

Neighborhood News: Service dogs for veterans with PTS, TBI

Neighborhood News: Service dogs for veterans

April 20, 2015 -- Dog T.A.G.S. (Train Assist Guide Serve) is a Mechanicsburg-based charitable organization that helps veterans suffering from post traumatic stress disorder and/or traumatic brain injury. The organization currently includes 47 veterans in the program, working with their dog and trainers on a weekly basis. They are at various levels of training but the ultimate goal is for each veteran to train an ADA/ADI qualified Service Dog for each of them.

Dog T.A.G.S. was founded by combat veterans suffering from PTSD who needed to have trained service dogs to help them deal with the pressures of ordinary life. Today, its trainers and social workers are all volunteers.

Dog T.A.G.S. trains the veterans' own dogs to become their loyal Service Dogs. "Service Dogs become the buddy who always has the veteran's back," according to the program. Nights are more bearable with a service dog able to turn on lights and offer solace. Anxious moments are more manageable with a service dog whose touch is calming.

Dog T.A.G.S. is a non-profit 501(c)(3)charitable organization. Learn more at www.dogtagsprogram.org.

