Puppy Raiser Information

As a volunteer “foster family,” you will be teaching a puppy patience, love, social behaviors, basic obedience, and many other important life skills. Once fully vaccinated (or with proper equipment), you’ll be able to take your pup just about everywhere you go: to movies, church, theme parks, bowling, restaurants, stores and malls. ASDEC encourages you to safely desensitize your puppy with experiences that will further benefit your dog as they become working service animals.

Puppies are constantly learning during their first year of life! You’ll enjoy attending our specialized training classes and outings along with other Puppy Raisers and learn to teach your puppy basic obedience commands like sit, down, stay, heel, and come.

Becoming a volunteer Puppy Raiser of a future service dog is a commitment of up to 6-months of time, energy, and love. Every day through care and training, Puppy Raisers provide the critical foundation that puppies need to begin formal service dog training. There are few things in this world more heart-warming than seeing your pup work seamlessly with its disabled handler knowing that you’ve given someone a level of independence that she or he did not have before.

**What is ASDEC Responsible for?**

* Vaccinations
* Spay or neuter
* Provide weekly training for raisers to be successful
* Provide monthly heartworm, flea, and tick medications
* Provide microchip

**What is a Puppy Raiser Responsible for?**

* Complete an ASDEC Puppy Raiser Application
* Purchase training equipment
* Provide ASDEC approved food and treats
* Get approval before taking puppy to vet or on trips
* Attend at least 2 group classes a month at ASDEC
* Notify ASDEC if you are unable to take the puppy where you are going and need to board it
* Administer monthly parasite medications and vaccinations
* Send monthly reports
* Turn in the dog at estimated due date with all vaccinations up to date and all paperwork
* Take puppy into public weekly, and report behavioral concerns IMMEDIATELY

**Frequently Asked Questions:**

* **Are there any tax benefits to serving as a Puppy Raiser?**
* As a volunteer Puppy Raiser most, if not all, of your expenses are tax deductible. ASDEC is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, please refer to your tax consultant for detailed information about deductions.
* **Are there any special events or programs to help raise our puppy?**
* Puppy Raisers are supported by our ASDEC staff who arrange monthly events in a variety of settings and provide tips on care, grooming, training, and manners. In addition, we offer specialized obedience classes at the ASDEC facility.
* **How do I get started?**
* All first-time applicants are asked to fill out a Puppy Raiser Application and will be interviewed before a puppy is placed in the home. We prefer that our raisers live in the Central California area, but exceptions might be made under special circumstances. Dog friendly children and pets in the household are a plus!

The most important trait of puppy raisers is the dedication to provide daily care to a puppy and consistency in its socializing and training. If you decide to open your home to a puppy, you will receive a Puppy Raising Manual to help you prepare for life with your future service dog.

If after submitting your application you do not get a response within one week, please contact us at (559)564-7297, or contact@asdecwoodlake.org

**Overview:**

Volunteer Puppy Raisers are the foundation of ASDEC. The Puppy Raiser prepares puppies to become future Service Dogs by establishing positive experiences during early learning. Becoming a Puppy Raiser involves three major areas of personal and financial responsibility in caring for the wellbeing of the puppy.

* A safe environment
* Food for puppy
* Healthcare (if needed and approved).

**Participation and communication:**

* Raisers must attend a 2-hour puppy orientation seminar prior to receiving their puppy.
* Raisers must attend a minimum of 2 group training classes per month at our ASDEC facility.
* Raisers must attend a minimum of 4 public outings as a group.
* Raisers must communicate training progress and immediately report any issues you may be having during the raising process.

**Socialization:**Expose the dog to age-appropriate social situations. Raisers agree to ensure the dog is acting appropriately and practicing safe handling in public.

**Requirements:** Volunteer puppy raisers must commit to the outlined responsibilities. They must house and care for the puppy until the required turn-in date (about 6 months). Raisers must be willing and able to devote time each today to oversee the complete care of the puppy; feeding, grooming, socialization, and exercise as recommended by ASDEC.

**Training:**Puppy Classes are offered through ASDEC located at the St. John’s Schoolhouse.

First Name: Last Name:

Address:

Mailing Address:

City: State: Zip Code:

Phone: Email:

Date of Birth: Gender Identity:

Employer: Occupation:

Can you bring your dog to work with you? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ NO

Have you ever raised a dog for ASDEC or another service dog organization? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ NO

If you previously raised a dog for ASDEC, why did you stop?

What are your primary reasons for wanting to be a Puppy Raiser for ASDEC?

How much time per day will you be able to socialize and work with the puppy? Please explain:

Describe your feelings about returning the puppy to ASDEC for advanced training, and placement with a person with a disability:

Are you willing to regularly attend scheduled puppy raiser outings? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ NO

Are you willing to attend at least two community classes at the ASDEC facility per month?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ NO

If you attend school, are you able to occasionally take your puppy to school with you? \_\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_\_ NO

If you receive a puppy that is under four months of age, will you be able to feed him a mid-day meal?

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ NO

Are you willing to socialize your dog in public? This includes trips to grocery stores, malls, restaurants, movie theaters, other businesses, etc. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ NO

Are you willing to pay for your dog’s food? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ NO

CONFIRM:

ASDEC puppies are NOT to be outdoor dogs and are not to be stuck in a crate all day. Your role is to socialize this dog with you out in public. If you have other dogs, you must supervise play time and limit playtime.

By signing below, you agree to the statements issued in this application and that all information filled out by you is correct and true to the best of your knowledge:

X DATE:

HOUSEHOLD

Please list the names, ages, and relationship of those living at the home:

How long have you lived at your present address?

Own or Rent?

If renting, do you have permission to have a puppy in the house?

Do you have an enclosed yard? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ NO

If not, are you willing to adapt your yard to make it safe for a puppy? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ NO

Do you understand that ASDEC puppies cannot be off leash unless in an enclosed area? (We do NOT allow our dogs to go to dog parks) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ NO

Briefly describe your home, yard and living environment:

Will you be able to take the puppy to your workplace? If yes, how often? \_\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_\_ NO

If no, what are your plans for the puppy during the day?

Have you ever raised a puppy or had an adult dog before? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ NO

Please describe your experience:

Do you understand puppies must be crate trained and sleep inside your home? \_\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_\_ NO

Describe a typical day for you:

Please list all dogs currently in your home. Include their breed, age, sex, and if they are spayed/neutered (if not, why not?). If none just write “none”. Example: Labrador, 1.5 years, M, neutered.

Do any of your dogs exhibit:

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Protect food or toys (from people or dogs)

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Aggression towards people or dogs

\_\_\_\_\_\_ Alert barking at door knock or door bell

Have you ever received any formal training with your dog(s)? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ NO

Can you provide proof of vaccinations for the animals in your home? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ YES \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ NO

VETERINARY CARE

ASDEC is responsible for veterinary costs for the puppy. ASDEC staff should be notified IMEDIATELY in the case of emergency vet care. If not informed, the puppy raiser may have to pay the cost of medical attention.

Name of ASDEC preferred veterinarians:

Lindsay-Westwood Veterinary Clinic (559)562-6018

139 East Hermosa Street, Lindsay, CA 93247

Sequoia Animal Hospital (559)366-7125

26357 Road 108, Tulare, CA 93274