



Supporting Our Military, Veterans and their Beloved Pets since 2005.

Happy Thanksgiving!

We are thankful for our clients, donors, supporters, volunteers, and those who are just interested to learn what we are doing during the year which has allowed us to move our organization forward everyday serving and supporting our military, wounded warriors, and veterans. Sincerely hope that this Thanksgiving Day everyone will take a few moments to remember our service members who are not home with their families this year and the families whose loved one has paid the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country since 9/11/2001. From all of us at Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet, we wish you, your families and friends a very Happy, Healthy, and Safe Thanksgiving.



Respectfully and Angel HUGS from TX,

Linda Spurlin-Dominik

November 2014

Organization Adds New CEO

Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet© announces that Mr. Rodney W. Symons of the Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas area has joined the organization as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Mr. Symons is a retired Army Colonel with 26 years of service. He served in various leadership positions including battalion and brigade command with his last assignment being Chief of Staff of the Combined Security Transition Command/ NATO Training Mission Afghanistan. Mr. Symons will help guide the organization's strategic vision, build relationships with key military and civilian community officials, and will help to develop the organization's policies. The CEO will under the general direction of the National Board of Directors (BOD) with specific supervision of the National President.

Continued on page 3

Subaru's "Share the Love"

Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet is honored to be included as the local charity for the **Cleo Bay Subaru's Hometown Charity** for the 2014 Subaru "Share the Love" event! Subaru of America has helped support nearly 300 animal shelters, grant more than 600 wishes, fund over one million meal deliveries to seniors, and support over 70 national parks through the "Share the Love" event. This year, Subaru of America is partnering with more than 600 local charities nationwide, helping even more of the causes they all care about. If you purchase a Subaru from the **Cleo Bay Subaru** in **Killeen, TX** between now and January 2, 2015 and select Guardian Angels for Soldiers' Pet as your charity, Subaru will then donate \$250 to our organization! Funds from Subaru "Share the Love" campaign will be allocated to Warriors' Angels program to implement the program in Central Texas.

Organization Launches Warriors' Angels Program in Texas

Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet's Warriors' Angels - TX (WA-TX) program supports TX service members and veterans who have been medically diagnosed with "Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder" (PTSD) and official recommendation has been received that an "Assistance Service Canine" (ACS) will help improve the service member/veteran's quality of life. The program has been developed in accordance with the ADI minimum standards for privately trained "Assistance Dogs".

We were able to implement the program in San Antonio thanks to PetSmart for their \$17,500 donation on May 21st this past spring which covers expense related to 4 Teams (\$3,000 a Team), get an initial order for our promotional brochures, and funds toward the proposed WA Training Facility outside of Gatesville TX.

The organization would like to send a special "thank you" to Liz R. for designing the new Warriors' Angels logo.

On August 1, 2014, the program was implemented in San Antonio, TX with Cherie Boudreaux appointed as the WA Coordination Liaison covering San Antonio area and Cherie Kirk came on board in October 2014 as the WA Outreach Liaison in San Antonio.

By end of 2nd Quarter 2015, the program will be expanded to Central TX covering Fort Hood, Killeen, Temple, Belton, Gatesville, Austin, and other surrounding areas. In addition plans are under way to establish a Warriors' Angels Training Facility at the Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet property located south of Gatesville in Coryell County (approximately 14 miles west of Fort Hood).

We are also pleased to announce we have our first two approved Teams that will begin formal training during the month of January 2015.

Ways to become involved:

Become a Program Volunteer

Become a Program Supporter

Become a Team Supporter

Become a Corporate Sponsor

Organize a 3rd Party Fundraiser

Full details are located at: <http://guardianangelsforsoldierspet.org/warriors-angels-program/waoverview/>

Those interested in contributing to the Warriors' Angels program may do so by clicking the 2nd Donate Now button on our website designated as **Donate Now – WA-TX Program** during this forthcoming holiday season.

(check out our first two teams on page 5!)



Organization Adds New CEO

(continued)

Ms. Linda Spurlin-Dominik, current CEO and Founder, will shift her focus to the day-to-day operations of the organization as the Chief Operations Officer and implementation of the Warriors' Angels program in Central TX as the National Program Director. She and Mr. Symons will work side by side over the next year, as Mr. Symons becomes more involved with the organization.

"We are looking forward to Mr. Symons' new ideas and perspectives of how to move this organization into its eleventh year of operation," said Ms. Jessica Semon, President of the Board of Directors. "Mr. Symons' military experience and leadership skills will be a positive asset to the organization."



Susquehanna Bank's Dog Days of Summer Campaign contributed \$8,540 to help Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet continue the good work that we do in our communities.

Sincere thanks to **The Barry Robinson Center** in Norfolk, VA for their efforts in supporting our mission this past Thursday and Friday. During their 2 day "Forward March" conference in Fayetteville, NC they held an hourly drawing where the winner could select one of the listed military family based charities which included Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet. Each charity chosen from the list receives \$50 when chosen. 100% of the monies received will be allocated to our "Military Pet Assistance" (MPA) fund program. The Barry Robinson Center has been in existence for 81 years and is a nonprofit children's charitable foundation which operates a treatment center for children and adolescents with psychiatric disorders including children from military families. Last year instead of giving out coffee mugs at their conferences they concentrated their efforts on raising money for military family support organizations. As they began this year's conference, Dr. Brooks came across our organization, spoke with the center's director about us and after legal verification, Dr. Brooks added our organization to their list of charities.

The Treasure Shop

Established 1982

44 Broadway, Jim Thorpe, PA

(570) 325-8380

www.PeggysTreasureShop.com

*Unique Gifts at Reasonable Prices
Specializing in Irish Imports & USA*



We will donate **15%** of the profit from your purchase
Offer ends 12/24/2014

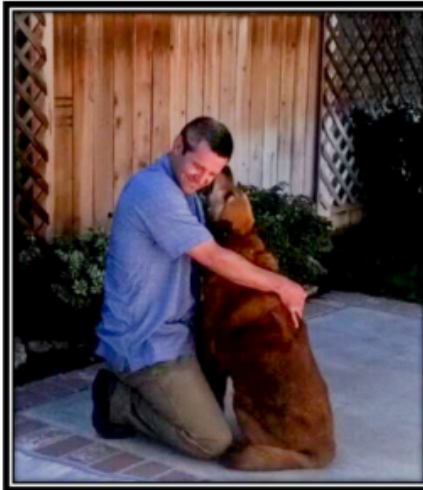
Mention at the time of your Online or In-Store purchase...

Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet

Mission Accomplished Photo Gallery

Right: Peegoo, Mission Accomplished in CA

Below: Ninia, Mission Accomplished in CA



Want to learn more about our Mission Accomplished Pets? Check out our blog, <http://tailsfromthefrontline.wordpress.com> to read their personal stories.

#YouShopAmazonGives

Online shopping through Amazon.com this holiday season?? Make sure you sign-up for Amazon Smile and a portion of your eligible shopping will benefit Guardian Angels For Soldier's Pet! How easy is that, you shop and we benefit!!

When you do your Holiday shopping at AmazonSmile, Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to Guardian Angels For Soldier's Pet. Bookmark the link <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/20-2229425> and support us every time you shop.

Organization Launches Warriors' Angels Program in Texas

(continued)



©Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet | Warriors' Angels Program
www.guardianangelsforsoldierspet.org

Above: Approved ASC Candidate
Chandler
Handler: Kevin W.
San Antonio, TX

*Stay tuned for our next newsletter to
read a personal story from one of
these teams!*

Below: Approved ASC Candidate
Sophie
Handler: James G
San Antonio, TX



©Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet | Warriors' Angels Program
www.guardianangelsforsoldierspet.org

Volunteer Spotlight: Danielle Mancuso, Southeastern Regional Director

Danielle became a volunteer with Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet on October 30, 2013 as the North Carolina "Foster Coordination Liaison" (FCL) as the coordinator between NC pet submissions and potential foster homes that would be a good fit for the beloved pet or pets submitted by their military/veteran pet owners.

At the end of February she stepped up to handle the coordination for the remaining states within the Southeastern Region including FL, GA, KY, MD/DC, SC, TN, VA, and WV. As of March 8th 2014 she accepted the volunteer role of Southeastern Region as the leader associated with the foster coordination efforts in the states of AL, FL, GA, KY, MD/DC, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA, and WV.

Danielle's professionalism and organizational expertise on behalf of Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet in the Southeastern Region as been an instrumental benefit to the organization, our clients, and the volunteers located across the Southeastern Region.



Danielle and her son

Why did you decide to volunteer your time and efforts to Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet?

I had been searching for the perfect volunteer organization for a while. Shortly after having my son and graduating from college last year I came across Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet. After researching the organization, what they do, who they help, and how they help I decided this was the way I wanted to volunteer. As a military spouse and mom to three furbabies, I know that I would want my furbabies to be placed in a foster home that was matched per my pets' needs. By volunteering my time, I am given the opportunity to help other military members and their beloved pets. I am also able to teach my son the importance of giving back to our military community.



We now have a Group on LinkedIn.

Search "**Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet**" in the search bar and join the conversation about our military service members, our veterans and their beloved pets!

Information is posted about what is going on in the organization, so join in order to stay up to date on our activities!

Volunteer Opportunities

Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet like many "All Volunteer" 501c3 nonprofit organizations are only able to operate and accomplish its mission due to the generosity, time, and energy provided by those who wish to make a difference in our society. All of our volunteers are deeply appreciated and are critical in the daily operations of our organization.

Basic Qualifications:

- Have a passion to help our military service members, veterans, and their beloved pets plus work with others who share this passion. (personal opinion about the war should not affect your ability to support our Military)
- Be a self-starter, have excellent organizational, interpersonal, and leadership skills, plus able to work independently and as a "team" player.
- Follow and adhere to the organization's mission, purpose, operating procedures, and organizational policies/guidelines.
- Comfortable using and access to MS office (especially Word and Excel)
- Good and professional communication skills via the Internet, phone calls, and email.
- Previous experience in a specific volunteer role preferred
- Understanding of the military community and ability to interact with our clients.
- Able to commit at least 1 year to the volunteer role

To learn about the different positions needed within the organization, what the process entails, and the to complete an application, visit the Volunteer Section under "Get Involved" on our website.

URL: <http://guardianangelsforsoldierspet.org/ways-to-get-involved/volunteer/>

Foster Coordination Liaison

Immeditate Need in: CO, FL, NC, SC, GA, TX, WA, HI

This position is a virtual volunteer role for Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet at the state level acting on behalf of the organization and responsible for assisting a Military Service Member (MSM), Wounded Warrior, or Veteran in recommending a potential foster home which closely emulates the pet(s) living environment and acting as the liaison between the MSM and the agreed to Foster Home (Guardian Angel) to care for the pet(s) during the foster term.

This position is NOT responsible for fundraising, organizing/attending local events as a representative of the organization, or doing presentations in their assigned state unless discussed and approval given in writing by the National CEO.

More information can be found at: <http://guardianangelsforsoldierspet.org/ways-to-get-involved/volunteer/state-support-teams/foster-coordination-liaison>

Estimated Time per Month: 15-30 hours

Community Outreach Liaison

The primary role of a state Community Outreach Liaison (COL) is to act as the liaison between the organization and the community. The target objectives are: 1) to interact with the military and community news outlets and 2) to representative the organization at information tables at various civilian and military held events within their respective state. Note: If the size of a state warrants multiple volunteers, this role could be divided into two. The National Office will advise if this is necessary.

More information can be found at: <http://guardianangelsforsoldierspet.org/ways-to-get-involved/volunteer/state-support-teams/community-outreach-liaison/>

Estimated Time Per Month: averaging 20--25

Military and Veteran Pet Foster Home Program

The Military and Veteran Pet Foster Home (MVPFH) Program was developed and implemented in January 2005 for active duty military service members whose units have received orders related to a combat or peace-keeping, or humanitarian mission, wounded warriors, and veterans with unforeseen medical and/or homeless hardship situations. The purpose of this program is intended to assist those defined above in locating and placing a pet foster home within our Foster Home network (individuals/families who have registered as a potential foster home that has shown an interest in opening their heart and homes to these beloved pets).

Deployments

- **Active Duty:** single and dual military couples whose units have received deployment orders related to a combat or peacekeeping or humanitarian mission. (Foster term up to 1 year)

Hardships

- **Wounded Warrior:** assistance related to a medical and/or homeless situation by working with the various VA medical assigned representative (mentor, counselor, social work, etc.) or the military Warrior Transition Unit program. (Foster Term up to 1 year)
- **Honorable/General Discharged Veteran:** assistance related to a medical and/or homeless situation by working with the various VA Medical and Homeless Veteran Transition program representatives (mentor, counselor, case manager, etc.) (Foster Term

between 3 – 9 months dependent on situation)

- **Family of Deployed Hero:** assistance related to a medical situation within the family that would have an impact for the family to care for their beloved pet during the spouse's deployment or where the family needs to move in with parents during the deployment and unable to have pets with them. (Foster Term – not to extend deployment term up to 1 year)
- **Military family PCSing:** out of the country or to a different military installation within the continental US and taking their pet(s) with them, but due to airline restrictions (weather related) or regulations related to shots and quarantine requirements pet(s) are unable to travel at the same time as military service member or need to go on waiting list for permanent housing and temporary military housing does not allow for pets. (Foster Term between 3-6 months)
- **Ultimate Sacrifice:** Families impacted by the loss of a loved one (KIA or Suicide related) through the SOS or CAO representative. Family feels with everything unexpected happening at the moment they are unable to properly care for the MSM/ family pet or pets- At the end of the foster term and they have decided not to keep the pet, then the family will be responsible for rehoming their pet or pets (Foster Term up to 3 months)

Military Pet Assistance Fund

The Military Pet Assistance (MPA) fund was developed and implemented in February 2008 to assist with emergency pet care related costs for pets fostered in our MVPFH program when we are unable to reach the legal pet owner and emergency pet care is needed due to an unforeseen emergency medical situation occurs.

These expenses can include but are not limited to:

1. temporary boarding (usually not exceeding 14 days);
2. required veterinary care related to the need for the pet or pets to be spayed/ neutered, heartworm tested, current on all required shots as deemed necessary by the veterinarian;
3. have the pets Microchipped;
4. cover costs for up to 6 months of heartworm/flea/tick meds, and
5. food and treats where the veteran does not have the funds to cover this expense.

Those who are able to contribute to the MPA fund may do so either on-line via PayPal, using the mpa@guardianangelsforsoldierspet.org email or by US mail via check/ money order payable to Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet (Memo Line: MPA) and mail to: Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet, 9725 FM 1783, Gatesville, TX 76528-4739.

Founder Wins Home Instead Senior Care's Salute to Senior Service for the Temple, TX Region

Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet© is pleased to announce that Ms. Linda Spurlin-Dominik, Founder and CEO, has won the **Home Instead Senior Care's Salute to Senior Service Award** for the Temple, TX Region. The award is in recognition of her outstanding volunteer service. The Salute to Senior Service program, in its third year, recognizes the contributions of adults age 65 years and older who give at least 15 hours a month of volunteer service to their favorite causes. Ms. Spurlin-Dominik spends over 40 hours per week volunteering for Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet.

Ms. Spurlin-Dominik has a long list of volunteer hours with military support organizations, but it has been her dedication, passion and continued leadership of the organization that helped her win this award.

"She not only had the vision to create the organization, but also the daily passion to handle the day-to-day operations, develop new programs, wear multiple hats and guide the organization as we enter into the tenth year of service. Her daily dedication and passion for helping our military, veterans and wounded warriors is very evident from the moment you start talking to her," said Jessica Semon, Board President and the individual who nominated Ms. Spurlin-Dominik. "She does all of this with a smile on her face, a passion in her voice, and a deep dedication to give back to our military."

The award ceremony took place on April 9, 2014 at 2:00 pm, at Sammons Community Center in Temple, TX. Not only was Ms. Spurlin-Dominik honored for her charity work, but also for her life and dedication to the community. She was presented with gifts baskets from:

- Cornerstone Garden Nursing & Rehab
- Garden Estates ALC
- Hospice Compassus
- Marcie Conde Encompass Home Health and Rose Conde Professional Medical
- Seton Hospital

Attending the ceremony with Ms. Spurlin-Dominik, were **Cacharina "Katt" Perry**, Operations Leader, Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet and member of the Texas National Guard; **Angelica Emma**, Daughter of MAJ Nancy Emma whose pet Snowball was our first resident of our MVP Sanctuary – Texas; **Lynn Dryer**, Angelica Emma, friend of MAJ Nancy Emma.

On behalf of everyone at Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet, we are extremely happy for Linda and believe that the award is 120% deserving for her passion, dedication, and leadership to a completely ALL Volunteer organization.

Left: Ms. Linda Spurlin-Dominik (l) and Ms. Brandy Firebaugh (r)



Admin Director wins Civilian Volunteer of the Quarter at Ft Hood, Texas

Marlous Put, Admin Director for Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet, was recognized for her outstanding volunteer work by receiving the 21st Cavalry Brigade (Air Combat) Civilian Volunteer of the Quarter award.

The Volunteer of the Quarter awards were presented on February 11, 2014 in Fort Hood, Texas by the 1st Army Division West, 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), United States Army Operational Test Command, Separate Brigades, Battalions, and Partners in Excellence. Also attending the event was Marlous' husband, Command Sergeant Major (CSM) James Put with The Netherlands Training Detachment and 21st Cavalry Brigade (Air Combat), and their children, Jamie and Jade. Linda Spurlin-Dominik, CEO of Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet and appointed American grandmother to Jade Put (Dutch granddaughter), was also in attendance, as well as Cacharina "Katt" Perry, Operations Leader volunteer for the Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet National office in Gatesville, Texas. Katt is also a member of the Texas National Guard.

CSM James Put and his family moved from Holland to Fort Hood in September 2012 to join the Joint Netherlands Training Detachment, a four-year collaborative effort between the US Army 21st Cavalry Brigade (Air Combat) and the Dutch Army. Marlous was eager to help her new community and searched the Fort Hood database of civilian nonprofit volunteer organizations supporting the military and found Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet. She soon became our National office "Admin Director" assisting the CEO with various office administrative efforts.

Starting this month, Marlous will begin covering Fort Hood as our Outreach Liaison, attending and participating in events at Fort Hood, including the Darnell Medical Center, on behalf of Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet. She will also facilitate presentations with various units and on-base organizations, recruit volunteers for Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet, and will be involved in projects associated with the Military, Veterans, & Pet (MVP) Sanctuary – TX in Coryell County and the Warriors' Angels program covering Central Texas.

Congratulations, Marlous and thank you for your continued dedication and hard work!



James, Jade, and Marlous Put with her award

Find us on:

LinkedIn

Facebook

Twitter

YouTube



**Lets never forget their service and sacrifices
made for our country and all of us here
at home yesterday, today, and tomorrow.**

Ways to Get More Involved with our Mission

Register as a Potential Foster Home

Become a part of our State Support volunteer
teams

Contribute

Spread the word

Guardian Angels for Solider's Pet©

National Headquarters

9725 FM 1783 | Gatesville, TX 76528-4739

www.GuardianAngelsforSoldiersPet.org

ALL Volunteer 501c3 Military & Veterans Support Organization - EIN 20-2229425

Copyright © 2005-2014

Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet. All Rights Reserved.

Content within this newsletter is the sole property of Guardian Angels for Soldier's Pet.

Any use of this content without written permission is a violation of copyright laws.