



paws4people™

K-9 Training Institute

Fact Sheet

V1.0

as of: March 10, 2008

paws4people™ – K-9 Training Institute (KTI):

The **paws4people™** K-9 Training Institute is an internal division of **paws4people™**, Inc.

The **PRIMARY MISSION** of the **paws4people™** K-9 Training Institute (KTI) is to produce very highly and specifically trained Assistance Dogs in support of the core operational missions of **paws4people™**.

To accomplish this PRIMARY MISSION, KTI will:

design, implement and conduct training programs for Assistance and Community Dogs for use in all **paws4people™** operational programs.

design and implement programs, policies, procedures, processes and criteria to acquire, care for and maintain Assistance and Community Dogs for use in all **paws4people™** KTI Programs.

design, implement and conduct programs, policies, procedures, processes and criteria to select, designate and certify Assistance Dogs within specific utilization categories for placement with individuals having physical, neurological, psychiatric and/or emotional disabilities.

design, implement and conduct programs, policies, procedures, processes and criteria to select Private Placement Candidates and/or Handlers for the Assistance Dogs who provide direct services to individuals having physical, neurological, psychiatric and/or emotional disabilities.

The **SECONDARY MISSION** of the **paws4people™** K-9 Training Institute (KTI) is to:

increase, through public awareness campaigns and educational programs, the necessity for, and benefits of, Assistance Dogs within the disabled and educational communities thereby increasing their acceptance within society as a whole.

significantly increase the number of such Assistance Dogs available for placement with individuals with disabilities, senior citizens and educational communities.

enhance the quality of life for persons with disabilities and/or senior citizens by utilizing the "Special Powers" of Assistance Dogs. These specially trained Assistance Dogs will aid individuals with physical, neurological, psychiatric and/or emotional disabilities.

develop a customized line of dogs bred specifically for personality, disposition, temperament, and trainability traits desirable for such Assistance Dogs.

KTI will train and produce the following utilization category or types of Assistance and Community Dogs:



Service Dogs – An Assistance Dog specially trained to enable individuals with disabilities to lead more independent lives by performing tasks that the person otherwise could not, or would have extreme difficulty doing for him/herself. The Private Placement Candidates [PPC] for these dogs are generally confined to a wheelchair.

These dogs are trained within **KTI's** Service Dog Training Program.



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Educational Assistance Dogs – An Assistance Dog specially trained to perform inside the special and regular education classrooms as part of an Animal-Assisted Instructional Program. These dogs assist teachers in performing their duties using a new educational tool - the dog. The dog provides motivation for the students to learn and dramatically increases the teacher's productivity and effectiveness. These dogs must be able to handle classroom and special education environments, as well as be able to work with students having all types of physical, neurological, psychiatric, emotional disabilities and/or behavioral problems.

These dogs are trained within **KTI's** Educational Assistance K-9 Training Program.



Rehabilitative Assistance Dogs – An Assistance Dog specially trained to assist therapists, patients and/or families who are affected by:

severe physical injury: These dogs assist Occupational Therapists [OT] and Physical Therapists [PT] in their treatment of patients.

severe psychological trauma such as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder [PTSD]: These dogs assist mental health therapists in their treatment of patients or are actually placed with a PTSD patient as part of their treatment plan.

family members who suffer from neurological, psychiatric and/or emotional disabilities: These dogs aid in, and in some cases speed up, a patient's recovery.

These dogs are trained within **KTI's** Rehabilitative Assistance Dog Training Program.



Social-Therapy Dogs - Dogs that are usually obtained from pounds, shelters, or rescue groups that are then trained to perform at the Intermediate Obedience level. Once these dogs reach this level of training they are generally placed with Spouseless Seniors providing life enhancing companionship.

Dogs that are primarily privately-owned by **paws4people™** volunteers, that have successfully passed an evaluation process which looks at breed type, personality, disposition, temperament and training level of the dog, and the proficiency of the Handler to work his/her dog. Successful candidates (Handlers and dogs) are then provided with additional situational and environmental training which when "certifies" them to conduct General Visitation "Pet Therapy" visits to nursing homes, hospitals and/or Hospice facilities.

These dogs are trained within **KTI's** Shelter/Rescue Training Program, (SRTP) and/or **KTI's** General Visitation Training Program.



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Community Dogs – Dogs usually obtained from pounds, shelters, rescue groups, or direct rescue placements, which are then trained to perform at the Intermediate Obedience level. Once these dogs reach this level of training they are generally returned to the pound, shelter, or rescue group for adoptive placement. The training provided significantly increases the dogs' chances of being successfully adopted and remaining in its adoptive home. This significantly decreases the possibility of the dog being euthanized.

These dogs are trained within **KTI's** Shelter/Rescue Training Program.

KTI Assistance Dogs are currently being trained in the following venue(s):



**US Penitentiary - Hazelton
Bruceton Mills, WV**

KTI currently has **7** Assistance Dogs (Service Dogs or Rehabilitative Assistance Dogs) placed, with **10** more (Service Dogs, Educational or Rehabilitative Assistance Dogs) in the training pipeline.

KTI currently has **24** Educational Assistance Dogs (Certified and Working), with **6** more in the training pipeline.

KTI currently has **3** General Visitation Social-Therapy Dogs (Certified and Working).

KTI has received **5** Shelter/Rescue Dogs to date from various shelters. One of these dogs has completed its training and has been privately adopted; the other four are in various stages of their training programs.