

## Service Dogs

The VA defines a service dog is a dog trained to do specific tasks for a person that he or she cannot do because of a disability. Service dogs can pick things up, guide a person with vision problems, or help someone who falls or loses balance easily. For example, a service dog can help a blind person walk down the street or get dangerous things out of the way when someone is having a seizure.



Protecting someone, giving emotional support, or being a companion do not qualify a dog to be a service animal. To be a service dog, a dog must go through training. Usually the dog is trained to:

- Do things that are different from natural dog behavior
- Do things that the handler (dog owner) cannot do because of a disability
- Learn to work with the new handler in ways that help manage the owner's disability

Because the handler depends on the service dog's help, service dogs are allowed to go to most public places the handler goes. This is the case even if it is somewhere pet dogs usually cannot go, like restaurants or on airplanes.

## Who are the Children of the American Revolution?

The Children of the American Revolution is the oldest youth patriotic organization in the United States. Membership is open to children who are descendants of American Patriots who participated in the American Revolution.

The CAR trains good citizens, develops leaders, and promotes love of the United States of America and its heritage among young people.

### “Helping Our Veterans Heal”

All funds raised from the sale of pins and through donations will be used to support the State President's Project to fund the provisioning of 3 additional service dogs to North Carolina veterans in need.

Pins are \$10.00 each.

### Contact Us

Miss Daisy Dolicker  
State President  
StatePresident@ncscar.org

Mr. George Dolicker  
Senior State President  
SeniorStatePresident@ncscar.org



## 2018-2019 State President's Project

### Helping Our



### Veterans Heal

### Daisy Dolicker

State President  
North Carolina Society  
Children of the American Revolution

## Why is this Project Important?

### 1) Help our veterans suffering from psychological and emotional injuries such as PTSD, traumatic brain injury (TBI) and depression

North Carolina not only has 5 large Military Bases, 5 VA Hospitals, 13 Outpatient VA Centers, but the 3rd largest military population in the United States. Up to 20% of veterans return from service today with some form of PTSD, suffering psychological and emotional impairments and disabilities such as PTSD, TBI, depression, and anxiety.

### 2) Rescue dogs from kill shelters

North Carolina has the highest pet euthanasia rate in the United States. Our project will help save as many dogs as possible by giving them a purpose through skilled, compassionate and specialized training.

### 3) Bring veterans-in-need and dogs-in-need together to heal each other

The goal of this project is to work with the Wags4Tags charity to enable them to bring an additional 3 veterans in need of help together with dogs rescued from kill shelters, and train them together for the mutual benefit of both. Depending on the level of specialized training required, the dogs



will be trained together with their veteran as service dogs, emotional support dogs, or therapy dogs.

## Why Dogs Help with PTSD

1) **Dogs are vigilant.** Anyone who has ever had a nightmare knows that a dog in the room provides information. They immediately let you know if you are really in immediate danger or if you have just had a nightmare. This extra layer of vigilance mimics the buddy system in the military. No soldier is ever alone on the battlefield. The same is true when you have a dog by your side.



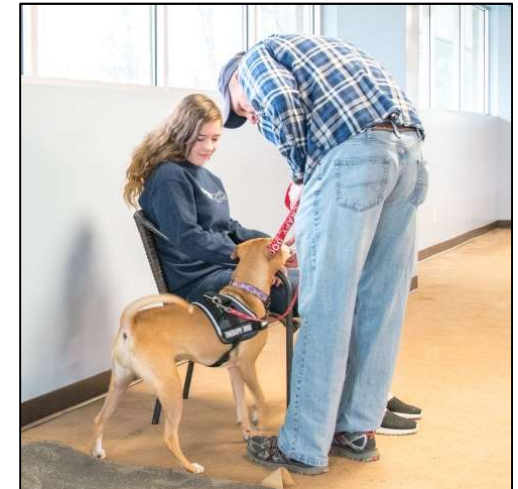
2) **Dogs are protective.** Just like the buddy system in the military. Someone is there to have your back.

3) **Dogs respond well to authoritative relationships.** Many military personnel return from their deployments and have difficulty functioning in their relationships.

4) **Dogs love unconditionally.** Many military personnel return from their deployments and have difficulty adjusting to the civilian world. Sometimes they realize that the skills they learned and used in the service weren't transferable or respected in the civilian sector. This can be devastating when they were well-respected for their position in the military. Dogs don't care about any of that: they just love unconditionally.

6) **Dogs help relearn trust.** Trust is a big issue in PTSD. It can be very difficult to feel safe in the world after certain experiences, and being able to trust the immediate environment can take some time. Dogs help heal by being trustworthy.

7) **Dogs help the veteran to remember feelings of love.** The best part is that it doesn't seem to matter if the dog is a Pit bull or a Chihuahua or a plain old mutt... *all* dogs can be loving and be loved.



NCSCAR State President Daisy Dolicker helping out with service dog training at the Wags4Tags facility