**Hub City Service Dogs Program**

3422 Hardy Street, Hattiesburg, MS 39402

(601) 596-4495

hubcityservicedogs@gmail.com

501(c)(3) Nonprofit Organization

**MISSION**

 Hub City Service Dogs’ goal is to enhance the quality of life for disabled individuals by providing them custom trained dogs for their individual needs.

**VISION**

 We envision an organization that provides lifetime support to our client-dog partners. We work towards our mission while minimizing additional financial burden to families. We use highly tested and trained dogs as the mode to accomplish our mission, and use humane techniques to do so.

**WHAT IS A SERVICE DOG?**

 Service dogs are specially trained to specifically perform tasks that increase the independence of their human partner. People paired with service dogs show improvements psychologically, economically and socially. Individuals with service dogs gain independence that would never be achieved without the help of their dog.

**TYPES OF SERVICE DOGS**

 Mobility Assistance

 Emergency Medical Response (Diabetic Alert, Seizure Alert)

 Specialty Dogs (Psychiatric Assistance, Autism Assistance, Emotional Assistance)

 Therapeutic Companion Dogs (Facility Based Therapy)

**SELECTION OF THE SERVICE DOG**

 Our dogs are selected on an individual need basis. Each dog is selected specifically to fit the needs and environment for the individual. A thorough behavior evaluation is completed before the dog is selected for training.

**TRAINING PROCESS OF THE SERVICE DOG**

 The training process is specialized to fit the individual needs of the recipient. The Training Director will determine the length of training on a case-by-case basis.

**WHO QUALIFIES**

 Anyone who can demonstrate a real need for and intent to use the services of an assistance dog can qualify. The applicant must have sufficient maturity and decision making capability to manage the dog independently and assure a quality life for the animal. Service dogs for young children must be under the stewardship of a responsible adult.

**HOW MUCH DOES A SERVICE DOG COST?**

 The cost of acquiring, training, and placing an assistance dog and providing follow-up care to our clients varies. Hub City Service Dogs understands many people are unable to afford the full cost of the service dog. We are engaged in continuous donation request efforts to make it possible for all who seek this service to achieve it regardless of financial ability. We expect our applicants to contribute financially and be actively engaged in their own fundraising efforts to the extent that they are able. More information on costs for the different types of service dogs (impacts length of training/purchase of dog if necessary/etc.) can be obtained by contacting the Training Director at (601) 596-4495.