness. These skills are developed under our Orientation & Mobility and Occupational Therapy programs. In 2010 we pioneered the provision of Autism Assistance Dogs.

The number of South Australians and Northern Territorians who need our services is growing every year; vision loss will significantly increase over the next decade due to our ageing population and increasing prevalence of diabetes.

At Guide Dogs SA/NT, it is essential that we plan for the future to ensure our sustainability so that we can continue to support our community for many years to come.





## A Buddy for Life

Thank you for considering Guide Dogs SA/NT as a beneficiary in your Will.

When you include a gift in your Will to Guide Dogs SA/NT, you become a member of the **Buddy for Life** program. This is our way of recognising your kind commitment to our work.

‘Buddy’ was the name of the first Guide Dog to be trained in South Australia by Guide Dogs SA/NT.

Your legacy will ensure Guide Dogs SA/NT can continue to help people living with low vision, blindness or specialised support needs within our community, now and into the future.

Our Buddy for Life program brings together kindred supporters of Guide Dogs SA/NT.

As a Buddy for Life, you will receive invitations to special Guide Dogs SA/NT events, be sent regular updates about our work, and hear stories about the positive impact we have on those using our services.

**“To ensure that the dogs can continue to be trained and help people lead more independent lives, I am happy to include a gift in my Will.”**

**Bev**

Buddy for Life member  
Guide Dogs SA/NT



## A gift in your Will to Guide Dogs will transform lives

Every day nine Australians are told that they will become blind. For a person who is blind or has low vision, being matched with a Guide Dog is a life-changing moment.

The transformation of a puppy into a Guide Dog is remarkable and the difference they make to their handler is truly amazing. A gift in your Will provides independence and freedom for people with low vision, blindness or specialised support needs, now and into the future.

Whilst Guide Dogs SA/NT receives some Government funding, our puppy training program relies heavily on the support of the community. It costs more than \$50,000 to breed, raise and train our working dogs. By including a gift in your Will, you will be helping thousands of Australians live a life that they choose.

With your generous support we can continue to provide Guide Dogs and Assistance Dogs to help our clients achieve a lifetime of independence, participation, inclusion and wellbeing.



**“Guide Dogs has been part of my life as long as I can remember. Even when I was little, I wanted to do things on my own; I learnt to use a white cane when I was just four.”**

**Sacha**

Client

Guide Dogs SA/NT

## **The gift of a Guide Dog**

### **Have you ever wondered how a Guide Dog can transform someone’s life?**

Like her mum Alison, Sacha has Familial Exudative Vitreoretinopathy (FEVR). FEVR is a hereditary condition, however, many people do not realise they have it until a relative is diagnosed. In rare cases, such as with Sacha and Alison, it can cause vision loss.

Sacha has worked with Orientation & Mobility specialists at Guide Dogs SA/NT since she was three, learning how to move around safely and independently.

These skills have been preparing Sacha for the ultimate goal: a Guide Dog to provide more opportunities for Sacha to live her best life.

By including a gift in your Will to Guide Dogs SA/NT, you can make a profound change to the life of a person living with low vision, blindness and specialised support needs. You may never meet the person whose life your kindness changes, but they will never forget your generosity.

## The costs are great...

Our puppies are bred for the behaviours and temperament needed to become successful Guide Dogs, but first they need to grow up a bit and experience the big wide world.

At 8 to 10 weeks, each puppy leaves our Puppy Development Centre to live with a volunteer puppy raiser until they are 12 to 14 months old. During this time,

the puppy raiser teaches basic obedience skills and introduces the puppy to the sights, sounds and smells they are likely to encounter as a working Dog.

It costs more than \$50,000 to breed, raise and train a puppy to become a Guide Dog or Assistance Dog.

## The rewards are priceless...

Over five months our puppies work with a specialist Guide Dog Trainer where they learn to avoid obstacles and hazards, stop to indicate change of surface such as kerbs, and obey commands. This brings out their natural guiding ability and increases their confidence.

At about 14 months, puppies return to the Puppy Development Centre for their specialised Guide Dog training.

Following graduation, each Guide Dog is carefully matched with their handler by our skilled Guide Dog Mobility Instructors who consider the personality, physical ability, age, location and lifestyle of the handler.

**Together, the handler and Guide Dog will do additional intensive training to complete the transformation from one person and one dog to a very special Guide Dog partnership based on mutual trust and loyalty.**





## Including a life-changing gift in your Will

A gift in your Will can make a life-long difference to someone living with low vision, blindness or other specialised support needs.

There are many ways to include a gift in your Will and it is advisable to seek legal advice when preparing your Will. We also recommend that you discuss your wishes with family and loved ones.

### **A gift can take many forms:**

- **Whole or a part of your Estate**  
You can include your entire Estate or any part of your Estate to Guide Dogs SA/NT.

- **Percentage of your Estate**  
If you are unsure how much will be in your Estate, you can nominate an allocated percentage of your Estate. This ensures that no matter the value of your Estate, the percentage you intend for Guide Dogs SA/NT will remain the same.
- **Fixed dollar amount**  
This type of gift can often be referred to as a 'pecuniary gift'. This is a specific sum which may need to be changed over the years to account for inflation and changes to your circumstances.



- **Residuary gift**

A residuary gift is one where you give a portion of all that is remaining in your Estate after specific gifts and debts are fulfilled. After you have taken care of loved ones and dependants, you can leave us the whole or a percentage of what remains in your Estate.

- **A specific asset**

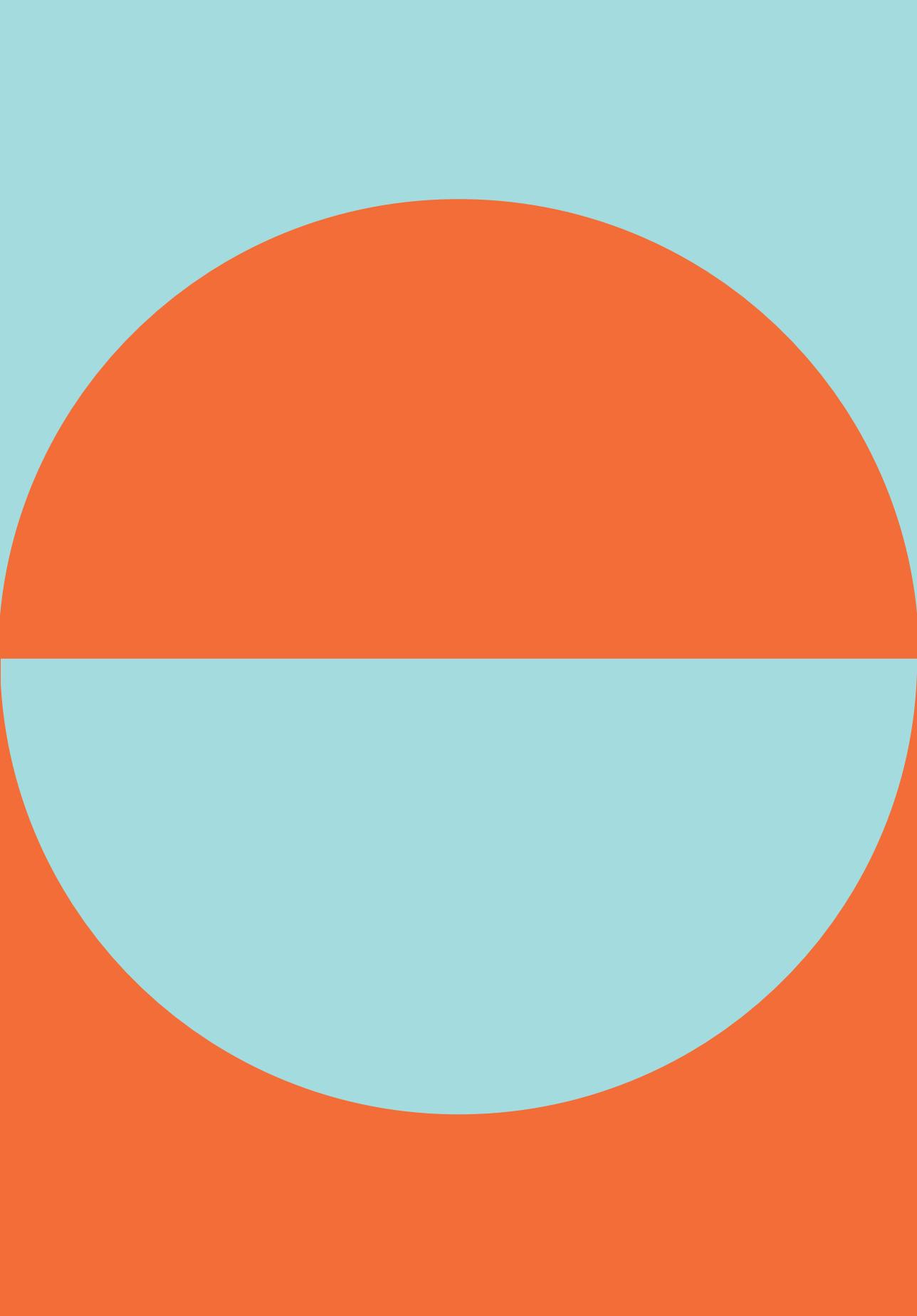
A specific asset includes real estate, shares or other particular items of value.

It is essential that **Guide Dogs Association of SA & NT Inc.** is correctly named in your Will, along with the correct **ABN 91 183 168 093.**

The wording for you to consider and take along to your solicitor is provided on page 16.

If you are kindly including us in your Will, please tell us, as we would love to thank you and invite you to special Guide Dogs SA/NT events.

If you would like your name inscribed in our Buddy for Life Honour Book, please complete the form on page 22 and return it to us in the supplied reply-paid envelope.



**“My involvement with Guide Dogs is something that makes me proud every day. I like the idea that in the future, my gift will continue to help people who are blind or have low vision.?”**

**Colin**

Buddy for Life member  
Guide Dogs SA/NT

# The correct wording for including Guide Dogs SA/NT as a beneficiary in your Will

**We recommend you seek qualified legal advice when making a Will or changing an existing Will.**

It is very important to use the correct name - **Guide Dogs Association of SA and NT Inc.** and **ABN 91 183 168 093** – to avoid confusion and subsequent legal costs. Please use the details below when you speak with your solicitor.

**Thank you again for your generous support.**

If you, your solicitor or trustee have any questions, please contact our Planned Giving Officer at Guide Dogs SA/NT on (08) 8203 8302 or email [bequests@guidedogs.org.au](mailto:bequests@guidedogs.org.au)

**We have provided some helpful wording below that you can share with your legal representative.**

## **I give free of all duties and taxes...**

*[Please insert here the appropriate statement selected from the five options below]:*

1. The whole of my Estate
2. [insert number] per cent of my Estate
3. The residue of my Estate
4. [insert number] per cent of the residue of my Estate
5. The sum of \$ [insert value of your gift]

**...to Guide Dogs Association of SA and NT Inc. (ABN 91 183 168 093) for its general purposes. The official receipt of the organisation shall be a full and sufficient discharge to my executor.**







Frank and Jo have been supporters of Guide Dogs SA/NT for over five years. They have seen puppies being raised first hand and have witnessed the work of Guide Dogs in the community. By including a gift in their Will, they are helping to ensure this good work continues.

**“As animal lovers, we believe the organisation does great work supporting their clients.”**

**Frank and Jo**

Buddy for Life members  
Guide Dogs SA/NT

# Our gift charter

- We acknowledge the significance of your wish to benefit Guide Dogs SA/NT as part of your last Will & Testament.
- We understand that loved ones come first and we encourage you to discuss your intention with them before finalising your Will.
- We would love to know that you have included Guide Dogs SA/NT in your Will, so that we can discuss any wishes you may have and give you the option of having your name inscribed in our Honour Book. If you decide not to tell us, we understand and respect your decision.
- We will always respect your privacy. Any information you give us regarding your Will shall be held in strict confidence and shall not be publicly disclosed during your lifetime without your expressed permission.
- We promise that we will use your gift wisely and cost effectively so that it has the greatest impact for people living with low vision, blindness or specialised support needs. We will handle your gift with care and respect.
- We appreciate that this decision needs to be made in your own time.



# Including a gift in your Will; frequently asked questions

## Who should make a Will?

Everyone over the age of 18. Without a Will, your assets may not reach your loved ones and the causes you care about.

## How do I make or change my Will?

We strongly recommend that you obtain expert advice from a solicitor to ensure that the option you choose, changes to an existing Will, or the drafting of a new Will accurately reflects your intentions. If you are drafting a new Will, you will need to appoint an Executor of your Will, who will be responsible for ensuring that your wishes are carried out.

This person can be a legal professional, trusted family member or friend.

## Where do I find a solicitor?

If you do not have a solicitor, you can consult the Law Society of South Australia to find a solicitor in your area who specialises in Wills and Estates.

## What are the main types of gifts in Wills?

- Whole or a part of your Estate
- Percentage of your Estate
- Fixed amount
- Residuary gift
- A specific asset

Details of these types of gifts can be found on page 12.

## What type of gift would best support Guide Dogs SA/NT with its life-changing work?

While this decision is ultimately up to you, a percentage of your entire Estate or a percentage of what remains after you have taken care of your family and loved ones, referred to as the a residuary gift, is most helpful because the gift won't lose value over time.

## **Why should I include a gift in my Will to a Guide Dogs SA/NT?**

By including Guide Dogs SA/NT in your Will, you are helping us to provide vital services to South Australians and Northern Territorians living with low vision, blindness or specialised support needs – the raising and training of Guide Dogs is a significant part of this activity. You may never meet the person whose life your kindness has changed, but they will never forget your generosity.

## **Why should I let you know that I have included a gift in my Will?**

Informing us of your generous decision is important as it allows us to thank you personally and to welcome you into our Buddy for Life program, a group of like-minded supporters of Guide Dogs SA/NT's work. As a Buddy for Life member you will receive invitations to our exclusive events and be kept informed of new developments at Guide Dogs SA/NT.



**Buddy for Life**

**PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL**

**Please return to:**

Buddy for Life  
**Guide Dogs Association**  
of SA & NT Inc  
Reply Paid 69355  
Adelaide SA 5000

# Guide Dogs.

I wish to advise that a gift to Guide Dogs SA/NT is included in my Will.

Please share your future gift intention:

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As an honorary member of the Buddy for Life program;

- I would like to have my name inscribed in the Buddy for Life Honour Book.
- I would prefer not to have my name entered in the Buddy for Life Honour Book.

Please include your information below.

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

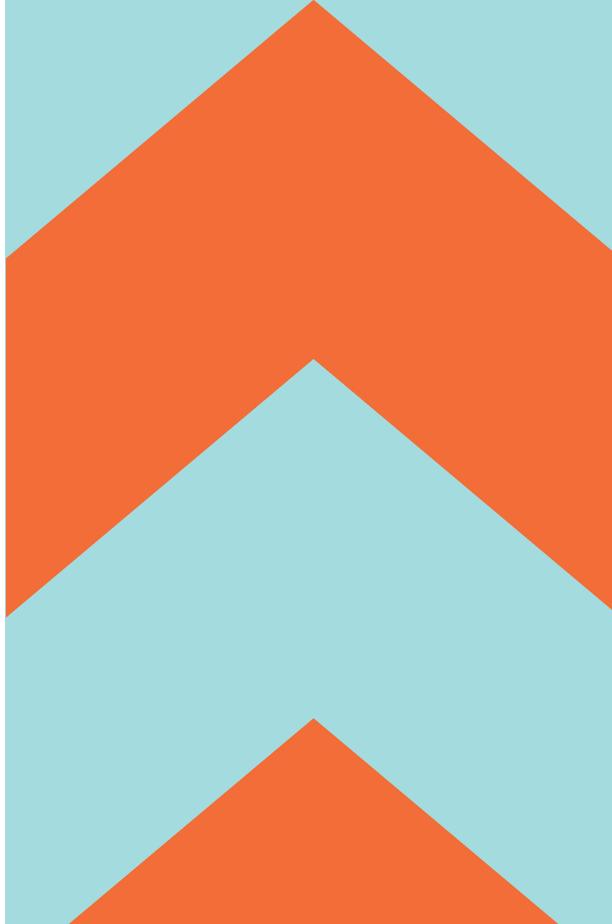
Customer ID  
(If known): \_\_\_\_\_





# Thank you

**Thank you for taking the time to consider including a gift in your Will to Guide Dogs SA/NT and helping us to continue to raise and train our beautiful dogs.**



**South Australia's  
first Guide Dogs  
organisation – and still  
leading the way today.**

**Guide  
Dogs.**

A lasting legacy to support people living with low vision, blindness or specialised support needs in South Australia and the Northern Territory.

**Contact Us**

**T** 08 8203 8302

**E** [bequests@guidedogs.org.au](mailto:bequests@guidedogs.org.au)

**W** Gifts in Wills - Guide Dogs SA/NT

ABN: 91 183 168 093.

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