



## Warriors' Angels Program Definitions

### **Administrative Assistant**

The approved volunteer responsible for assisting a State or Assistant Liaison with the program's related administrative work. See "Warriors Angels Administrative Assistant" volunteer role description for full responsibilities and required skills.

### **American Disabilities Act (ADA)**

Federal law relating to individuals with a medically diagnosed disability ([www.ada.gov](http://www.ada.gov)) including revisions related to "Service Animals" ([www.ada.gov/service\\_animals\\_2010.htm](http://www.ada.gov/service_animals_2010.htm))

### **Applicant**

An individual service member or veteran who has medically been diagnosed with PTSD by their medical "Primary Care Manager (PCM) and submits the program "Application" along with a letter from the PCM that having such service canine will help the individual's quality of life.

### **Assistance Dog International, Inc. (ADI)**

The ADI has established minimum standards for assistance dogs in relation to individual and privately trained assistance canines and have defined the criteria related to the Public Access test for a Team (Handler and Assistance Service Canine). <http://www.assistancedogsinternational.org/standards/assistance-dogs/>

### **Assistant Liaison**

The approved volunteer will be responsible for implementing and overseeing the program within the assigned area within a specific state and reports to the State Liaison volunteer. See "Warriors Angels Assistant Liaison" volunteer role description for full responsibilities and required skills.

### **Assistance Service Canine (ASC)**

A specific canine that has been evaluated, trained, and able to pass the program's Certification with a specific Handler (service member or veteran) who has a need for such canine to improve the Handler's quality of life.

### **Canine Good Citizenship (CGC)**

The AKC "CGC" is designed to reward dogs who have good manners at home and in the community and is a two-part program that stresses responsible pet ownership for owners and basic good manners for dogs. The Warriors' Angels Teams must pass the 10-step CGC test receiving a certificate and a CGC ID tag from the American Kennel Club "AKC Canine Partners" program.

### **Evaluation**

The determination made with a specific canine to be considered as a good candidate for the program and trained with a specific Handler, including the canine's temperament, ability to follow simple commands, and interaction between such animal and the Handler (service member or veteran).



## Warriors' Angels Program Definitions

### **Certification**

The Warriors' Angels "Certification" integrates the AKC "Canine Good Citizenship" (CGC) 10-step program, the ADI recommended "Public Access" (PA) test, and the minimum three (3) ADA tasks that mitigates the Handler's disability into an exam that the Team will take following official training. Please note though there is no formal certification for these service animals at this time, Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet has developed a "certification" for those Teams going through the "Warriors' Angels" program.

**Clarification:** *CERTIFICATION is not required in the USA. Many states lack programs willing to certify dogs that did not go through that program's training course. The DOJ decided to foster "an honor system," by making the tasks the dog is trained to perform on command or cue to assist a disabled person, rather than certification ID from specific programs, the primary way to differentiate between a service animal and a pet. It opened the door for people to train their own assistance dog, usually with the help of an experienced trainer, if a program dog is unavailable.*

### **International Association of Assistance Dog Partners (IAADP)**

IAADP's overall mission is to foster the assistance dog movement in the USA and other countries. As part of this mission, we seek to promote the responsible use of access rights in the disabled community. More details regarding the IAADP and ADA related tasks mitigating the Handler's disability - <http://iaadp.org/iaadp-minimum-training-standards-for-public-access.html> and [http://www.iaadp.org/psd\\_tasks.html](http://www.iaadp.org/psd_tasks.html)

### **Outreach Liaison**

Approved volunteer responsible for promoting the program through media outlets and attending/participating at local events where we have been invited by organizing and setting up an "Information Table" at such events.

### **Primary Care Manager (PCM)**

The individual who is responsible for determining an "assistance service canine" will be a benefit and improve the service member/veteran quality of life.

### **Program Certification Tester**

The individual who has been determined to be qualified to provide the program's "Certification Exam". This service will be provided by a specific service provider with a written agreement between Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet and the specific "Tester" service provider.

### **Program Trainer**

The individual or business (Organization has contracted with) that provides the required training to a specific "Team" (Handler and Assistance Service Canine) in preparation for the program's Certification.

### **State Liaison Volunteer**

The state level approved volunteer responsible for the implementation and overseeing the Warriors' Angels program within their respective state including but not limited to recruiting team specific volunteers, getting the word out about the program to various entities, and where appropriate raising funds for the program. See "Warriors Angels Liaison" volunteer role description for full responsibilities and required skills.



## Warriors' Angels Program Definitions

### **Task**

A task is a certain desired behavior or set of behaviors the dog is trained to habitually perform in response to a command or a particular situation such as the onset of a seizure, which cues the dog to perform a task. The task must be related to the Handler's disabling condition, helping in some way.

### **Warriors' Angels (WA)**

Program developed by Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet© supporting service members and veterans who have been medically diagnosed with "Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder" (PTSD) and official recommendation from their Primary Care Manager (PCM) to us has been received that an "Assistance Service Canine" (ACS) will help improve the service member/veteran's quality of life. The program includes but not limited to animal evaluation, training, certification, and on-going follow up until such time as the Assistance Service Canine can no longer perform the functions it was trained to do or the Team has officially been dropped from the program.

### **Warriors' Angels Assistance Service Canine "Program Vest"**

The program's official vest will consist of "camo" vest which will include the Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet "Warriors' Angels" customized patch, the "Service Dog – Full Access" patch, un-customized ID card, and the ID card holder. In addition during the training period, there is an "In Training" patch tag provided.

Following completion of the program's "Certification" (exams given by an AKC certified CGC evaluator/tester), the "Team" on Graduation day will be provided with a customized laminated ID card which will provide: (1) the Handler's and picture, (2) the Assistance Service Canine's name and picture, (3) city and state the Team resides, and (4) the Organization's logo. In addition, program's official ID card on the reverse side will provide ADA law reference for disabled individuals and their "Assistance Service Canine" regarding full access to a public place.