Specialized trained dogs

**Service Dogs for America** (SDA) specializes in cross-training dogs to meet the multiple disability challenges our returning veterans are facing.

Many of today’s wounded warriors have multiple physical injuries plus traumatic brain injury (TBI), and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). PTSD and TBI are the “invisible wounds” that many of our veterans will carry with them for the rest of their lives.

SDA’s dogs assist veterans in the process of managing both the visible and invisible wounds they carry each day, so they can live more independent and prosperous lives.

To learn more about service dogs for wounded warriors, please call **701-685-2242** or go to [www.servicedogsforamerica.org](http://www.servicedogsforamerica.org)

**Service Dogs for America**

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“66% of the most seriously wounded soldiers returning from Afghanistan and Iraq have “invisible” injuries of brain trauma (TBI) or post-traumatic stress (PTSD), which their families and society will be dealing with at great cost for decades,” said Gen. Peter W. Chiarelli, the Army’s vice chief of staff.

Stars & Stripes Article September 29, 2011
**Trained Service Dogs**

**Service Dogs for America** (SDA) emergency medical response (EMRD), mobility assist and PTSD service dogs are trained and cross-trained to assist and respond to individual needs in unique ways such as:

- **Provide balance**, support or assist in sitting or standing;
- **Retrieve items**, open and close doors and cabinets;
- **Operates** light switches and automatic door openers;
- **Get help** by alerting another person or activate an emergency button, electronic alert system, or pull cord;
- **Retrieve** medications at set schedules;
- **Stand in front** of or circle an individual in crowded areas in order to create personal space;
- **Assist in interrupting** anxiety attacks;
- **Assist in waking** an individual from nightmares and night terrors;
- **Assist in leading** an individual safely to an exit.

SDA’s service dogs are never trained to protect or defend its partner, and are expected to be friendly toward all people when in public.

For demonstrations and presentations, please contact: info@servicedogsforamerica.org

To learn about volunteer opportunities, please contact: 701-685-2242 ext. #1 or ext. #3

To apply, go to: www.servicedogsforamerica.org/apply/

**Service Dogs for America**—
recently provided testimony before North Dakota’s House and Senate, advocating legislation that will provide funding for eligible North Dakota veterans with a clinical diagnosis of PTSD to receive a service dog.

**SDA**

www.ptsd.va.gov/about/ptsd-awareness/ptsd-awareness-month.asp