

# PARAGON SERVICE DOGS



## Paragon Press December 2024 Edition

December Tales!

As the year comes to a close, we have so much to celebrate! It's been an incredible year at Paragon, filled with numerous milestones, and we're looking forward to even more exciting triumphs in the year ahead. So, grab some holiday cookies, get comfy, and enjoy the wonderful stories we have to share!



## Celebrating 2024: Transformation, Growth, and New Beginnings

Over the past year, we've embraced transformation, achieved growth, and embarked on exciting new beginnings. We're thrilled to share some of our biggest milestones from 2024 with you!

### Transformation

After 45 incredible years as International Hearing Dog, we've proudly evolved into **Paragon Service Dogs**. Our new name reflects our commitment to excellence in every dog we train, and we couldn't be more excited about this next chapter.

### Growth

This year, we expanded both our **Puppy Raiser** and **PAWS'Abilities** programs. Each new puppy raiser or Master Inmate Handler brings us closer to placing another life-changing dog with someone in need.

We also launched **Good Talk**, our Animal-Assisted Mental Health Counseling Program, offering a fresh way to connect and support mental wellness.

### New Beginnings

We found our forever home! Our beautiful 5-acre facility in Longmont, Colorado, is already inspiring us to dream big. Every month here opens doors to new opportunities. We've watched our dogs be able to run and play, hosted a team training and a graduation, and have had many visitors! We hope you'll pay us a visit!

**Make a Difference: Support our Mission Today!**

You can make a difference with Paragon! Together, we create extraordinary service dog partnerships, break down barriers, and inspire possibilities.

This December, we're excited to offer two meaningful ways to give: **Colorado Gives Day** and our **Fundraiser and Friendraiser 2024**. Join us in making an impact!



## Colorado Gives Day

Mark your calendars for **December 10th** — this year's Colorado Gives Day! From now through December 10th, every donation you make will go even further, thanks to a **\$1M+ Incentive Fund** provided by the Colorado Gives Foundation and FirstBank. Nonprofits will receive a share of the fund based on their percentage of the total amount raised.

Visit our donation page at <https://bit.ly/SupportParagon>

Colorado Gives Day: Click Here to Donate!



## Annual Appeal: Fundraiser and Friendraiser 2024

Over the past year, we've made incredible strides in transformation, growth, and impact! It takes an investment of over **\$20,000** to raise, train, place, and support a service dog, and we can't do it without you.

Right now, **14 pups in training** are on their journey to break down barriers and inspire possibilities. Your kindness, whether through a one-time gift or by becoming a monthly donor, has the power to change lives.

Two ways to donate:

Visit our donation page at <https://paragonservicedogs.org/donate.html>

Send a Check to:

Paragon Service Dogs  
Longmont, CO 80504

14737 County Road 3

Fundraiser and Friendraiser 2024: [Click Here to Donate!](#)

Paragon depends on the generosity of donors to bring our mission to life. Thanks to our amazing supporters, we are able to make a profound difference in people's lives at no cost to them. Together, we're breaking down barriers and opening up new possibilities for our clients, one extraordinary service dog at a time. Your support truly helps transform lives and we are so thankful.

## Construction!





Is it done yet?

One Wood Beam at a Time!

As Paragon Service Dogs continues to grow, we've been working to expand our kennel area for our pups. We're renovating part of our garage by sealing, heating, and adding a wall to create an additional kennel space. This new area will provide more room for our pups to train and thrive! We're incredibly excited about this expansion and the opportunities it will bring.



**What a Difference Puppy Raisers Make!**





Working Wonder!

Proud Pair!

Making Friends

We want to celebrate two of our outstanding puppy raisers, Charlene and John, whose dedication to raising Doc, our hearing dog in training, has been truly inspiring.

Charlene and John welcomed Doc into their lives when he was just 10 weeks old. Through their round-the-clock love and commitment, they carefully prepared him for the challenges of advanced training. When Doc arrived at our facility, it was immediately clear how much time, care, and effort Charlene and John had devoted to his growth.

Doc entered advanced training with exceptional confidence in new environments and remarkable ease when working with unfamiliar objects. This level of readiness is a direct result of the countless outings and experiences they provided, including a recent trip to the dentist where Doc calmly lay by their side during the cleaning.

The foundation Charlene and John have built will be essential as Doc continues his journey to becoming a successful hearing dog. We are incredibly grateful for their hard work, dedication, and the transformative impact they've had on Doc's future.

We are so grateful for puppy raisers like Charlene and John, whose commitment changes lives one dog at a time!

Charlene shares, *"If you have the time, I definitely recommend puppy raising!"*

## A Hearing Dogs Impact



Loving Lab

Unbreakable Team!

We are always thrilled to hear about the positive impact our dogs have on our clients, and Jan and Enzo, a wonderful team from Canada, shared their inspirational story. This last year, Jan shared how hearing dog Enzo has helped reduce the isolation that often comes with hearing loss. Enzo encourages Jan to

get out for walks and explore, giving her the chance to meet new people and overcome the withdrawal that often accompanies profound hearing loss. These opportunities have truly been life-changing for her.

One of the most meaningful changes has been Jan's renewed confidence in lighting her fireplace, something she had stopped doing. With Enzo by her side to alert her to the smoke alarm, she now feels safe to enjoy her movies by the fire once more.

We are so grateful for stories like Jan and Enzo's and for the difference our dogs make in the lives of those we serve.

Check out our social media to see more of Jan's story through her video:

Jan's Story



## □ Dog Diaries: Ender Edition







Relaxed and Ready!

What is that?!

Is this how I do it? (above)  
First Snow (below)

Hi there!

I'm Ender, and it's been a busy few months! I've got some exciting stories to share. I've been working hard to get used to outings and the car. At first, I wasn't too sure about the car, but lately, it's been growing on me — especially with all the treats!

I've had some great outings recently, including a trip to Target. All those new smells were amazing! But the biggest milestone so far has been experiencing my first snow! It was so much fun catching all the white stuff falling from the sky.

That's all for now! I'll keep you posted on all my adventures!



## Thanks for Reading!

As another year comes to a close, we are filled with gratitude for everyone who has joined us on this year's journey. We've built so many meaningful connections and are excited for the ones yet to come. Thank you for being part of our story and stay tuned for next month's adventures!

With gratitude,  
The Paragon Team 🐾❤️



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