I am asked at least 3-4 times a month why we left our original intent of using rescue dogs as service dogs by the wayside and took up breeding our own. When I founded 4 Paws I saw the use of rescue dogs as service dogs a win/win situation. When we were small and only needed to find less than a handful of dogs at a time it worked. The problem one faces when choosing a dog for service work is that the service dog must be of the highest quality possible. We need to make sure that the dog acts appropriately in public and has no behavioral issues. When searching a shelter for a dog we found that we would need to test 60 dogs to find one who might make it. Even then until this dog settled into life outside the shelter, we will not know if we can use them. Many issues can't be found in a one hour evaluation. As we grew and needed more and more dogs, it became harder and harder to find them. As we grew we also learned so much about the art of placing service dogs and became more selective in what we would accept or not in a dog. By the time we had classes of 5 or more recipients, it was becoming nearly impossible to find enough dogs. If we had 100 dogs in the building more than 50% of them would be up for adoption. Trainers were spending more hours evaluating dogs than they had time for training. It soon became clear that though the idea of using rescue dogs was a valiant one, it was not a practical or cost effective one. For example, currently at any given time we own more than 400 dogs and only 5% of them will be up for adoption! In striving to use dogs who are close as possible to perfect in meeting the overall ideal of a service dog, it was imperative that we moved from rescue to breeding.

Breeding dogs is as much an art as a science. It is something that is a part of our daily conversation at 4 Paws. We devote much time and effort to perfecting our breeding programs. What types of breeds we use and why we breed them is always reviewed in the meetings we have. To date these are the breeds we use and a small piece of information on each. It is interesting to note that some are mixed breed dogs that are purpose bred.
**Golden Retriever**

One of the two most used service dog breeds, Golden Retrievers are very kind-hearted, loving dogs. They are also quite intelligent and trainable. Golden Retrievers live to please those around them making training them far easier than other breeds. They do tend to be more sensitive than the other most popular service dog, the Labrador Retriever. As a general rule, Goldens are friendly towards everyone and very poor guard dogs. They prefer that their owners lead the pack and seldom challenge that leadership. It is easy for our trainers to work with the Golden Retriever and just as easy to transition their leadership and affection to the dog’s new family. At 4 Paws, we use American show line Goldens as well as English, Romanian, and Russian line Goldens. The American line Goldens vary in color from the typical golden color to a deep red and our European lines tend to be a light cream to pure white in color.

**Labrador Retriever**

Along with the Golden the Labrador is one of the most used breeds in the service dog world. The Lab has been hailed as the most popular breed in the United States for years now. Like the Golden they have a kindness about them, and happy/friendly dogs of high intelligence. Labs as a general rule are quite easy to train and because they love everyone, they also transition to their new families quite easily. They are treat motivated and will gladly transition to anyone who feeds them. Our Labs tend to be tougher than our Goldens and as such are the better choice for those kids who are likely to play hard and rough or to be unpredictable although we do also find some who are more sensitive. At 4 Paws we use the English Labrador Retriever and not the American Field Lab. The English type Labs tend to be stockier and more laid back then their counterpart, the American Field Lab bred specifically for hunting.

**GOLDEN LAB**

One of the mixed breed dogs that we breed here at 4 Paws we call a Golden Lab and are just as you would think looking at the name, a Golden Retriever and Labrador Retriever mix. By mixing the breeds we get a more rounded dog all the way around. Many times we see them being a bit tougher while still being somewhat sensitive. In the 50/50 crosses we almost always get short hair and yet the hair will be much softer than the purbred Lab. Basically the Golden Lab seems to get the best of two phenomenal breeds.

**Goldendoodle**

Another mixed breed dog that we breed here at 4 Paws is the Goldendoodle. Our Goldendoodles are mainly first generation, meaning they are half Standard Poodle and half Golden Retriever. However, as we strive to meet the needs of families who have more severe allergies we are also breeding some Goldendoodles who are more Poodle than Golden. It is definitely true in this mixed breed dog that the dog gets the best of both breeds. Goldendoodles are thicker, bigger, and stronger built than the Standard Poodle and have a stronger, more outgoing personality as well. They typically follow the temperament of the Golden while many, but not all, are also hypoallergenic like the Standard Poodle. The coolest thing about this mixed breed is that they are almost always super cute and look like a stuffed animal you would find in a toy store.
Ben’s Corner, Continued

Golden Retriever  Labrador Retriever  GOLDEN LAB  Goldendoodle

These four breeds make up about 80% of our population of dogs here at 4 Paws. What runs through all four is their cute features, sweet personalities, and inviting, non-threatening appearance. It is important when placing a service dog, especially when placing with the child that the dog act as a social bridge and not serve to further isolate the child. By using breeds that are not only intelligent and easily trained but also well known for their friendly personality it is more likely they will be well received in the community.

That being said the breeds above are just not right for every single one of our kids or veterans. Because we work with kids who have any disability rather than limiting our placements to just kids with autism, or just kids with seizures, and so forth, we also have worked to maintain breeding programs in smaller numbers knowing that rarely do our kids fit into a single category in their needs. Because of this we are always looking at breeds and trying new ones, or even new mixes. As we work to have a pool of dogs to meet all of our recipient needs, both the kids with their many varied disabilities and the needs of the veterans we serve, we continue to breed at a lower number some other breeds.

Standard Poodle

When we get families with allergies, typically we can meet their needs with a Goldendoodle. However, some of our families have allergies that are more severe and the only dog they can have, if any, is a pure Poodle. Poodles, at least the lines we have, tend to be more sensitive than the more popular breeds here. While they are happy, friendly dogs, they do tend to be more reserved and tend to bond more strongly to one person rather than the entire family. Poodles are highly intelligent and trainable dogs, in fact they are typically one of the top three breeds on any list quoting the most intelligent breeds of dogs. The Poodle is a more graceful, and dainty breed than the Labs, Goldens, and Goldendoodles and will not always work for every family regardless of their need for a hypoallergenic dog. For this reason it will sometimes take us longer to place a dog when the family is limited to only this breed especially if they need skills that require a stronger dog, like tethering. That being said, we are always working towards perfecting every breed and mix that we use here at 4 Paws and continue to develop our Standard Poodle line to achieve a line that is a better fit for a larger percentage of our recipients.

Papillon

When it comes to using a small breed dog there is no better option than the Papillon. Happy, loving, and fun dogs who unlike most toy breeds are typically confident and adaptable. Papillons, like Poodles also tend to bond more closely to one member of a family than to the family as a whole. It is important that the child be able to foster and nurture this bond. Papillons do not just bond, but they bond “fiercely” and loyally like a German Shepherd Dog (GSD)! For this reason, Papillons are the number one choice for Diabetic Alert here at 4 Paws and are used for other types of alert as well providing the recipient can bond to this small dog safely. Certainly the recipient must be able to understand that the small dog is frailer and needs to be treated more gently than their larger dog peers here at 4 Paws. To continue to strive towards the perfect service dog Papillon we are using dogs obtained in America, Germany, Sweden, and Switzerland.
Ben’s Corner, Continued

**German Shepherd**

The first service dog ever, was a Guide Dog named Buddy. Originally GSDs were used exclusively. Back then, the most common service dog users were veterans. Shepherds are extremely courageous, confident, and most than willing to take the leadership role if their human doesn’t. It is well known that they would gladly give their life for their human. They bond loyally with their human partners and don’t transfer that loyalty easily. Because of this it is harder to transition them from the trainer to the new family. Like the early guide dog trainers, for the most part, our GSDs are also placed with veterans although occasionally we will place them in homes where the parents are more experienced dog handlers, especially if the GSD in question has a softer personality. We have worked very hard to perfect our German shepherd lines here at 4 Paws trying to encourage a line that is not as suspicious and protective as usual by carefully selecting our breeding dogs.

**German Retriever**

Here at 4 Paws we call the cross between a Golden Retriever and a GSD, a German Retriever. We began to breed this mix several years ago as we were striving to perfect the tracking program. When it comes to tracking ability German Shepherds certainly rank up there in the top breeds tested for superior tracking abilities. This is why you often see them in search and rescue, as drug detection dogs in the police force, and drug and bomb detection dogs in the military. By crossing them with a Golden we are seeing a dog that is less aloof than the traditional GSD, leaning towards being the social butterfly the Golden is. They are more likely to bond to families rather than one person, though they will always know which child is their partner. They tend to get the tracking ability of the GSD but the overall friendly, inviting personality of the Golden. In addition they are usually fluffy, friendly, and inviting in looks making them more acceptable in public. Many people still view the GSD as a police or guard dog so they are more intimidating to people than the fluffy fun loving German Retriever.

**Collie**

Everyone knows Collies, or Lassie dogs, from the popular older TV series Lassie, as well as the many Lassie movies. Over the years we have had several Collies donated to us and found them to be gentle, nurturing dogs. The Collie is a newer breed to 4 Paws and one we are working with small scale to see if we can develop a successful line. Clients seem to enjoy their pictures and many have said they would love to receive a Collie as their service dog. Their success will be determined by placement to drop out rate. When adding any new breed, first there must be a reason or need. With Collies we were hoping to have a line of dogs who would be very nurturing and as such a good fit for more severely disabled children who could use a dog that will “mother” them a large part of the day. Ever watchful and concerned, the Collie seems to know their job in the home and would likely be willing to spend hours just laying with their child to keep them company. We are hoping to develop a line like this here to meet this very specific need. As nurturing dogs their use in seizure work may also be further investigated as we work with the breed.

---

**Risin’**

*German Shepherd*  
Stars Litter  
09/18/2011

**Torch & Jericho**  
*German Retrievers*  
From the 2009 training program

**Keeva**  
*Collie*  
Acquired  
04/20/2011

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DONATE NOW!  
Donate to our Building Fund!
With our breeding program no matter what the breed there are areas we work on perfecting on a daily basis. The first and most important aspect in breeding the right service dog is temperament. As we develop each breed we are careful to only keep dogs in the program who would pass the testing to be service dogs. In addition data is kept on each litter so that we know what the dog is producing. If we see a dog is producing a trait not compatible with service dog work we will first note not to repeat the breeding. With female dogs, generally you will know by the second litter if they will produce puppies that will be successful in the program and often dogs are spayed after their second litter if they are producing a certain negative trait, such as suspicion, at a high level with different sires. With the males it may take several breedings to come to the same conclusion. At 4 Paws in some lines we are into our 3rd and 4th generations and as such when we breed a dog we know exactly what we will be getting. As the lines are developed and nurtured, we are able to perfect our breeding program by purpose breeding. By purpose breeding I mean breeding for a specific trait or quality. For example breeding for sensitive dogs who would excel at scent work or breeding for tracking ability.

The next and equally important task in perfecting the breeding program is breeding for a sound body. Service dogs need to be sound in body and mind. Each breeding dog is tested for the “known” genetic conditions for their breed. So, all large dogs are screened for hip and elbow dysplasia and only dogs with good to excellent hips, as well as normal elbows are used for breeding. In addition eye exams are done, hearts are checked, and in smaller dogs knees are checked for luxation of the patellas. Collies are screened for Collie eye and Papillons are screened for PRA, both eye issues that could lead to blindness. When we buy dogs for our breeding program to bring in new lines we are very careful to only purchase from responsible breeders who test their own dogs before breeding and have successful lines free from the typical medical problems associated with their breed. However, no matter how carefully you plan and screen, dogs can still produce health issues. We keep a running log on each dog showing the litters produced and if any of the puppies were dropped for medical issues. We are careful not to repeat breedings once we know a certain health problem exists.

Finally, though one could argue it is not necessary with working dogs, we work to perfect the looks and conformation of the dogs we breed. We feel it is important to breed a dog that meets breed standard whenever possible. It is also important to us, because our dogs act as a social bridge, that they be physically inviting. We love to hear our clients say that they are told frequently how beautiful their dogs are. As responsible breeders we breed for the total dog; sound in mind, body, and personality. At 4 Paws, part of breeding a sound of body dog, includes being physically appealing. We purchase dogs for our breeding program from kennels who also breed for the total dog. Often the dogs are from top show lines and we even have some Champions in our breeding program! I don’t think anyone can argue the fact, looking through the dogs we have in training, that 4 Paws For Ability does indeed breed beautiful dogs.

Will we ever truly meet perfection in breeding the perfect service dog? I think perfection is an ever changing ideal. We work to breed what would be considered the perfect dog and our goals are always changing and evolving to go a step further towards an ideal, perfect in every aspect, service dog. Can we ever reach that goal, I certainly hope so, but in working with dogs, it is like working with people. Each one is unique. So how do we know if we are reaching towards perfection? When our dogs exceed the conformational and temperament standard for their breed and excel at the job they were bred to do. Ultimately, when the family who receives each dog finds that dog to be the perfect match for their family and that they can’t even begin to imagine themselves with any other service dog...that’s pretty perfect.
...that Raoul is going to enrich Sean's life, give him more independence and provide comfort, friendship and support. He truly completes our family! 1/2 way through- Raoul (and Jennifer) are training us!

-Niamh Kristufek
Sean & Raoul

...That Tiago and Danyelle will have that same perfect bond that Manta [our first service dog] and Danyelle have.

-Deanna Wallace
Danyelle & Tiago

...That Pearl will be an amazing addition to our family life, especially Ethan's. She's the perfect balance between energy, sweetness, and knowledge to give Ethan the extra support in life.

-Amanda Drossulis
Ethan & Pearl
Good day, good, good, day. Piper is away on travels...again. Good for her, and good for me! She left me in charge! She also left me with lots of instructions. I swear I took notes, but they’re lost...or got eaten...or maybe I forgot to take them. I don’t know, I’m new at this being in charge thing. I’m pretty sure she told me to do all sorts of things, but I can’t really be sure. If it were serious she would have called to check in, don’t you think?

Unfortunately, the minion assistants she left me with need some training - they’re making my super duper, extra important, super stealthy job assignment pretty complicated. The big ones don’t know how to send emails and the little bald ones can’t even use a camera. I mean, I’m doing everything around here! What’s that? You want to know what my special job is? Well, keep this between us...but Piper told me that construction on the new part of our building is almost complete! While Karen is away, I’m supposed to make up some signs to mark all the new rooms and set up some things so that it’s all ready to go when Karen comes back! Piper wanted to make sure that all the humans are aware of how things are going to work in the new building. She doesn’t want a hair out of place - and since we have lots of stray hairs to spare, this is a big responsibility. Now, I think this is the part where those notes would have come in handy. I don’t really remember what everything is. But I’m almost positive I got it all straightened out - with a few, minor, changes! Check out the floor plan. It’s everything that I think we need - Piper’s Palace, a place for her minions to do their work, our very own spa, comfy, fluffy beds, and of course, a small office of my own. I mean, as Piper’s assistant, I’m going to need some space. Obviously. We left plenty of space for the other dogs. I mean, they’re important too (kinda). Their new work space isn’t done yet, it’s in the old building, but I thought I would mark it now so that no one forgets.

Dear Hi Five Construction,
I spoke with Karen...she agreed to ax the puppy pens and turn that space into a Papillon spa. Also she agreed to give up her office for me. Make it purple, like the royals and put in a chandelier please!

-Belle Ame
So back to that pack of minions. I asked them for help getting you pictures. It was a train wreck. I tried to get them all in hard hats, but the hats were all way too big. I tried giving everyone a hat buddy, but you try to get two minions to walk in the same direction at the same time. Since we do our super secret stealth work at night, I even brought the headlamps. But the crew was a fumbling, bumbling mess. Bowls were crashing, there was a small fire, and I think someone nibbled on the master plan.

The good news is that I’ve seen it all and I’ll tell you about it. I saw the dog food kitchen and even put my name on my very own bowl. I called dibs on one for Piper too! The veterinary area for Doc C is almost ready to go too. I’ve been especially careful to keep on his good list, as I’ve got no interest ending up there for anything other than a hello. The other dog space looks so good. It’s so bright in there and no plastic kennels to be seen! Clean and clutter free is the new motto. Now, I told you I made a few changes to accommodate my new office and Piper’s palace, but I’m sure they can make those changes quickly. Like painting Piper’s space pink and mine purple, so that everyone knows where we live.

Since I couldn’t get the minions into the construction area, I had to (gasp) call a person for some assistance. She got some more pics of the outside, but these have me in them so they are infinitely better than anything you’ve seen of our building project. Up top, you see me dreaming about pup-peroni®. The human was trying to get the pup-peroni® loading dock in the background, but I don’t really care. All you need to know about that is pup-peroni® is my favorite. Below that you can see some office windows. Mine and Piper’s to be exact. I don’t know where the human desks are going, but they aren’t going there any more. And then at the bottom is probably the best part of this whole update. THE GRASS IS BACK! Do you know that those wretched construction people took all of our grass...for months?!? It was awful, especially for the big dogs. All kinds of spring fever was happening here. But look at it! It’s wonderful! I mean, I wouldn’t set paw in it because there was mud, but that servant human I called brought me a mat to sit on, so it was ok.

Alright, well I’m pretty sure this is what Piper told me to take care of. Update the building plan and get out an update to you. She’ll be back next time to tell you all about her travels...somewhere fancy called “Switz-er-land”. Where ever that is. Hopefully, she leaves me in charge again soon. I like this strong, independent, lady in charge thing!

--Belle Ame, Vice-Pap, Acting Minion Leader
What: 
$50,000 Match Challenge

Who: 
The Hatton Foundation

Why: 
The Hatton Foundation has pledged $50,000 to our building fund, if an additional $50,000 is raised.

When: 
Match must be met by Dec. 1, 2015

Where: 
Donate directly to the fund online http://bit.ly/HattonMatch

Use our Donate Now page and indicate Hatton Match with your donation! http://bit.ly/4PawsDonate
Service Ewoks on the Loose!
4 Paws participates in National Museum of the USAF’s SpaceFest
By Jaki Waggamon

4 Paws for Ability was invited to participate in Space Fest at the National Museum of the United States Air Force on May 16, 2015. This event featured more than 20 partner organizations, space and STEM activities, a 5K, and costumed characters. Pal, golden retriever, and Dash, golden lab were onsite for photo ops and lots of spoiling. The pair stopped to check out the outdoor bounce house spaceship before it got too windy. They also toured the new space shuttle exhibit and saw a space toilet (no artifacts were soiled, promise!). They met R2D2 and the rest of the Star Wars gang, a few Star Trek visitors, and even Bumblebee (“uh, excuse me, what is THAT” - Pal). 4 Paws was happy to participate in this event, allowing so many visitors the opportunity to take pictures with the service ewoks. This was a great event for 4 Paws too, as the new sights and sounds are wonderful socialization experiences for puppies.

Thank you to the National Museum of the USAF and we look forward to participating again next year!

Salute to Armed Forces
4 Paws and the Cincinnati Museum Center celebrate veterans!
By Jaki Waggamon

On May 16-17 the Cincinnati Museum Center celebrated our military members with their Salute to Armed Forces Weekend. This event helped to open their summer special exhibit, Treasures of Our Military Past, honor veterans from all wars. Activities were planned for the weekend and local organizations that support veterans, including 4 Paws for Ability, were invited to set up in the rotunda and share their work with visitors. On Saturday Kelly Camm, Development Director, and Lucy, 4 Paws Ambassador and Heidi Vollrath, Courtney Howard, and SDIT Nikolai womanned and pawed the table on Saturday. They even received a visit from Leah, a fundraising 4 Paws kiddo! Leah’s dad serves in our armed forces, so it was an especially fun visit for them. Sunday, a new set of paws took over. SDIT Dash and Pal, with their humans Nick and Jaki Waggamon, and SDIT Fox, and his human Beth Kupferle met with visitors and veterans. This was a wonderful event for 4 Paws to engage with the local community and a great training opportunity for the dogs in training who heard bagpipes, saw a flyover, and met lots of sweet, happy kiddos.
Top of the Class
Congrats to all of the graduates in our 4 Paws University Program!

Wittenberg University

Kit Kat
-Anna Jackson - Spanish & Sociology
-Abbie Henry - Education
-Carrie Schmaus - Biology

Giselle
-Allie Ogden - English
-Julie Cascino - Economics & English

Cinderella
-Taylor Hurl -Biology
-Valerie McCandlish - International Studies & Spanish

Gale
-Sarah Nelson - Psychology
-Chelsea Tietz - Psychology

Darya
-Christen Nagy - Biology
-Brianna Dudley - Psychology

Mirage
-Kelly McLean - Psychology
-Alena Mohler - Art

Radar
-Michelle Brumm - Biology
-Alyssa Hughes - Religion & English

DONATE NOW!
Donate to our Building Fund!
Top of the Class
Congrats to all of the graduates in our 4 Paws University Program!

University of Kentucky

CK
Bennett Baber
Health Communication

Lollipop
Ally Buchanan
Business Management and Marketing

Beyonce
Taylor Melton
Hospitality Management and Tourism & Business Marketing

Wright State University

Jupiter
Katie Anderson
Biology

Twingo
Patricia Wightman
Social Work

Megara
Josh Frees
Psychology

DONATE NOW!
Donate to our Building Fund!
Top of the Class
Congrats to all of the graduates in our 4 Paws University Program!

Cedarville University

Adara
-Tess Yake - Nursing

Derpy
-Sarah Lynn Market - Nursing

The College of Wooster

Bucky
-Colleen Compliment - Psychology
-Rachel Sell - Biology
-Maddie Flynn - Communication Sciences and Disorders
-Heidi Strike - Anthropology

Thank you so much to all of our university program graduates!

DONATE NOW!
Donate to our Building Fund!
“Distance can be measured. Love cannot. Love will always overcome distance.”

When you think of 4 Paws you probably think of Ohio, maybe the neighboring states of Kentucky and Indiana. So when I tell you that Jane Schrier and Gail Anderson are awesome volunteers - and they live in Colorado - you might be a little surprised. These two found 4 Paws in a bit of a nontraditional way, but like all 4 Paws volunteers, once they were in, they were hooked and their love cannot be measured. Their first contact with 4 Paws was online. A video of a German Shepherd had been shared, but it wasn’t the German Shepherd that caught Gail’s attention. It was the tiny, sweet little Paps in the background that had her eye. Jane and Gail both had miniature schnauzers for years, but have more recently moved into the Papillon world where they found the breed to be loving, willing to work, easy to train, and great at therapy work. Gail had been looking to add a female Papillon to her home for sometime, but wasn’t having any luck finding a trusted breeder with an available female. “It was the year of the boy.”

Enter Eve, from the Wall-E litter. A perfect, active, spunky, busy little lady. From the beginning Karen wasn’t sure 4 Paws would be able to find an active enough service dog job for her. After getting to know Gail and trying to help her find the right pup for her through Papillon breeder friends, Karen realized she was looking at the busy girl Gail needed for her dream puppy; good for therapy work, and active and hard working enough for dog shows in obedience, rally, and agility. Eve, now Jolene was obviously born for agility work and so she quickly became a 4 Paws career changer - no less important, but obviously meant for something different.

After welcoming Jolene to Colorado, Gail and Jane quickly realized 4 Paws would be a long term part of their lives. Jane points out that while she does not have children of her own, she believes that it takes a village to raise a child. She wanted to be a part of the 4 Paws village and believes that volunteering time or donating money to organizations that help children grow is a wonderful way to be part of a village. Jane is particularly active in our fundraisers, helping with everything from the monthly bow raffle (which she once won) to purchasing a Hope Brick, which will be included in the memorial garden at the new facility. Her brick honors her 16 year old papillon, who recently crossed the rainbow bridge.

Since Jolene joined Gail in Colorado, Bijoux from the Jewels litter has also taken to mountain living. When Jane was in Ohio to gather her new...
gemstone, Karen had an idea. Not everyone is right to foster a Papillon…but Jane and Gail were experienced, and 4 Paws was considering expanding their foster radius to include hubs across the country. Gail and Jane would be a great trial run, and she had a lovely Pap, Mani, in mind for them.

You can imagine Gail’s surprise when Jane called to tell her that, if she was interested, two Paps could be heading to Colorado, bringing their 4 Paws pap count up to 3. They decided that this was definitely an adventure they wanted to be in on. Gail and Jane have found Mani to be the happiest and friendliest pup. They say that he brings joy to everyone he meets. He fits right in with his new foster siblings, Gail’s Paps Jolene and Nellie, her birds and fish, and Jane’s Paps Bijoux and Amelia. Plus, he is a great ambassador for 4 Paws and perhaps one day Gail and Jane will be able to start a fostering hub in their area of Colorado and encourage others to foster a 4 Paws service dog in training.

Jane and Gail may be states away but their commitment is no less. They wear t-shirts and start conversations and generate interest. They follow along on social media and watch classes meet their pups, and train, and graduate with their new helper and best friend. They donate and encourage others to find their village and do the same. They are dedicated and wonderful advocates. Jane even says some day, in retirement, she’d love to spend months of the year at 4 Paws volunteering. It can’t be said enough; you can measure their distance from Xenia, OH, but it is hard to measure their love for 4 Paws.

Thank you Jane & Gail, you are Star Volunteers!
5 Litters, coming to foster homes near you soon!

Cheese Litter
Nika x Graffiti
Golden Retriever
05/19/2015

Ice Age Litter
Salsa x Nome
Goldendoodle
06/05/2015

Opera Litter
Amika x Eggster
Golden Labs
06/21/2015

Geography Litter
Mona x Graffiti
Golden Lab
06/18/2015

SVU Litter
Beta x Doodlebug
Goldendoodle
06/22/2015
### 4 Paws Puppy Program

#### 2015 Puppy Count

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*Images of puppies included for visual reference.*
On Thursday, May 18, 4 Paws was invited to attend the Magnified Giving award ceremony at the Mayerson Jewish Community Center in Cincinnati. The Student Philanthropy Program is the cornerstone program of Magnified Giving. The concept is simple - give a group of high school students the opportunity to invest a sizable amount of money into the Greater Cincinnati non-profit community. Empower them to become junior philanthropists, entrusting them to wisely invest valuable financial resources. Introduce them to philanthropists and foundation representatives, allow them to make decisions and develop leadership skills, and set high expectations for them, having them be accountable for their decisions.

Indian Hill High School selected 4 Paws this year as its charity recipient and awarded 4 Paws $1,000. The selection process began when 4 Paws was invited to complete a grant application. After that, Kelly Camm (and SDIT Dickens) were invited to the school during the exploratory phase of the students’ project. Then the students asked to speak directly to one of our clients. They spoke to Grayson Lunsford’s mom, Margaret (thank you for the glowing recommendation, Margaret!–Grayson and Lincoln have been a service dog team since November 2014). Lastly, Kelly and SDIT Bucky, attended the check presentation. The money will be used towards Bucky’s care and training while he is on his service dog journey. Once Bucky is matched with a child or veteran, the students will be invited to attend the graduation.

This is the third consecutive year that 4 Paws has received money from this unique program. We are thankful to the Indian Hill students for your faith in our work. A special thank you to the founder of Magnified Giving, Roger Grein, for putting together this program to teach our young people.

Thank you Magnified Giving!

Vet Clinic Supports 4 Paws for Veterans

Keystone Veterinary Clinic in Stow, Ohio, held a fundraiser this May to support the 4 Paws for Veterans program. They raised $600, which will benefit Ian Williams, an Air Force veteran getting his service dog in July.

Thank you Keystone Vet Clinic!
Tanya Johannes passed away in November 2010 from SUDEP, Sudden Unexplained Death in Epilepsy. Tanya had been suffering seizures for the past 11 years and was only 25 years old at the time of her death. In 2015 her family and friends will host their fourth 5K in Tanya’s memory.

4 Paws Staff Stars

Tony Gastineau, is a volunteer turned employee. He has been the maintenance coordinator for 2 years, and though he is part-time, it seems like he can be spotted on the grounds tinkering, tooling, and making sure everything is still going all the time. It’s been especially interesting with the rain and heat and more rain this summer. When Tony isn’t greasing the wheels on the 4 Paws machine, he likes to keep moving - fishing, bow hunting, and physical fitness. He doesn’t have any pups of his own at home, but you’d never guess. Every single pup who passes near Tony wants to be with him, and I’m not sure it has anything to do with the treats he carries. Tony says the pups make the job - he’s gotten other job offers and just isn’t interested. He says 4 Paws has a big heart, and that’s what he wants to be a part of. Since being here, Tony says he’s developed a deeper love of animals than he had before. He loves to watch pups go out into foster homes, especially the mommas, who need loving families so that they can pass on the love.

Chelsie Jordan heard about 4 Paws through her brother. Since joining the 4 Paws team, Chelsie has become the day shift kennel manager. When she’s not at work Chelsie loves to be outside fishing, camping, and having bonfires. You have to love dogs to work at 4 Paws, but Chelsie says it’s being able to interact with dogs that are so important to others lives that makes her heart whole. At home she gets plenty of puppy love too - from her 3 fur kids, Breezy, Rosco, and Rambo. When asked what she’s learned from 4 Paws, she says it isn’t just one thing and most of it is hard to put into words. The easy part is that she’s learned to handle stress better and she seeks to find calm. If you’ve been to 4 Paws recently, there is construction, and dogs, and people, and all sorts of things going on, so that’s no easy task. Still, it makes the work meaningful and full of purpose.

Congratulations!

This year Tanya’s family has selected 4 Paws to receive a portion of the funds raised. The event will take place in Akron, NY. If you or someone you know lives in the area, please let them know about this event and consider participating.

You can find a registration form and brochure here: http://bit.ly/4PawsGDrive

Tanya’s Trot for Epilepsy

Sept. 20, 2015
2:00 pm

Akron Falls Park
Skyline Drive at Crittenden Road
Akron, NY 14001

http://www.tanyasteam.org
The Eighth Annual FurBall was an overwhelming success! We want to extend our sincerest gratitude to all those that helped make the night so rewarding. Students and professors really went all out in participating with the 1920’s speakeasy casino night theme, looking as if they dropped right out of the era and into The Loft. It really made the night fun for all. We also want to thank the professors for their time in volunteering as dealers. It is always a great experience for students and faculty to interact outside the busy world of veterinary medicine. We also wanted to thank all the students who went above and beyond helping make the 50/50 Raffle so successful. We were able to add $6,398 to the 4 Paw For Ability Donation Fund.

With the help of our fantastic sponsors, we reached our goal, and then some! The Class of 2017 was able to raise over $11,500 to donate to 4 Paws For Ability! This money will cover the cost of one ability dog entirely and the majority of another. These service animals will change families’ lives and we could not be happier! We will stay in contact with 4 Paws For Ability to see where the dogs are placed and how they have impacted the families’ lives.

We would like to thank The Ohio State College of Veterinary Medicine Alumni Society for being our top sponsor this year. Without them this event would not have been possible. We also want to thank our many other amazing sponsors including: The Inter-Professional Council, The Loft, Thirsty Dog Brewing Co., Yellow Tail Wine, Embrace Pet Insurance, The OVMA Royal Canin, Antech Diagnostics, Dean Lonnie King, Patterson Veterinary Supply, The Garrett Family, Boehinger-Ingelheim and The Ohio Animal Health Foundation. We cannot thank our sponsors enough for their support of our event. We were able to show that there are generous companies that really do care about helping better the lives of others in the community.

Thank you again to all those involved in making this FurBall such a smashing success!!
By Jaki Waggamon

The day certainly didn’t look like it would turn out to be much of a good one. It was cold, dreary, and there was a looming worry of rain. But 4 Paws had plans, and a little cold never stopped puppies from being cute. There was quite the crowd of people and pups onsite, in addition to a handful of virtual participants. This was the biggest year so far, with 107 participants, allowing 4 Paws to make almost $3500. Congratulations to Scott Gayfield the 5K winner with a time of 17:36. Male and female top runners in all of the age brackets also received a top dog medal for their achievement.

Since weather didn’t seem to deter participation, you’ll likely see the 4th annual event taking place next April. Everyone would rather run in a little cold than the August heat!
The Big Give

The Big Give is a 24-hour online giving rally, organized by the Columbus Foundation. It features nonprofit organization across the greater Columbus community. This year’s Big Give bonus pool meant that each organization received an extra 10.3% on their donation, and we are happy to announce that this year’s total donation during the Big Give is $1764.87.

Thank you Columbus Foundation!

Big Supporters

Eisai has been a steadfast friend and we are so appreciative of them. They have donated $30,000 this year. Their donations will be supporting 4 children receiving seizure alert dogs, to sponsor the April 5K, and to support the upcoming open house of the new building.

What a wonderful gift they are to us! We are so appreciative of all the good people at Eisai!

Thank you Eisai!

Quarter Auction

The Beavercreek & Xenia Networking Group hosted a quarter auction in May to benefit 4 Paws for Ability. Dash, Lotus, Silena, and Rye were on hand to meet and greet with participants. The event raised $711 for the 4 Paws Building Fund.

Thank you ladies!

High on Art & Coffee

Ellie and Tim Harmon came in contact with 4 Paws through their great-niece Gianna, who is currently waiting on her service dog. They decided early this year that they would donate their tips to 4 Paws, as a way to pay it forward. They have already donated almost $900.

To our students, family, and friends in Lexington, KY be sure to check them out!

Thank you High on Art & Coffee!
Your 4 Paws school teams!
Hope Bricks for 4 Paws Memory Garden

Don’t forget that you can purchase a hope brick to be displayed in the 4 Paws Memory Garden. The garden will be located next to the new main entrance of our building and adjacent to the front porch. You can honor a loved one (person, pet, or service dog) in the garden.


Kohl’s Cares Winner

Emily Cox of Lyndhurst, OH was recently named a local winner of the Kohl’s Cares Scholarship program. Nominees are between the ages of 6 and 18 and are selected based on their volunteer work. Emily helped one of our kiddos, Evan Brosky, fundraise in order to receive his service dog. Evan’s mom nominated Emily for this award.

Congratulations Emily!

Student Spends Time at 4 Paws

Teays Valley High School senior Maddie Perry put in some extra long and fluffy hours this school year. With Development Director, Kelly Camm, serving as her senior mentor Maddie sold bracelets, sent out a mailing for our 5K and worked the event, sent out thank you notes, and of course visited our site to play with puppies! 4 Paws is always in need of helping hands and Maddie’s work was super helpful to ensuring that 4 Paws continues to accomplish its mission.

Thank you Maddie!

Witt Magazine Cover Story

The Wittenberg Magazine is no small circulation. More than 30,000 alumni and prospective students receive each copy, plus it can be read online...and this spring 4 Paws made the cover. Wittenberg was our founding college program and continues to be active in ensuring our puppies get the best socialization opportunities.


Thank you author Leigh Hall, and all of our Witt fosters!

DONATE NOW!
Donate to our Building Fund!
Thanks to all our donors! *(Over $5,000, May-June 2015)*

**Round of Appaws!**

- Bashcraft Enterprises LLC - $6,122
- John C. Hench Foundation - $5,000
- Make-A-Wish Foundation - $13,076
- Richard Boyle - $14,000
- Eisai Inc - $18,000
- Dayton Freight Lines - $5,000
- Chardith Foundation - $25,000
- First Baptist Church, Inc - $7,370
- The Petco Foundation - $5,000
- Sheila Papez - $5,000
- Gerald & Carole Miller Family Foundation - $10,000
- Delaware Valley Veterinary Hospital, P.C. - $5,000
- Make-A-Wish Foundation of Nebraska Inc. - $14,000

Did you know that you can help our kiddos fundraise with a donation on our website?

Find out more here: [http://www.4pawsforability.org/dream](http://www.4pawsforability.org/dream)

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**4PAW PRINTS**

4 Paws For Ability

253 Dayton Ave.
Xenia, OH 45385

DO YOU HAVE A STORY OR PHOTOS TO SHARE WITH 4PAW PRINTS?

SEND IT TO JAKI WAGGAMON AT MEDIA4PAWS@GMAIL.COM!