



Puppies Behind Bars trains prison inmates to raise service dogs for wounded war veterans and for first responders, as well as explosive-detection canines for law enforcement. The puppies live in prison with their puppy-raisers from the age of 8 weeks to 24 months. As the puppies mature into well-loved, well-behaved dogs, their raisers learn what it means to contribute to society rather than take from it.



Puppies
Behind
Bars

Puppies Behind Bars

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CFC #11902



SERVICE DOGS FOR THOSE WHO SERVE & PROTECT



Puppies **Behind** Bars

Photos: Brian Murphy, Office of the Director of National Intelligence
Proudly designed and printed in New York City

Puppies Behind Bars® (PBB) has a long-standing relationship with law enforcement agencies, particularly those in the Tri-state region.

Shortly after 9/11, PBB started raising explosive-detection canines for NYPD, Westchester County PD, ATF, CIA, FBI and other law-enforcement agencies as a way to say thank you to all of the first responders who rushed to the aid of New Yorkers, and who have served and protected us every day before and since.

Since 2006 PBB has been raising service dogs exclusively for Iraq and Afghanistan veterans. We are now opening up that opportunity to first responders — retired or active duty — who have been injured in the line of duty. We truly believe that it is our mission to serve those who serve our country abroad, AND those who serve and protect our country at home.

Since our specialty at PBB is working with clients with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), traumatic brain injury (TBI), and those with physical disabilities, our dogs are trained to perform more than 90 service dog commands. All our dogs can open and close doors, turn lights on and off, dial 911 on a special phone, carry shopping bags, and bring items to you. They also know how to awaken you from nightmares and how to “watch your back” while you’re out in public.

Because our dogs are raised in prison and not in a kennel, they are around people 24 hours a day/seven days a week

and have developed an exceptional bond with humans. PBB dogs are incredibly intuitive, they have an ingrained need to be needed, and they love their jobs serving the men and women who love them. These hallmarks of our dogs have made them the ideal partners for our veterans, and we believe, the ideal partners for you as well.

Puppies Behind Bars® can only pair 15 of these magnificent dogs per year, but as a result of being a small organization, we offer some of the best-trained and well-socialized service dogs available. We've known each dog since he or she was 8 weeks old or younger. We know their strengths and quirks. We love each of them dearly. We know which of our dogs would be the best partner for you.

Puppies Behind Bars® pays for all the costs associated with getting one of these special dogs, including transportation to our Westchester County, New York training site. We provide a hotel room and meals during the 16-day training where you become a team with your new dog. Half of those days we go into prison, where you are trained by a hand-picked group of inmate puppy-raisers, who are proven professionals in training our dogs. You get extraordinary information and individual guidance about our dogs, and get to hear a lot of cute puppy stories, too.

How to Apply

1. To qualify for a PBB service dog, you must be an active-duty or retired first responder, and must be capable of incorporating a dog into your life. You must be able to provide a stable, safe environment for our dog, as well as love, exercise, and food. Most important, you must be willing to become more independent and to work with a highly trained four-legged companion.
2. Please call our office at 212-680-9562, or email Gloria Gilbert Stoga at gloria@puppiesbehindbars.com to request an application. We can either email or send one to you via the USPS. Send the completed application and all requested references to our office.

3. After reviewing your application, we will contact you within two weeks to begin the process of interviewing you, speaking with your clinician, and checking your references.
4. If you are accepted, you will come to us for 16 days of training with the dog we have chosen for you. Four months after this training is completed, we will do a home visit, and we will see you annually thereafter, to recertify you and your dog as a working service dog team.



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For additional information, please contact gloria@puppiesbehindbars.com or visit our website at puppiesbehindbars.com.