



Great Dane Heroes Service Dog Program

■ The Life-Changing Power of a Great Dane Service Dog

For many U.S. Military Veterans, the battle doesn't end when the uniform comes off — it simply takes on a new form. The quiet moments can be the hardest, and unseen wounds often cut the deepest. That's where **Great Dane Heroes** steps in — connecting those who have served our country with one of the most loyal and capable companions on Earth: the Great Dane Service Dog.

The Benefits of Having a Service Dog

A service dog is far more than a pet. It's a lifeline — a trained partner who restores freedom, confidence, and peace of mind. Veterans living with PTSD, TBI, mobility challenges, or anxiety often find that a service dog bridges the gap between independence and isolation. Through specialized training, these dogs are taught to:

- Interrupt anxiety or panic attacks through deep pressure therapy and grounding contact
- Wake their handler from nightmares or night terrors
- Retrieve medication or a phone during moments of distress
- Provide balance, stability, and mobility support for those with injuries or chronic pain
- Lead their handler away from triggering environments
- Create physical space in crowds to reduce hypervigilance
- Alert to physiological changes such as elevated heart rate, dizziness, or stress

Why We Choose Great Danes

At **Great Dane Heroes**, we are proud to focus exclusively on the **Great Dane breed** — not

only for their majestic stature, but for their gentle spirit, intelligence, and unwavering devotion.

Known as the “Gentle Giants,” Great Danes possess a unique combination of emotional sensitivity and physical strength that make them exceptional service partners for Veterans.

Their size allows them to perform a wider range of assistance tasks than most breeds can manage:

- **Mobility Support:** Their height and muscle mass allow them to brace, balance, and assist Veterans in standing, walking, or rising from a seated position.
- **Deep Pressure Therapy:** Their large body weight provides full-body calming pressure during anxiety or panic attacks, grounding the handler instantly.
- **Protection & Presence:** Without aggression, their sheer presence creates a sense of security and calm — reducing hypervigilance and anxiety in public settings.
- **Reach & Retrieval:** A Great Dane can easily retrieve items from tables, counters, or shelves that smaller breeds cannot access.
- **Stability & Counterbalance:** Their size and balance allow them to guide and stabilize Veterans who suffer from TBI-related dizziness or lower-body weakness.

Beyond their physical capabilities, Great Danes are profoundly intuitive. They form deep emotional bonds, attuned to subtle changes in their handler’s breathing, heart rate, and mood. Many Veterans describe their Great Dane as both protector and best friend — a partner who “knows” before they even have to ask.

Every Great Dane we train carries a purpose: to give back the independence, confidence, and peace our Veterans have earned. These dogs become loyal companions who walk beside their handler through every challenge — not out of obligation, but out of genuine devotion and love.

When a Veteran is paired with a Great Dane Hero, they gain more than assistance — they gain a renewed sense of life. Every step forward is shared, every mission is faced together, and every victory — no matter how small — becomes one they both celebrate.