

## Puppies Behind Bars Annual Report 2018 (as of May 15, 2019)

### Puppies Behind Bars, Inc.

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**Mission Statement: Puppies Behind Bars** (PBB) trains prison inmates to raise service dogs for wounded war veterans and first responders, as well as explosive-detection canines for law enforcement. 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.

**History and Recent Accomplishments:** PBB was founded in 1997, initially training five puppies as guide dogs for the blind at the Bedford Hills Correctional Facility, New York State's only maximum-security prison for women. PBB now works in seven men's and women's correctional facilities in New York and New Jersey, with approximately 125 inmates raising 70 to 80 puppies at any given time. After 9/11, PBB added the training of explosive detection canines (EDCs) to its program to help meet law enforcement agencies' need for working dogs. In 2006, PBB phased out its guide dog program and began training service dogs. In the same year, we initiated Dog Tags: Service Dogs for Those Who've Served Us, providing prison-trained service dogs, free of charge, to wounded veterans of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, with a focus on those suffering from PTSD or TBI. In 2018 we further expanded our service dog program to include first responders through our Backup Buddies program. Over the years, PBB has trained more than 1,000 dogs, including 150 service dogs, 84 guide dogs and 437 explosive detection canines (EDCs).

During 2018, we paired dogs with 10 veterans and first responders through Dog Tags and Backup Buddies, bringing the total number of recipients to 117 nationwide. We expect to pair 12 dogs with veterans and first responders in 2019. Sixteen explosive-detection canines have graduated from our program since January 2018. These dogs will work protecting the public in partnership with law enforcement officers around the U.S. and abroad. The FBI, CIA, and New York City Bomb Squad are just a few of the agencies that have "hired" our exceptionally well trained dogs in the last year. We've continued our successful breeding program at the Scaife Family Foundation Early Socialization Center for three years. Dogs from the Center continue to show great promise and should help us increase graduation rates in the future. Our dual training of service dogs and EDCs continues to make our program more efficient, and allows us to adapt a dog's training to suit its temperament. Puppies Behind Bars raises extraordinary dogs and allows the love and healing they provide to improve the lives of hundreds of individuals each year. Our dogs bring hope and pride to their raisers and independence and security to those they serve.

**Finances:** The following is an overview of Puppies Behind Bars' income and expenses for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2018 (source: IRS Form 990):

Program Expenses:	\$1,992,339	Total Revenue 2018:	\$ 3,862,375
Administrative Expenses:	214,723	Net Assets End of 2016:	13,651,527
Fundraising Expenses:	<u>107,123</u>	Change in Net Assets	1,051,845
Total Expenses 2018:	\$2,314,185	Total Net Assets End of 2017:	\$14,703,372

### Board of Directors:

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**Puppies Behind Bars is a non-profit under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, Tax I.D. # 13-3969389.**

PBB has received a four-star rating from Charity Navigator for the past twelve consecutive years. Fewer than 1% of the non-profits measured by Charity Navigator have achieved this distinction.