

KEEPING YOU

IN THE NOSE



CONNOR & VING, D4D DIABETES BUDDY DOG TEAM
PHOTO: YELLOW NEENER PHOTOGRAPHY

KEEPING YOU

IN THE NOSE

THE LATEST AND GREATEST AT DOGS4DIABETICS | QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER | SPRING 2018

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ALL THAT'S NEW

Hear from D4D's Executive Director on all that's new and exciting!

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A NEW TEAM

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SUPERHERO TIME

Don't miss our Walk for the Dogs, rock your inner Superhero!



DOGS4DIABETICS™

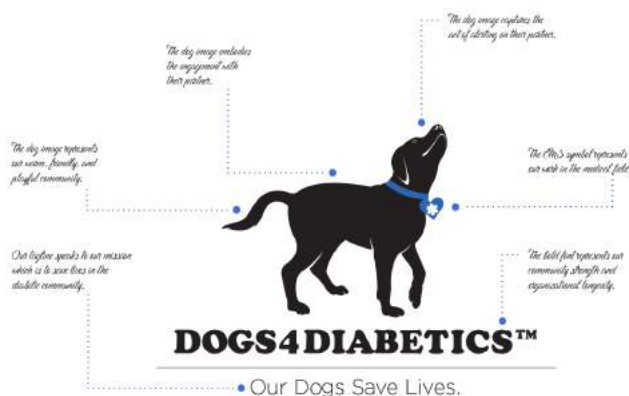
Kibble *from the* Corner Office

SO MANY POSITIVE INITIATIVES TAKING SHAPE AT D4D!

WOW! Where to even begin... to say 2018 has been busy for Dogs4Diabetics is an understatement. The entire D4D team and our community have been working hard to explore avenues for growth, improvement, and to strengthen our current programs. And, I am pleased to share we've taken action to develop and implement some of these very exciting and new initiatives...

We are taking great pride on focusing on the big and small that truly make all the difference in our success internally and externally... success is in the details.

We now have "All Staff" meetings to ensure consistent and clear communication; we are investing in our team's professional development by implementing benefits to create long-term career opportunities for our team; we have made great progress with the integration of a "customer relations management system" to better communicate and cultivate our constituents; and we have created new processes for daily operations that are vital to our efficiency and effectiveness.



We have even rebranded after fourteen years... we believe our new (and totally awesome) look better matches what we've become since our inception in 2004: a non-profit thoughtfully and consistently innovating to better meet and serve the needs of all those who turn to Dogs4Diabetics for support and an organization that is empowering insulin-dependent diabetics to live relentlessly awesome lives in safety with the support of our service dogs. The time is now to make this change in our brand identity; and with our new look we see the importance of updating all channels of our communication, which includes a new website (coming in late 2018), as well as investing in strategic marketing to ensure we're reaching new communities to spread the word about our work and mission.

We have wasted no time and have implemented new and necessary programs: "Tour Thursdays" which you will read about in "What's New"; our "Volunteer Orientation and Training Program" which you can check-out in "Treats from our Trainers"; and we even gave our "Foster Care" program a new name and look to better speak to the incredible role they play in our D4D family, "Canine Training Partners".

And since we rely on you, your time, your efforts, and your support to make all the great things we do possible we have set the bar high for ourselves in all areas of Dogs4Diabetics... we aim to partner more Client/Dog Teams; expand into new markets (exciting update coming soon regarding our Diabetes Buddy Dog program); grow our resources; engage new volunteers and supporters; broker new strategic partnerships; and most of all have a greater impact in the diabetic community. It is our promise to keep working diligently to best serve those in need of our support and to have a blast doing so with your help. Upward!

Christy Gillham
Christy Gillham, Executive Director

HAPPY TAILS

A NEW LIFE-SAVING PARTNERSHIP!

My name is Ken Jungsten and after 56 years of living with diabetes, two years of not feeling my low blood sugars, and a 13-month wait for a Medical-Alert Service Dog... I can finally say I have a new live-saving partner helping me manage my diabetes; meet Malone.

There's a saying "*sometimes it's better to be lucky than good*" and over two years ago, I got lucky. I was starting to not feel my low blood sugars and a gentleman who worked at the high school district where my wife Laura worked, came into her office with a Service Dog. My wife asked him what the Service Dog did and he proceeded to tell her about Dogs4Diabetics and how the dog alerts him when he has low blood sugars. He was kind enough to further explain how his dog helps him and gave Laura contact information for D4D.

We researched D4D and read some beautiful stories of how these dogs help save lives. After having a couple of serious low blood sugars where my wife had to call 911, I decided to start the application process.

Luck came into play again when I went in for "frozen shoulder" (diabetic shoulder) and I came out of it with a quadruple bypass. I was put on a beta-blocker and this medication now prohibits me from feeling any of my low blood sugars. Shortly after this surgery, I was accepted into the D4D program. This acceptance into the D4D family has changed my life, how I control my diabetes with Malone's help, and most importantly the reassurance Malone has given my family - another partner watching over me.

The D4D family is a phenomenal community with tremendous energy, offering fantastic training for both clients and dogs. They are so positive and have a personal interest in helping diabetics with their diabetes. Malone has been incredible at catching my low blood sugars in a variety of different scenarios. I play 100 baseball games a year and I also umpire as many games as I play. I travel to such cities as Las Vegas, Phoenix, San Diego, Los Angeles, Monterey and Tampa Bay to play in baseball tournaments and Malone has been or will be by my side alerting as needed.



Diabetes has a mind all its own and diabetes does what it wants to do. Diabetes is a 24/7 job that is demanding on the body and mind. Since Malone has been a part of my life, my A1C levels have dropped, I'm more confident that I won't pass out due to low blood sugar levels, and I now have a lot of friends who have diabetes thanks to the D4D community who supports me in my diabetes journey as well.

My sincere thanks to D4D for realizing that Malone was a great match with my lifestyle and activity level. Malone is now the one constant to help me catch my low blood sugars without having to constantly poke my fingers. Lucky, lucky, me!

R O C K Y O U R I N N E R

SUPERHERO

WALK
for the
DOGS



GET INVOLVED

CREATE A TEAM • JOIN A TEAM • BACK A TEAM

JOIN THE FUN

LIVE DJ • GAMES • VENDORS
RAFFLE AND WALKER PRIZES

SATURDAY JUNE 9

HEATHER FARM PARK in WALNUT CREEK

Register Today ~ Learn More:

D4D DOGWALK.ORG



MEET OUR DOGS

in the D4D Program!

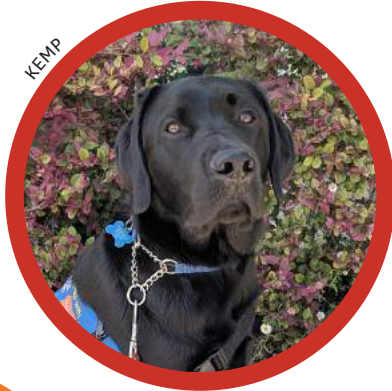
KICKIN' TRAINING TAIL

As you know, our dogs go through months of training to learn and perfect their life-saving skills. We love seeing their progression through our program as they grow and transform into life-saving Medical-Alert Assistance Dogs or Diabetes Buddy Dogs. They're not just adorable faces, they're incredibly smart pups who will go on to empower and save the lives of our clients. We're so proud of all our dogs-in-training and hope you enjoy seeing their progress as much as we do!

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A R M S T R O N G ' S

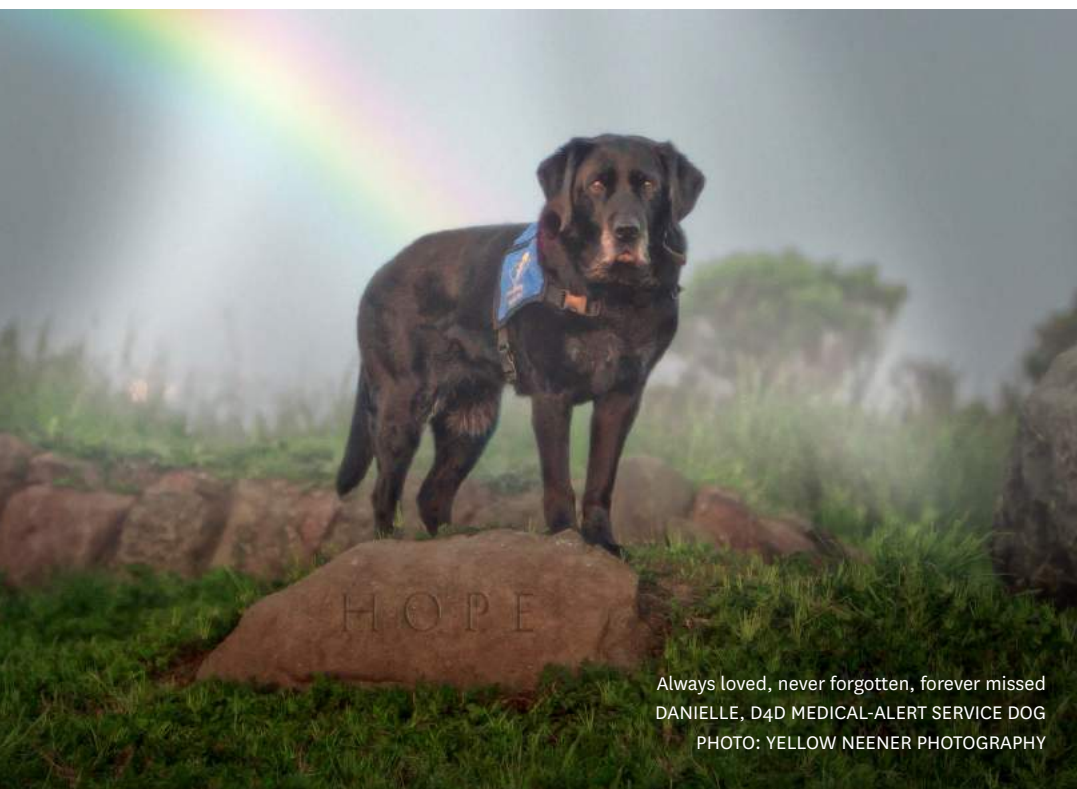
Dog House

by HOLLIS, D4D CHIEF CANINE AMBASSADOR

I am sure that most of you have heard that my hero, Danielle, passed away on March 28, 2018, after serving D4D and its Founder, Mark Ruefenacht, for 15 years. She was a loyal and strong supporter of Mark and D4D's programs for many years as both a personal Medical-Alert Dog and scent proofing specialist. Danielle served as an inspiration to our dogs, clients and everyone involved with D4D. I enjoyed her companionship and she helped me understand my role in the

organization and my responsibility to safeguard Mark on a daily basis. We will all miss her.

Danielle always looked forward to our **Annual Walk for the Dogs**... have you signed up for the Dog Walk yet? It's going to be held at Heather Farm Park in Walnut Creek, on Saturday, June 9, with registration at 9:00am, the Walk begins at 10am, and the party goes until 12:30 PM. The theme is "**Rock your Superhero**"!!! And, remember, by joining the walk you are helping partner dogs like me with insulin-dependent diabetics in need of our life-saving services - we dogs and humans ask you to get involved, register, and donate today: www.D4DDogWalk.org



Always loved, never forgotten, forever missed
DANIELLE, D4D MEDICAL-ALERT SERVICE DOG
PHOTO: YELLOW NEENER PHOTOGRAPHY

Did you join us for our Spring Graduation? It was an incredible day of celebrating all those who helped make our life-saving partnerships possible. We had six Client/Dog Teams graduate and several others who are working hard to meet their graduation requirements. Boy, 2018 is shaping up to be a great year as the trainers are working to train 18 Medical-Alert Service Dogs and several more Diabetes Buddy Dogs. Go, team!!!

I hope to see you around D4D or at one of our upcoming events! Woof!

Treats *from the* Trainer

A NEW VOLUNTEER & ORIENTATION TRAINING PROGRAM...

We are so excited to share we have a new “Volunteer Orientation and Training Program” for all of our awesome training room volunteers... this special initiative has been a labor of love for Trainer Hayley Sevilla, who has developed this new program. You’re a rockstar, Hayley!



We had our first kick-off training on Wednesday, April 18 with a few of our current volunteers, and boy was it fun! We’re offering the “Volunteer Orientation and Training Program” twice a month.

The goal of this program is to uniformly educate and train our training room volunteers in all the skills needed to fill a volunteer role crucial to training and partnering our life-saving dogs with those that turn to D4D for support.

The “Volunteer Orientation and Training Program” takes current and new training room volunteers through an overview of how scent works, how dogs smell, and how our dogs at Dogs4Diabetics utilize their noses. We’ve identified three training room volunteer roles and created a training program to teach all incoming training room volunteers the skills they need to fulfill those roles. All new training room volunteers will be starting as an assistant; to be able to assist a trainer in the scent training room, see the dogs work through different phases of training, and get some dog time with our life-saving furry friends. Once a volunteer has gained experience and knowledge of the program, they have the option of training to be a Dog Groomer, and/or a Dog Walker, or even one of our “Special Skills Volunteer Trainers”.

We love, appreciate, and value our volunteers... and this program is meant to invest the time, energy, and resources into our training room volunteers so they truly become members of our team, and a way for them to see first hand how their time and effort helps create our powerful partnerships.

Join us at our next Volunteer Orientation and Training day.
Learn More / Sign Up at volunteer@dogs4diabetics.com

VOLUNTEER

ORIENTATION & TRAINING PROGRAM

Need some dog love in your life? Donate your time and help give the gift of a life-saving Service Dog by volunteering at Dogs4Diabetics.

D4D is offering a Volunteer Orientation & Training Program twice a month. Get involved and help D4D create life-savers! Help in the training room, walk dogs, provide snuggles and play, and much more!

Join us at our next Volunteer Orientation & Training day.

[LEARN MORE](#) / [SIGN UP](#) at volunteer@dogs4diabetics.com



HELP US CHEER THEM ON!

These Client/Dog Teams are working hard to meet graduation requirements!

REESE & ROVER



TIM & GABE



BECKY & SWANEE



KIM & TROY



NAOMI & KELLER



What's New? S O M U C H !

WE'RE HAVING A GREAT TIME IMPLEMENTING NEW, FUN, & EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES AT D4D!

TOUR/THURSDAYS



Have you heard about our “**Tour Thursdays**”? Do you want to meet the Dogs4Diabetics team? How about see our life-saving dogs in action? Maybe even sneak some dog snuggles and slobbery kisses? Don't hesitate... come in for D4D's “Tour Thursdays”!

D4D client mom, and D4D volunteer extraordinaire, Andrea Calamoneri, will be your totally awesome tour guide for this fun NEW initiative at Dogs4Diabetics. Drop in anytime between 10 am – 2 pm (tours start on the half-hour) on Thursdays. Can't make it on Thursdays? Email tours@dogs4diabetics.com to make a tour appointment.

You're making all the great things we do possible, so come see where all the magic happens! We can't wait to see you!

In Case You Missed It

Foster. Train A Dog. Save A Life.



Our “Foster Care” program has a NEW name, a NEW look, and a NEW video... meet the Dogs4Diabetics “Canine Training Partners”! As you know, image and perception are everything... simply labeling this program and community of people “Foster Care” or “Foster Care Providers” doesn’t accurately describe all the absolutely incredible and crucial ways they partner with D4D.

They are a critical part of fulfilling our mission and crucial members of our family. “Canine Training Partners” are helping train and place a dog with a diabetic in need of their life-saving skills. You too can help create our life-saving partnerships... open your home and heart to a D4D dog-in-training.

Don’t forget to subscribe to our YouTube Channel and check-out the NEW “Canine Training Partner” video!

Donate Options

Thank you to each and every donor; your donations, large and small, contribute to the success of our program!

Donate online at www.Dogs4Diabetics.com

Mail in a donation to:

Dogs for Diabetics, Inc.
1647 Willow Pass Road, #157
Concord, CA 94520-2611

Or visit www.dogs4diabetics.com/donate to find out the various other ways you can contribute.

Like us on  (@OfficialDogs4Diabetics), follow us on  (D4D_Official)... and share us with your friends!
Also, watch us on  (Dogs4Diabetics).

Corporate Sponsors

Join the D4D family...

The following organizations have supported Dogs4Diabetics, Inc. for many years with donations of dogs, financial resources and various other goods and services which have been critical to D4D's mission. They have earned the right to be thought of as Partners to the Achievement of our Mission.

We are able to provide our great dogs to insulin-dependent diabetic clients at virtually no cost to them through the generous support of our supporters. D4D relies on the support of individuals, foundations, and corporations. We would like to honor and thank these donors for their support, which in many cases, has been provided over several years.

THE D4D FAMILY THANKS:

Allied World Insurance Company

AvoDerm

Bollinger Canyon Animal Hospital

Central Garden & Pet

Four Paws

Guide Dogs for the Blind

Lagunitas Brewing Company

Nylabone

Pet Food Express

Presidio Bank

Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation

Worldwise Inc.

We welcome other organizations to develop a similar commitment to serve the Medical-Alert Assistance Dog community throughout the United States and the world.

These two life-saving partnerships are made possible by two sponsors who support Dogs4Diabetics and are as passionate as we are about making a difference in the diabetic community.



Every day we become a better team and I can't imagine navigating my diabetes without him. I love this big drooly guy!

– SARA & SCOTTY (made possible by Lagunitas Brewing Company)



With Megumi, I know anything is possible! She makes me feel safe!

– SAMANTHA & MEGUMI (made possible by Wallis Smith)

A special thank you to **Lagunitas Brewing Company** and **Wallis Smith** for making these powerful partnerships possible! You're empowering and transforming the lives of all those who turn to D4D for support!