

SACRAMENTO WOMAN RECEIVES GRANT TO CARE FOR SERVICE DOG

More funding needed to help retired service dog in her time of need

Charlotte DeBaere of Sacramento has received a pledge from the Orthodox's Silver Lining Foundation to help provide care for her retired service dog, Cassie. Cassie is a very special service dog. Charlotte found her at the Sacramento SPCA when Cassie was already 11 years old and hoping for a new home to live out her years after her previous owner had died. Cassie had been a service dog for her previous owner, and after being adopted by Charlotte was able to change a second person's life, serving as Charlotte's medical alert dog for five full years.



"Cassie" Needs You!

Cassie helped Charlotte when she had migraines, became disoriented, or had vision problems. Cassie could take Charlotte back to a safe place, such as her apartment or a place to sit, and wake her up if he passed out. Because of Cassie, Charlotte has been able to live on her own, attend conferences and programs in different cities, cut her hospital visits by more than half, and serve on the Board of Directors of the Sacramento chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness. Cassie has given to Charlotte, and Charlotte has given back to the community.

Now Cassie is in need of help. Cassie has had several heart and kidney problems, and is now retired. She was doing well but chronic arthritis in her spine and hips is now making it hard for her to walk. After spending her entire life making the lives of two humans more fuller than they imagined, Cassie deserves to live the rest of her days comfortable and pain-free.

The one thing that can help Cassie's arthritis is acupuncture. But since Charlotte is on disability, she does not have the financial resources to pay for all of Cassie's veterinary care, which is breaking her heart after all Cassie has done for her. Orthodox's Silver Lining Foundation (OSLF) is helping raise money for Cassie's treatment. OSLF is an all-volunteer, internet-based, non-profit organization that provides financial assistance to families who cannot afford medical care for their dog. Many people rely on their dog for assistance, companionship, love, and, in Cassie's case, to safely survive in the world, but if they are low-income, they may not be able to afford to pay for their dog's medical needs. This dilemma severely affects both the dog and the owner who relies on their dog to live a full life. OSLF (www.oslf.org) supports the medical needs of service and therapy dogs that assist disabled individuals, and also treatment for dogs with orthopedic needs in shelters or low-income families.

OSLF has very limited finances and is constantly getting more applications than they can fund. If you would like to donate to Cassie donations of any size are welcome. Information on how to help Cassie can be found at: <http://www.oslf.org/donate.htm> If you prefer to mail a donation check, please make the check payable to OSLF, and mail it to:

OSL Foundation
Referral: Miss Cassie
18402 E. 101st Place North
Owasso, OK 74055

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