

KEEPING YOU

IN THE NOSE



ENJOYING THE VENICE SUNSHINE
D4D CLIENT DOG TEAM, JANE AND KELLER

KEEPING YOU

IN THE NOSE

THE LATEST AND GREATEST AT DOGS4DIABETICS | QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER | SPRING 2019

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With Love
and Gratitude



DOGS4DIABETICS™

Kibble *from the* Corner Office

LET'S BREAK A RECORD TOGETHER!

Dear Friends and Supporters,

You all are what makes D4D a real family! Each and every one of you have a personal and unique connection to D4D - you've helped train a dog, received a life-saving partner, or love someone who has been touched by one of these partnerships. And those connections are what keep us dedicated and working so hard to fulfill our mission. Thank you for all that you do to make D4D possible!



As we gear up for our biggest event of the year - Our Annual Walk- we need your help more than ever! Clients like Max (featured in "Happy Tails In-Progress" on page 3) have graduated from their training and are patiently waiting to be placed with a life-saving dog. On average, we have at least 15 clients who are waiting for a dog, and more than 3 times as many diabetics who are working through our application and training process. We know how real the need is, and we've responded by growing our staff, programs, and facility so we can train at our maximum capacity. Now we just need you!

We've all seen how completely empowered and transformed people are by their life-saving partnerships, and it's time to grow the D4D family and give the gift of life, security, and happiness to more diabetics in our community.

Please help us make this year's walk the most successful one ever! Our Board of Directors has stepped up and pledged to match up to \$30,000 if we reach our walk goal of \$70,000. That means we have the opportunity to raise a record-breaking \$100,000 and to put more life-saving partnerships out into the world.

We know how much we rely on our volunteers and supporters, and we have every reason to! You all have come through for our community time and time again, and I know that we can make this a record-breaking year together! There are so many ways to get involved with our Annual Walk, so please remember why you support D4D, share your stories, and ante up to help save lives!

We appreciate each of you so much! Thank you, thank you!

Christy Gillham

Christy Gillham
Executive Director

HAPPY TAILS

NEW TEAM: **MAX & GABRIEL**

My name is Max, and I have had diabetes since I was 6 years old. Being diagnosed at an early age was not easy. Counting carbs, routinely testing my blood sugar, and managing high and low numbers became my life. Playing sports and being active made it harder to manage my diabetes, but I also learned how to take care of myself. While I've been lucky to have the support of friends and family, I did always feel that nobody else understood exactly what it was like to live with diabetes everyday.

But the community of people at D4D understands the challenges of living with diabetes. They genuinely care for everyone, like I've never seen before, and I feel so lucky to be part of the D4D family.

I just graduated from client training, and D4D has been a life-changing experience so far! I've learned firsthand how a diabetic alert dog will make it easier to manage my disease and to live my life more fully. With a D4D dog by my side, I'll have more independence and peace of mind than I've ever had with any other method of diabetes care. I can just focus on living and loving life, not worrying so intensely about the roller coaster of changing blood sugars.

I'm so excited to be placed with my Medical-Alert Service Dog, Gabriel and for this incredible community I am now a part of! D4D placed me with the best possible match, and I know how much time and hard work it takes to extensively train the dogs for our safety. I am beyond grateful for how much D4D has changed my life, and for my new life-saving partnership.



Ante Up & Save Lives!

◆

If we can meet
our Walk Goal
of \$70,000,
our fabulous Board
will match
up to \$30,000
in donations!
That means
we have
the opportunity
to raise over
\$100,000,
making this year's
Annual Walk
a royal flush!

◆

LIVE DJS LOCAL VENDORS YUMMY FOOD TRUCKS HIP-SHAKING PRIZES



DOGS4DIABETICS™
POKER CHIP
Walk!



*Ain't nothin' but a hound dog,
Lovin' all the time!*



SATURDAY, JUNE 8 HEATHER FARM PARK *in* WALNUT CREEK

CHECK IN: 9:00 am WALK TIME: 10:00 am PARTY: 9:00 am – 12:30 pm

GET ALL THE ROCKIN' DETAILS: D4DDOGWALK.ORG

M E E T T H E D 4 D

DOGS-IN-TRAINING

KICKIN' TRAINING TAIL!

How adorable and amazing are our dogs-in-training? We're proud to share that 10 are thriving in our training program and 2 are being evaluated! We receive our dogs from our incredible partners, Guide Dogs for the Blind and Tony LaRussa's Animal Rescue Foundation, and we are all working hard together to create life-saving partnerships!

Do you want to meet these life-savers? They'll be moving and grooving at our Elvis-themed Poker Chip Walk on June 8th! All of the proceeds from this fun-filled family-friendly day will fund our life-saving mission, so please support us! The pot couldn't be sweeter, and everyone's a winner in this hand!

GONDOLA



OLENA



BUTTERSCOTCH



JOHNSON



KUDZU



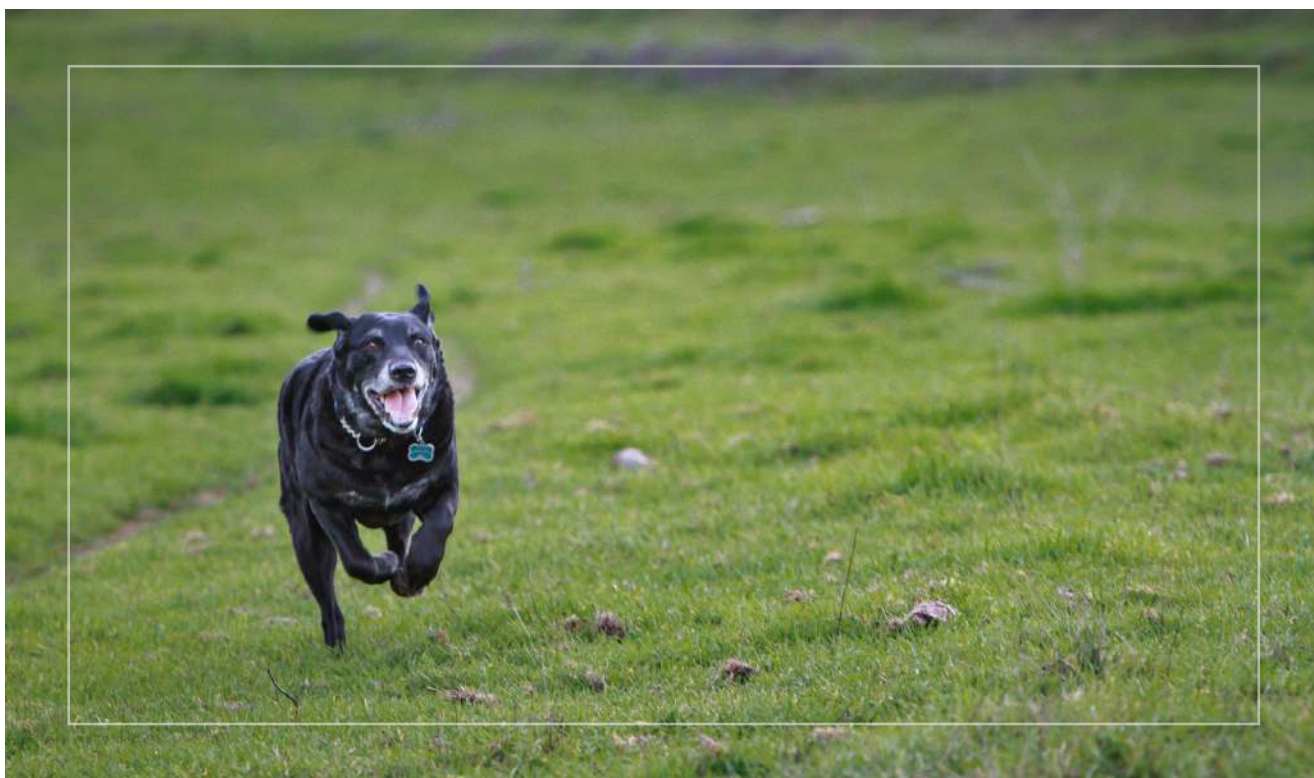
MING





I N H O N O R O F

Majestic



Our hearts are full of love, gratitude, and sadness as we remember our extraordinary Majestic. Majestic was a staple at D4D for years and touched the lives of so many. She was our Program Manager Carrie's sweet girl and one of D4D's "proof dogs," helping us train our

life-saving partners and maintain our industry-leading standards. Thank you, Majestic! You impacted so many people, and we'll honor your dedication, service, and legacy always. You'll forever be in our hearts and the love of our community.



ARMSTRONG'S Dog House

by HOLLIS, D4D CHIEF CANINE AMBASSADOR

HAVE YOU HEARD?

All my buddies at D4D's Nylabone Training Center are happier than ever with their new treats! They're working hard to pass through the phases of life-saving training and are being handsomely rewarded with Redbarn's Protein Puffs! Talk about positive reinforcement!

Thanks to a new treat partnership with Redbarn, we'll be receiving an ongoing monthly supply of these natural treats: light and airy, low in calories, and packed with protein! Ruff- delicious!

Redbarn, our dogs-in-training, and me & Mark will also be dancing and grooving at this year's Elvis-Themed Poker Chip Walk!! Let's "Get All Shook Up" and help save lives!

Woof! Woof!



Treats from the Trainers

How to respond to the demands of our dogs

Having a dog is one of life's greatest joys! But when your pup begs for food around dinnertime, wakes you in the middle of the night, or exhibits other demanding behavior, it can disrupt the peace and calm of your home. Here are our tips for dealing with these challenges:

Understand dog behavior (and how you are encouraging it):

If a dog performs a behavior that results in a reward, it will repeat the behavior in the future, expecting the reward/payoff. On the other hand, if a behavior does not result in a reward, the dog will have no reason to repeat it. So if you feed or pet your pup when it's demanding food, play, or attention, you are rewarding the behavior. Prolonged scolding can also be a "reward" for dogs. And for some dogs, they only need to receive one or two rewards for them to continue their begging behavior.

Do not acknowledge your dog's begging:

As hard as it is, you must not acknowledge your dog when it's seeking attention and begging. Don't talk to your dog, make eye contact, or even say its name. And most importantly, no matter how much your dog barks, whines, or climbs on furniture, do not feed it. It's essential that we remove any positive reinforcement around the unwanted behavior.

When you do speak to your dog, give these commands:

To stop the begging, direct your dog to another location with one of the following:

- Tell your dog to 'go to bed' or 'lay down.'
- Put your dog in a crate.
- Put the dog on tie down or close the dog in another area. Once in another location, it is important to wait until the dog stops their begging behavior and is calm and relaxed for at least 10-20 minutes before you engage them again or feed them dinner.



What can you do to keep your dog from waking you in the middle of the night?

Commit to a good sleep schedule. A regular, predictable sleep pattern makes it easier for your dog to adapt, so do your best to sleep and wake at the same time every day.

Spend more time exercising your dog. In the end, a sleeping dog won't be waking you up.

Adjust your dog's feeding and water schedule. If you think your dog is getting up because it needs to pee, restrict water by taking it away around 6pm. Or, if you think your dog is waking you because it's hungry, push back dinner time by an hour or two. If your dog seems hyper from their last meal, consider moving dinner up to give the dog more time to relax before bedtime.

Command your dog to sleep. When your dog wakes you to play or receive attention, you should command your dog to lay down and go back to sleep.

Adjust your schedule for medical conditions. You may have to adjust your lifestyle and schedule for your pup's medical concerns. Also, while it'll take time and training for a new pet to adapt to your sleep schedule, if a familiar dog has recently started to disturb your sleep, it's a good idea to have a vet rule out a medical problem. Talk with your vet too if your dog's medication or feeding schedule makes it difficult for you to sleep.

HELP US CHEER THEM ON!

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

Mackenzie
& Moon



Max
& Gabriel



Roman
& Whistler



Russell
& Valentina



Cheryl
& Ladybug



Cooper
& Bermuda



CONGRATULATIONS

TO THESE CLIENT/DOG TEAMS WHO JUST GRADUATED

We're so proud of all your hard work and will be here for you throughout your journeys!

Abe & Prentice



Avril & Newton



Diana & Michelle



Jane & Keller



Mia & Tucson



Mike & Bastille



Tarra & Vieques



Community Spotlight

Congratulations Spring Client Class! Everyone excelled in their training, passed their final exam and outing, and are now ready and waiting to be placed with their life-saving partner! Welcome to the D4D family!

Thank you! We want to thank our client, Erin Haase, for fundraising with Alyssa Katsules and LuLaRoe, a fashion company that supports families and community causes. Together they raised \$538 for D4D!



CANINE TRAINING PARTNERS

We truly appreciate our CTPs and all they do to help our dogs succeed. A special shout-out to Stephanie Perkins for running our bi-monthly CTP meetings! In these meetings, CTPs learn new skills, troubleshoot problems, and receive the support they need in our wonderful community. As we see everyday, a supportive team working together for one goal creates amazing results!

Our CTPs are helping our dogs become the best life-saving partners they can be. One of the skills they work on with the dogs is "engagement." When dogs willingly choose to focus and engage with the handler, instead of food, toys, and other distractions, they are more likely to sense and alert on a change in blood sugar levels. Did you know that D4D dogs often alert the handler 20-30 minutes before the newest technology? Truly life-saving!!

To learn more about our CTPs, please visit our website. You'll find details and an application under "Programs- Canine Training Partners."





OUR SPONSORS

For many years the following organizations have supported us by donating dogs, financial resources, and other goods and services that have been essential to achieving D4D's mission.

Through the generosity of our supporters, we are able to provide our great dogs to insulin-dependent diabetics at no cost to them. D4D relies on the support of individuals, foundations, and corporations, and we would like to especially honor these valued donors for their commitment through the years:

Allied World Insurance Company
AvoDerm
Bollinger Canyon Animal Hospital
Central Garden & Pet
Four Paws
Guide Dogs for the Blind
Lagunitas Brewing Company
Nylabone
Patterson Foundation
Pet Food Express
Presidio Bank
Sun Life Financial
Tony La Russa's Animal Rescue Foundation
Worldwise Inc.



JOIN THE D4D FAMILY

If your organization would like to make a commitment to the service dog and diabetic communities through D4D's mission, please contact cgillham@dogs4diabetics.com.



NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH REDBARN

"Dogs4Diabetics is an amazing organization and we're honored to play a part in helping train the service dogs that support the diabetic community," said Howie Bloxam, co-founder of Redbarn Pet Products.

"Our Protein Puffs are light and airy, low in calories and packed with protein, providing an optimal reward for good behavior during training sessions. We're

looking forward to sharing these treats in support of this important initiative for years to come."





DOGS4DIABETICS™

Our Dogs Save Lives.

(925) 246-5785

info@dogs4diabetics.com

www.dogs4diabetics.com

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
- **Visit** www.dogs4diabetics.com/donate to find out the various other ways you can contribute!

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(@D4D_Official)

SHARE US WITH YOUR FRIENDS!