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EARLY EDUCATION PROGRAM (EEP) PUPPY RAISER

At **DOGS WITH WINGS**, we train dogs to do the seemingly impossible. You play an important part in the puppy's development by committing to being a Puppy Raiser in our Early Education Program (EEP). You become part of our team that works toward fulfilling our mission which is to enrich the lives of people with disabilities by providing them with highly skilled assistance dogs that increase their mobility, foster independence, and further their contributions to the community. The position of Puppy Raiser is the most demanding and rewarding. By accepting to the care and education of a **DOGS WITH WINGS'** puppy, you become one of our most valuable team players.

A *Puppy Raiser* in the *Early Education Program (EEP)* is a 7-day per week volunteer position. The main role of the Puppy Raiser in the EEP is to ensure the dog is attending their early education training at our training centre. As a foster home provider, you must bring the dog every morning (Monday to Friday) and pick up every afternoon at our training centre, located in the west end of Edmonton. When not in school, the dog is by your side; you will work as a team in an environment including offices, malls, restaurants, downtown areas, elevators, and public transportation, reinforcing the skills and the attitude of a service dog in-training. The ultimate goal is to help the puppy develop sufficient social skills to behave in such a manner that its presence will be acceptable in all circumstances. Our training staff oversees this program and will support you in raising the puppy by assessing and assisting in the pup's progress. There are temporary boarding homes available to help you, the Puppy Raiser, when the pup is not able to accompany you, such as during vacations or personal circumstances.

DOGS WITH WINGS will provide dog food and cover veterinary expenses provided they are not a result of negligence and a one-time issue of training equipment. Puppy Raisers are required to purchase a crate, provide bedding, toys & treats for training and may also incur infrequent minor costs associated with training (movie ticket, public transit, etc.) for which they are responsible.

Criteria for Our Puppy Raising Program:

- You must be able to bring the puppy to the training centre Monday to Friday, excluding holidays.
- The puppy must live in the home as a member of the family.
- You are requested to assist at events and/or presentations throughout the year.
- You must be able to commit to raising the puppy for approx. 14 months.

If you are interested in being a Puppy Raiser in our Early Education Program, please send in the attached Application Form. Feel free to contact the office at (780) 944-8011 or via e-mail puppyschool@dogswithwings.ca if you have any questions or concerns. More information about our organization and the programs we offer can also be found on our website at www.dogswithwings.ca.

Thank you for your interest in being a Puppy Raiser that will help a dog earn its wings!