



The Believet Bark

Paws & Progress from Believet Canine Service Partners



Freedom for Veterans, Dogs with a Mission.



A Summer of Service

It has been a busy and exciting season at Believet! This summer, we've seen our community come together in so many meaningful ways—from **successful events** and **generous grants** to **new partnerships** that are helping care for our dogs and support our veterans. As we celebrate the people and organizations making this work possible, we're also looking ahead to an exciting fall filled with **new puppies**, **opportunities to volunteer**, **special community events**, and more ways to get involved. In this issue of The Believet Bark, we're excited to **share the moments, milestones, and partnerships** that continue to **move our mission forward**.

Rescue Hounds for Heroes 2026

This May, Believet partnered with **Spot's Last Stop Canine Rescue** for our 2026 Rescue Hounds for Heroes event, bringing our two organizations together to help give rescue dogs a new purpose.

Funds raised through the event support the journey of **transforming qualified rescue dogs into highly trained service dogs for disabled veterans**. It was a wonderful opportunity to bring our communities together while celebrating the incredible potential of rescue dogs and the life-changing partnerships they create with veterans. **Thank you to everyone** who attended, volunteered, donated, sponsored, and helped make the event a success! We're already looking forward to doing it all again next year. **Save the date for May 12th, 2027!**

Coming Up!

Military Appreciation Weekend

Minnesota Twins

Saturday, September 12th, 2026

Target Field

Minneapolis, MN

Come see Believet at the ballpark!

Summer 2026



www.believet.org

Celebrating a Community Champion

In June, Believet's founder, Sam Daly, was honored as a **Community Champion**, presented by **UnitedHealthcare** and the **Minnesota Twins**. This recognition celebrates individuals making a **meaningful impact** in their communities through **leadership**, **service**, and **dedication** to others. For all of us at Believet, it is especially meaningful to see Sam recognized for the **commitment to veterans** that has been at the heart of our organization from the very beginning. His dedication continues to inspire our work, our team, and the community that makes our mission possible.



Welcome Aboard, Bobber!

Believet recently welcomed Bobber, a puppy from the Assistance Dogs International (ADI) Breeding Cooperative.

Bobber was named in **honor of a U.S. Navy veteran** who served during the Korean War and was stationed in the Pacific Islands, and who is affectionately known as “Bobber” by family and friends. As Bobber begins his journey toward becoming a service dog, his name is a **special tribute to a life of service**. A

heartfelt thank you to **Chris Thurin** and his family for sponsoring Bobber's name in honor of **Chris's father-in-law**.

We are grateful to **celebrate his service** through a future service dog who will one day serve another veteran.



Energizing Veteran Resilience

In July, Believet received a **\$20,000 grant** from the **CenterPoint Energy Foundation** through its **Energizing Veteran Resilience Initiative**, in recognition of our nation's upcoming 250th anniversary. We are grateful to the Foundation for **investing in our mission** and the veterans we serve—and to volunteer grant writer **Tudy Fowler**, whose work helped make this funding possible. **Help us find the next opportunity to fund our mission!** If you have **grant-writing experience**, we'd love to have you **join our volunteer team**.



A Puppy Donated with a Purpose



Believet recently welcomed Fitz, a puppy **generously donated** by **Country Breeze Doodles & Poodles** for a veteran in need of a service dog. Because of allergies in the veteran's home, a **hypoallergenic dog** was needed, making

Fitz an especially great fit for this partnership.

Unlike many of the puppies who begin their journey with volunteer puppy raisers, Fitz went directly home with his veteran, who will raise him as they begin **building their bond together**. As Fitz grows, he and his veteran will work alongside Believet to prepare him for his future role as a service dog. We are **incredibly grateful** to Country Breeze Doodles & Poodles for making this special partnership possible and helping another veteran begin their journey with Believet.

Fueling Our Mission

Believet is incredibly grateful to **General Mills** and its **Blue Buffalo** brand for **generously providing all of the dog food** for Believet's service dogs in training. This incredible partnership ensures our dogs receive **quality nutrition** throughout their training while allowing Believet to direct more resources toward our mission of serving veterans. We are grateful to General Mills and Blue Buffalo for making such a **meaningful investment** in our dogs, our veterans, and the future of Believet.

Our Best Golf Tournament Yet!

The 2026 Believet Golf Tournament was one for the record books! This year brought our **largest number of golfers, most sponsors, and highest amount raised** in the tournament's history. We are **incredibly grateful** to everyone who golfed, sponsored, volunteered, donated, and helped make the day such a success. The continued growth of this event means even more support for Believet's mission and the veterans we serve. We're already excited to see what next year holds!

Save the date for August 12th, 2027!



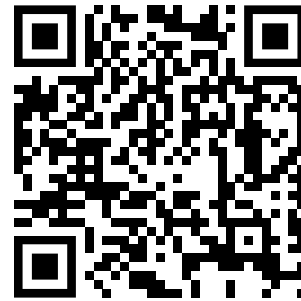
Puppy Raisers Needed!

Want to help raise a future service dog? Believet is looking for puppy raisers in the **new year**! Volunteers are needed to welcome young puppies into their homes and give them a **strong start** on their journey toward service.

Puppy raisers help build **important foundations** through **socialization**, **basic obedience**, and **everyday experiences**, all with **training and support** from Believet. By opening your home to a future service dog, you can play an **important role** in preparing them for a life-changing partnership with a veteran.



Scan to Become a Puppy Raiser!



Scan to purchase your tickets here!



<https://tinyurl.com/Evening-at-Crockers-Creek>

An Evening at Crocker's Creek

Join us on **Saturday, September 19th** from **4–8 PM** for An Evening at Crocker's Creek, a celebration of Believet Canine Service Partners! Enjoy an evening at **The Barn at Crocker's Creek** with **food trucks**, **live music**, **activities**, and plenty of **opportunities to connect** with the Believet community—all while **supporting our mission** of providing highly trained service dogs to veterans at no cost.

Bring your **friends** and **family**, enjoy a fall evening with us, and help celebrate the veterans, dogs, and community that make Believet possible. **We hope to see you there!**



Giving Rescued Dogs a Mission. Giving Veterans Hope.

This Give to the Max Day, November 19th, 2026, Believet is partnering with Spot's Last Stop Canine Rescue to change lives on both ends of the leash. Through our From Rescue to Service campaign, funds raised will help give **qualified rescue dogs** a **second chance** by preparing them for a **new purpose** as **highly trained service dogs** for veterans. Together, we're giving **rescued dogs a mission** while providing veterans with life-changing support, independence, and companionship—all at **no cost** to the veteran. **Mark your calendar** for November 19th and **Give to the Max!**



New Research Highlights Believet's Impact

Believet is currently the focus of the **PAWS** (Program Assessment for Warriors and Service Dogs) Study, conducted by researchers from the **University of Minnesota** and **Mankato State University** to better understand the **impact of Believet's service dog program** on **veterans**, their **families** and **support systems**, and **the dogs** themselves. Early findings are **providing valuable insight** into the **impact of Believet's program**. Veterans with Believet service dogs reported **improved quality of life**, **greater independence**, **less stress and isolation**, and an **increased ability to participate** in everyday life and their communities. Families and supporters are seeing positive changes as well, including **less worry** and **greater independence** for their veteran. The early findings also highlight the **strength of Believet's training** and continued support after graduation—providing **valuable research** into the **lasting impact** of the service dog partnerships at the heart of our mission.

Moving Our Mission Forward

From **new partnerships** and **record-breaking events** to **puppies** beginning their journeys and **research** highlighting the impact of our program, there is **so much to be grateful for** at Believet. Each milestone represents a community coming together to help us serve more veterans. As we head into fall, we're excited for what's ahead and **grateful** for the **donors**, **volunteers**, **puppy raisers**, **community partners**, **veterans**, and **friends** who make our mission possible. As Believet continues to grow, we're always **looking for more volunteers** to join us! Whether you have a few hours or want to get involved regularly, **your time and talents** can make a **meaningful difference**. **Thank you** for being part of Believet and **helping us change lives, one partnership at a time.**

