



Puppy Raiser Job Description

TITLE: Puppy Raiser

OBJECTIVE:

To maximize the potential of successfully entering advanced training, the volunteer puppy raiser teaches the puppy basic skills, house manners, and crucial socialization by providing a nurturing and enriched upbringing.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Provide love, support, training, socialization and an invaluable in-home experience for a Paragon puppy for 10 to 12 months.
- Provide a safe, secure, loving home with appropriate food, toys, and crate.
- The raiser needs to supply treats, replacement items, and transportation costs.
- Keep the puppy well-groomed and healthy.
- Teach the puppy basic skills and appropriate behavior using Paragon's cues and techniques.
- Promote confidence in the puppy and an eagerness to work through positive reinforcement.
- Follow Paragon Service Dogs' procedures and guidelines.
- Attend mandatory puppy classes once a week.
- Provide age appropriate outings and experiences for socialization.
- Complete and submit puppy evaluations and reports in a timely manner.
- Seek assistance as needed from the Volunteer Coordinator and trainers.
- Volunteer when possible and help raise awareness for Paragon's mission when you're out and about.
- Have fun with and enjoy your puppy!

PARAGON RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Dog food, dog equipment (leash, collar, crate, vest), and preventatives are covered by Paragon.
- All routine veterinary care is covered.
- Support and consistent communication with knowledgeable staff to answer questions, troubleshoot, and problem-solve any areas of concern in person, over the phone, or by email throughout the raising period.
- Weekly puppy classes and group meetings.
- Continuing education opportunities.
- Newsletters with links to informative videos on training techniques.
- Dedicated Puppy Raising Resource portal.
- Monthly training updates when the dog has been accepted into the program and continued on to advanced training.
- Relevant Paragon status updates - medical assessments, placements, career paths, etc.

JOY FILLED BENEFITS:

- Extensive education and training in puppy development, socialization and training.
- Adorable puppy smiles and tail wags!
- Participation in the "Passing of the Leash" ceremony.
- Knowing you are changing the life of an individual who is d/Deaf.