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PAGE 4 & 5
As I think about the growth and development Canine Companions is experiencing, I realize just how exciting and rewarding it is and how lucky we are to be a part of it. The service we provide, pairing people with disabilities and working assistance dogs, is a complex one that requires many integrated steps to complete. Those steps have standards and best practices in place that have been created through decades of research and experience. In training dogs, we know sometimes we have to be flexible in our methods and adjust to each dog’s individual temperament to help it succeed.

Likewise, to help Canine Companions continue to succeed, we’re expanding our program department in keeping with our commitment to excellence, focused on delivering the best possible service as efficiently as possible. Our program department directly delivers our mission and oversees the relatively long process needed to create a successful team. I’d like to congratulate two Canine Companions staff in particular on their advancement to directors within the program department.

Our veterinarian Dr. Brenda Kennedy is now our director of canine health and research. Sarah Birman begins the role of director of training and client services. I hope you will enjoy learning more about them below and how they will help during this key time of growth at Canine Companions.

This holiday season I want to give thanks to all of the dedicated staff, as well as our 3,000 volunteers nationwide, who contribute to the success of Canine Companions every day. I am lucky to have such a team to carry out this life-changing mission.

Paul Mundell, CEO

Canine Companions Program Department Expands

In her new role as national director of canine health and research, Brenda Kennedy, DVM, combines her passion for research with her love of veterinary medicine. She is committed to ensuring the success of the puppy, breeding, training and graduate programs at Canine Companions and plans to expand research to identify new scientifically based tools to improve the health, longevity and cognitive skills of assistance dogs.

Before becoming a veterinarian, Dr. Kennedy pursued a career as a research scientist, earning her undergraduate degree in biochemistry at Northwestern University, followed by a master’s in biology from MIT. She continued her interest in research by working at a biotechnology company, but was drawn back to working with animals. Dr. Kennedy decided to pursue her childhood dream of becoming a veterinarian and graduated from Tufts University in 1998. She worked in private practice for 16 years and volunteered at Canine Companions before being hired as our national veterinarian in 2014.

Sarah Birman is the new director of training and client services. In this position, Sarah oversees the professional training, applicant, graduate and staffing departments. Sarah will be working alongside our staff to continue to lead the industry in the quality of training, instruction and support we provide to our constituents.

Sarah received her bachelor’s degree in neurobiology and animal behavior from Cornell University. Sarah first started working with Canine Companions in 2010 as a member of the training staff, training approximately 100 assistance dogs in her time as an instructor. For the past two years, Sarah has been Canine Companions’ primary trainer involved with the Department of Veterans Affairs study on the placement of service dogs with veterans with PTSD. Sarah’s years of experience implementing Canine Companions’ mission first-hand, both at the Northwest Training Center in California and the Northeast Training Center in New York, have given her a deep appreciation for the power of the human-canine partnership.
A Letter From a Family Forever Changed

Dear Canine Companions supporters,

We want to bring to your attention the amazingly positive impact that two students had on our family, the community and Canine Companions.

The program is called Canine Companions for Independence at University of Delaware and it supports students raising and socializing Canine Companions puppies on campus; puppies that will eventually support children, adults and veterans with disabilities. Our family, more specifically our daughter Jazmin, has received such a gift — an assistance dog named Ohio.

Ohio was raised and trained for the first 18 months of his life by two students, Kailey and Lauren. I cannot stress enough how hard it must have been to raise a wonderful puppy and then give it back. The maturity and compassion these two students demonstrated is worth echoing over and over again.

Jazmin was born with cerebral palsy. Her challenges include not being able to eat or speak well, along with poor mobility. Jazmin’s comprehension of the world around her is outstanding, yet her ability to communicate back is very limited. As you can imagine, this is very frustrating for her. This limits her ability to have friends and any social life outside of the family, and she feels isolated from the rest of the world.

Knowing that her last sibling would soon be going off to college, we were very concerned about how she would be without her two older brothers. After applying for a Canine Companions assistance dog and attending an intensive two-week Team Training course, we graduated with Ohio. He has been our daughter’s dream come true! They are inseparable. After receiving Ohio, Jazmin is more confident. In public, people look past her special needs and see her for who she really is: a sweet, innocent teenager. Ohio makes it easier for people to talk to Jazmin and, more importantly, he gives her the confidence to be herself.

When we graduated with Ohio, Kailey and Lauren drove all the way to New York to attend the ceremony and pass Ohio’s leash over to Jazmin. We cannot express our gratitude to Canine Companions, University of Delaware, Kailey and Lauren enough.

Sincerely,

Kevin and Sandra, Jazmin’s parents

Interested in raising a puppy? Visit cci.org/puppyraiser
Chairman’s Address

The holiday season is upon us. It’s many things, but more than any other time of year, it is a season of sharing. For the majority of us, this time of year is when we think not only of our friends and relatives, but also of the charitable organizations that transform lives.

For many non-profit organizations, including Canine Companions, the months of November and December are critical. The end of the year provides a significant portion of the donations received and for Canine Companions, 45% of our revenue comes during the last quarter of the year.

Earlier this year, we achieved the milestone of placing the 5,000th assistance dog team and we continue to grow. Canine Companions assistance dogs are placed free of charge, but how is that possible? The answer is easy — it’s because of friends like you. You make our work possible.

We know that there are many organizations asking for your support and therefore it is important that you hold us accountable to use your investment wisely. We strive for total transparency in our reporting to you and are sharing our financial information in this issue. On this page and continuing on page five, you’ll see how your dollars go to work for us. You are also welcome to review our full financials online at cci.org/financials.

In order for us to make a difference in the lives of people with disabilities, we rely on well over 25,000 donors annually. You are the greatest gift to Canine Companions and the people we serve. I thank you for your generosity, and hope you will continue to support us before the end of 2016.

Thank you, and best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season!

Sincerely,

John Miller
Chair, National Board of Directors

P.S. Each assistance dog is there for their human partner 24/7. Want to help sustain Canine Companions so we can provide services at no charge to recipients all year long? Become a Monthly Miracle Maker at cci.org/donate to help people with disabilities have greater independence 365 days a year.

Canine Companions Giving

We place our highly trained assistance dogs free of charge to recipients, thanks to you! For more information about Canine Companions financials, please visit our website to see recent annual reports at cci.org/financials. Thank you for your support!

Where does the money raised come from?

- Individuals 72%
- Corporations 8%
- Foundations 20%

2015 expenses

- Training & Follow-up 31.9%
- Breeding & Puppy Raising 14.7%
- Public Information 13.6%
- Veterinary 9.8%
- Fund Development & Marketing 24%
- Administration 6%
Canine Companions provides assistance dogs and ongoing support at no charge to people with disabilities.

Holiday giving

About 45% of donations are received in the final quarter of the year.

This is why our monthly giving program is so critical — to help create sustainable, year-round funding. Donate a one-time gift or become a Monthly Miracle Maker at cci.org/donate.

Number of assistance dogs placed

We project placing 345 assistance dogs by the end of the year.
An Elegant and Exalted Enterprise

Novelist Dean Koontz and his wife, Gerda, have been loyal and passionate supporters of Canine Companions since the 1990s. Dean has penned six books that showcase the Koontzes’ love for the released and retired Canine Companions dogs they’ve adopted. The author’s proceeds from the books are donated to their dogs’ alma mater. On top of that, the Koontzes have also provided extraordinary financial contributions to Canine Companions and are the Southwest Region’s campus benefactors.

Recently, Dean put pen to paper to reflect on why our mission resonates so deeply with him. The result is something to which we all relate, but only a best-selling author could write.

“We all lament the short lives of dogs.

They take possession of our hearts the day they arrive, and they are gone too soon. Gerda and I remember our beloved Trixie as if she passed only a week ago, and our dear sweet Anna as if she left us yesterday. And now Elsa is with us, a career-change girl who might have been an assistance dog if she hadn’t wanted to cuddle all of the time instead of work; after a mere two months, it’s difficult to imagine life without her.

In so few years, a dog can leave such a profound impression that we remember it all our lives, sometimes more vividly than we remember people who were close to us. Is that because dogs love us beyond all reason, in all circumstances? Because they can be horribly abused by ignorant people and yet forgive us all? Because they never lose hope and always expect something around the corner to delight them? Because they seem to have an ineradicable sense of the mystery and magic of life that we find hard to sustain? Because they are innocent and never scheme to deceive? Because they are loyal? I submit that it’s all those things and more, that these magnificent dogs show us ourselves as we were meant to be: loving, forgiving, grateful, steadfast, optimistic, straightforward about our intentions, playful, with faith that we are here for a reason and that the reason is to make better the lives of others.

Canine Companions’ staff and its legions of volunteers come together to improve the lives of neighbors and friends with disabilities, and in this effort they are aligned with dogs in a most elegant and exalted enterprise. The dogs learn the amazing things of which they are capable, and we learn what dogs have to teach us, which includes all that I have said above and at least one thing more: humility arising from the recognition of life’s fragility. Like our wonderful dogs, we live and we go. And we live always with the possibility that our lives, too, may be changed by one disability or another, so that we will be like unto our friends who come to Canine Companions to make a better future with the aid of a dog.

Life is lived to its fullest when we recognize our common humanity and when we share our time, our hopes, and our love. In the microcosm of Canine Companions for Independence, we see the world more as it should be; our hearts are lifted and a door is opened to our souls, admitting light to every shadowed corner. Throughout history, our world has been profoundly shaken and societies destroyed by utopian ideas that are seen as more important than people. But the only utopian idea that has ever worked at all is that which seems to motivate dogs: Love and seek to be loved, serve and assist with humility, and the world will be a better place.”
It’s amazing how quickly time flies. This year, the beautiful, well-planned Jean and Charles Schulz Campus in Santa Rosa celebrates its 20th anniversary.

At the ribbon cutting ceremony on May 4, 1996, graduate Deshae with Service Dog Ulina offered this prophetic vision for the new campus: “I envision this new national headquarters as a family home, a center that will bring people and animals together, inspiring in them creation and commitment.” It has been that and more.

Over the last 20 years, thousands of puppies have passed through its doors and hundreds of graduate teams have begun their powerful partnerships together. And my, how we’ve grown! In 1996, the entire organization graduated 125 teams nationwide. As this magazine went to press, the Northwest Region alone has graduated 79 teams so far in 2016!

Over the years, the Jean and Charles Schulz Campus has met every challenge and served our Canine Companions community well. In recent years, we’ve spruced up the campus. Projects include the dorm renovation in 2011 generously funded by Anne and Wayne Gittinger and the recent remodeling of the veterinary clinic and kennel complex.

As the campus moves into its next 20 years of service, there will undoubtedly be new projects to enable us to meet our ongoing goal: placing more highly trained assistance dogs free of charge to enhance the independence of people with disabilities.

Jean and Charles Schulz Campus Celebrates 20 Years

Thank you!

Thank you to the following individuals and foundations who have helped keep our campus beautiful and functional. These supporters have contributed to renovations of the dormitories, kennels and veterinary clinic in the last five years.

Bothin Foundation
DMARLOU Foundation
Anne Gittinger
Heck Foundation
HEDCO Foundation
Supporters in memory of Dave Johnson
Bev Mager
Bill and M.L. Reinking
Thelma B. and Thomas P. Hart Foundation
Volunteer Chapters

Canine Companions volunteer chapters are wonderful groups of volunteers, supporters, puppy raisers and graduates who team up to support Canine Companions’ mission to place highly skilled assistance dogs with people with disabilities.

These chapters host fundraising and social events, raise awareness of Canine Companions in their area through presentations and information booths, and have a lot of fun doing it! These amazing groups of volunteers also coordinate their local DogFest Walk ‘n Roll events.

For information on how to get involved in your local volunteer chapter, please contact the chapter nearest to you!

South Bay Champions Chapter  
(San Francisco South Bay)  
Sue Guzman, President  
408-309-3130  
southbaychapter@cci.org  
cci.org/southbaychapter

Cascade Chapter  
(Portland & Southern Washington)  
Donna Fuller, President  
503-720-9123  
cascadechapter@cci.org  
cci.org/cascadechapter

East Bay Miracles Chapter  
(San Francisco East Bay)  
Karen Cervantes, President  
415-606-3011  
eastbaychapter@cci.org  
cci.org/eastbaychapter

CCIdaho Chapter  
(Idaho)  
Denise Kimpson, President  
208-866-2660  
ccidahochapter@cci.org

Gold Rush Chapter  
(Greater Sacramento)  
Cris Gerard, President  
916-988-8744  
goldrushchapter@cci.org  
cci.org/goldrushchapter

Puget Sound Chapter  
(Northwest Washington)  
Dave Thurman, President  
206-915-7043  
pugetsoundchapter@cci.org

Wine Country Chapter  
(San Francisco North Bay)  
Dana Simonds, President  
707-695-8312  
winecountrychapter@cci.org  
cci.org/winecountrychapter

Northern Nevada Comstock Chapter  
(Northern Nevada)  
Cheryl Haverty, President  
775-857-5321  
nevadacomstockchapter@cci.org
This year, volunteers, graduates and donors brought DogFest Walk ‘n Roll to eight communities across four states in the Northwest Region. This dog-friendly, family-friendly walk and festival raises awareness and funds for Canine Companions.

Thank you to everyone who helped make DogFest Walk ‘n Roll events in the Northwest Region incredibly successful!

Special thanks to the following volunteer Northwest Region DogFest chairs: Karen Ammer, Sue Awdry, Stephanie Chen, Dave and Judy Collins, Kelly Dalisa, Pam Durkin, Donna Fuller, Mary Holmes, Cindy Lawton, Sharon Mosbaugh, Lin Nelson, Tina Pierre and Shari Rodenberger!

Want to volunteer for an event next year? Visit cci.org/DogFest for more information.
When 8-year-old Zara was matched with Skilled Companion Alohi, she was thrilled to learn that in Hawaiian, “Alohi” means brilliant and shining. These words apply to both members of this incredible new team. Enthusiastic and friendly, Zara enjoys dance, theater and spending time with friends.

When Zara was born, she had a stroke that affected her mobility and motor skills. Although she has attended physical therapy almost every day for much of her life, Alohi engages Zara in therapy in a new, exciting way. For example, kicking a ball has been a physical therapy goal for Zara for two and a half years. During Team Training at Canine Companions, the students played “soccer” with their dogs and Zara kicked the soccer ball to Alohi. Zara’s mom Selia says, “That was my moment of clarity that made me understand why we were there.”

“Alohi’s really gotten into the rhythm of our family since they were matched,” says Selia. Selia explains that Zara is now more motivated to walk, which is extremely important for her mobility. Walking has become less of a chore and more of a pleasure. “Alohi knows exactly when she’s working. Whenever she walks with Zara, she slows down to match Zara’s pace.”

Whether Zara is throwing Alohi a tennis ball in the backyard or walking together in the neighborhood, Alohi allows Zara to be a kid. This adorable new team embodies the meaning of the Hawaiian word, “Alohi” — they couldn’t be more brilliant and shining.

Paying it Forward

Alohi was raised by two graduates who were matched with their first facility dog, Reisig, in 2005. Susan and Denise saw what a difference Reisig made for the special-needs children they taught, and knew they wanted to give back by raising a puppy for someone else. They raised their first puppy in 2009 and are currently raising their seventh puppy while working with their second facility dog, Pizazz.

Interested in raising a puppy to change someone’s life? Please visit cci.org/puppyraiser.
TEAM 2016
Together
Everyone
Achieves More

The TEAM 2016 Volunteer Leadership Conference was a big success with record-breaking attendance of nearly 250. Staff and volunteers gathered together in Sonoma County, California Wine Country to share best practices, network and participate in various leadership trainings. TEAM 2017 will hit the road and take place in Texas, home of our newest training center and the South Central Region.

Look for us on nickelodeon.

No job is too big, no pup is too small!

Canine Companions is partnering with Nickelodeon’s PAW Patrol pups. The PAW Patrol characters are the heroes of Adventure Bay and they want you to meet some other heroes: the assistance dogs of Canine Companions for Independence. Watch our fun, new public service announcement that will appear on Nick Jr. and learn how you can help give a dog a job.

Thank you Nickelodeon for helping spread the word on the benefits of assistance dogs.

cci.org/PAWpatrol

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Annemiek Kuik, DVM and Nerf
Nerf with his brother Nacho

Veterinarian Finds Benefit in Raising Puppies

Annemiek Kuik is a three-time volunteer puppy raiser for Canine Companions for Independence. She is currently raising puppy Nerf who conveniently has a toy already named after him...or maybe it is the other way around!

With three grown children and working part-time as a veterinarian, Annemiek had some free time on her hands. She went searching for a non-profit to give some of her time. Stumbling upon Canine Companions was a blessing for both sides. “You come for the dogs, but you stay for the people,” explains Annemiek. She immediately fell in love with the organization.

“How can you give them up?” That’s the first question you always get asked,” Annemiek explains. She always tells people that returning the puppies to Canine Companions is rewarding. When her first puppy, Timmerman, graduated in 2013, Annemiek felt a sense of accomplishment knowing that she helped enrich the life of Timmerman’s human partner. “Timmerman’s graduate is so thankful for him. He has improved her life so much; it is a gift you want to keep giving.”

Annemiek is also very impressed with the prison puppy raising program. “I’ve found it amazing to talk to inmates and staff about how the dogs are helping to improve the inmates’ lives, in addition to the lives of people with disabilities once they graduate,” says Annemiek.

Puppy Nerf goes to work with Annemiek at the veterinary clinic. “He gets a lot of experience with the equipment and meeting clients in the lobby. He has met snakes, rabbits and has even comforted a pot belly pig coming out of anaesthesia, says Annemiek.

When raising a puppy for Canine Companions, it is important to socialize the puppy and expose it to different environments and stimuli. “It can be distracting for a puppy to grow up with staff and clients, but it is also great training for him.”

Annemiek has even used the knowledge she has gained from being a puppy raiser in her work at the vet clinic. “I can give my clients socialization and training advice about their puppies, in addition to health recommendations. I use what I’ve learned with Canine Companions in my day-to-day work.”

As a veterinarian, Annemiek has the advantage of being able to help in other ways as well. “I encourage all veterinarians to get involved. Puppy raisers and graduates are always appreciative of discounted or donated medical services and supplies, such as monthly flea and heartworm medication.”

To learn how your veterinarian can get involved, visit cci.org/veterinarians or learn more about raising a puppy at cci.org/puppyraiser.
Avery belongs to Girl Scout Troop 11375. She is also a Canine Companions graduate with Skilled Companion Florian. Recently, Avery’s troop donated pet first-aid kits to Canine Companions recipients who were at our Southwest Region campus for Team Training to receive their very own assistance dogs.

The girls in the troop wrote letters to veterinarians asking for supplies, did in-person visits to veterinary hospitals and put together extensive kits that will be very much appreciated by the recipients. The troop also donated boxes of veterinary supplies that are regularly used at the training center for the dogs in professional training.

In addition, Avery’s sister, Finley, sold lemonade and raised enough money to purchase two Dremels for the Southwest Region, which are used to trim the dogs’ nails.

Are you interested in raising funds to help keep our campus well supplied? Visit cci.org/ifundraising for details on hosting your own fundraising event. Or refer your veterinarian to cci.org/veterinarians for more information about donating services or supplies.

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**2017 Puppy Calendar**

Enjoy our adorable puppies in the 2017 Canine Companions Puppy Calendar 365 days a year! For every $25 donation made online at cci.org/2017calendar, we’ll send you a 2017 puppy calendar. Makes a great gift for yourself or someone you care about, because who doesn’t love cute puppies?

**Note Cards**

Get your Canine Companions note cards at training centers or online at cci.org/giftshop. Options include holiday, assistance dog or puppy-themed packs of 12 note cards with 13 envelopes for only $12.*

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**Gift Shop**

Visit one of our six training centers or our online gift shop at cci.org/giftshop for books, note cards, apparel, golf products, phone covers and many other gifts.

*Selection varies by training center and not all items available online are available at training centers.
2016 Team Training Yearbook

Northwest Region

July  Philip, Lawrence & Rebecca with Trevin IV; Chris with Theo VI; Alexander & Jana with Anna III; Drew, Aaron & Martin with Wylie III; Anjulie & Julie with Jewel IV; Aubrey & Andrea with Margo IV

August  Richie with Zander II; Blake with Stanley III; Nick with Tina IV; Monte with Franco II; Michael with Jaylo; Macy with Destry; Terri with Cowboy III; Jack with Forever; Zara & Sela with Alohi; Maria with Digby II; Faris & Hazar with Rodeo; Bobby with Heath IV

September  Erla with Booker III

September  Abigail, Thomas & Megan with Nalla

October  Ken with Merrick II; Renatta with Happy IV; Denise with Lolo II; DJ with Ibsen II; Shanise with Naoki; Patty with Leonardo

North Central Region

August  Andrew & Jennifer with Winken; David with Baxter III; Parker with Herb, Malik & Max with Hamilton IV; Rochelle with Bill; Josh with Noyo II; Megan with Hoagy; Hunter & Mindy with Franklin III; Kaleb with Trek II; Caiden, Kayce & Matthew with Whistler II; Wade with Dagwood; Austin & Laura with Perry V

Northeast Region

August  Anna with Shubert; Bernadette & Betty with Romper; Marlene with Gehlen; Gabe with Fenwick; Sara with Joanie III; Ethan, Gav & Pamela with Erickson III; Jim with Merritt; Katrina with Chevel II; Bill with Izzy III; Will & Laura with Toshi II; Juliana with Rowdy IV; Heather with Rady; Tom with Halona; Mike with Webster IV; Michael & Laurie with Jiminy II

Join us for an upcoming graduation ceremony. The events are free to attend. Join us live, online or view previous ceremonies. Learn all of the details at cci.org/graduations.
Southeast Region

August  Brad with India IV; Denise with Jordon V; Isabel & Michelle with Donovan III; Alec & Larissa with Nekoda; Sarah & Becky with Flip II; Lonnie & Lenette with Ralphie

August  Kara with Adele II; William with Cedric II; Jessica with Trisko; Kari with Dane II; Melanie with Turk II; Hannah with Archer III

August  Kathy with Spain; Arlene with Katja; Benjamin with Nepal II; Dianne with Wryka; Emily with Peterson; Kathleen with Petery III

Side Placements

Luke & Korbin II

Ivette & Fields II

Kim & Dimitri II

South Central Region

August  Lisa & Ellie with Fletcher IV; Jill & Emery with Piper VI; Lauren with Buchanan; Rex with Inez III; Michelle with Enya; Dotti, Garrett & Trish with Nala V

Southwest Region

August  Gerry, David & Amparo with Harbor II; Eliza, Halle & Eric with River VI; Diana with Marvin; Rosemary & Sarah with Jasmina II; Chanda with Hampton; Debra with Cassie V; Jack & Katie with Tiffany V; Stephen with Buster IV; Annette with Patch III; Tiffinni with Hilani IV; Courtney with Cajun IV; Ria & Jacob with Ives; Derek with Tonka III; Cheryl with Zeus VI; Joe with Trotsky; Boyd with Aspen VI; Clarissa, Jacob & Stephen with Toffee III

Each of these teams was matched free of charge, but over 400 people are still on our waitlist. Visit cci.org/donate or use the enclosed envelope to make a donation and change a life.
### Board Members

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<td>Shawn Hooker</td>
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<td>Dean &amp; Gerda Koontz</td>
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<td>OCEANSIDE, CA</td>
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**Contact Information**

- Email: info@cci.org
- Web Site: cci.org
- Phone: 1-800-572-BARK (2275)

### 2016 Holiday Gift Giving Guide

Support Canine Companions for Independence and give unique gifts to your friends, family, pet-sitter or other important people in your life this holiday season. See a preview on page 13 or visit cci.org/giftshop.