

ANNUAL REPORT 2008



Eye of the Pacific Guide Dogs Foundation
747 Amana Street #407
Honolulu, HI 96814
(808) 941-1088
FAX: (808) 944-9368
www.eyeofthepacific.org

EYE OF THE PACIFIC GUIDE DOGS FOUNDATION

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide quality guide dogs, electronic aids, and other services to legally blind residents of the State of Hawaii and neighboring U.S. territories that will empower them to lead safe, independent, and

meaningful lives, and to educate the general public on laws and etiquette relating to guide dog accessibility.

PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Eye of the Pacific Guide Dogs Foundation was established in 1955. Our mission is to provide Hawaii residents who are legally blind with fully trained guide dogs or electronic aids to enhance their confidence in independent travel and communication.

We currently have five direct consumer programs: Guide Dog Training, Guide Dog After-Care, Guide Dog Health Care, Retired Guide Dog and Electronic Aid. These programs are managed by our Executive Director and volunteers. Through the generous contributions, private donations, monetary gifts and fundraising, we are able to purchase guide dogs and electronic aids, train individuals to become guide dog handlers and provide ongoing instructor support.

In the Guide Dog Training Program, Hawaii residents who are legally blind are considered for guide dog placement. In the first stage, which is the application process, consideration is based on the review of medical documents, orientation and mobility certification, certification of blindness and several interviews. The second stage, which is the placement process, is the period in which guide dog training centers use to match a dog with our applicant. The final and third stage is the training period in which the applicant is flown to the training center for 4 weeks of training. A guide dog instructor will return with our applicant and introduce the guide dog to his or her new home and surroundings. We provide assistance in completing the application, gathering of records and assessment interviews. We finance the training program which includes the cost of the dog, equipment, air fare, and tuition.

Our After Care Support Program provides ongoing emotional and technical support for our guide dog teams. We do this by having a guide dog instructor available at least twice a year for follow-up meetings with our guide dog teams. The team is able to seek technical advice in overcoming challenging situations and learning new methods to improve their working relationship. This continued support is at no cost to our guide dog teams. We finance the air fare, per diem, service fees and housing for our instructors.

Our Electronic Aid Program is designed to provide assistive technology aids to our qualifying residents that may enhance their independence in communication and mobility. Devices that we have provided include a global positioning device called Trekker and the KNFB Reader Mobile. For this program, we provide full financial support and training workshops.

PROGRESS 2008

PROGRAMS:

Guide Dog Training: 5

Five residents received guide dogs from Guide Dogs Victoria of Australia in January and September. Four were experienced guide dog handlers and one was a first time handler. As of December, all teams were reported to be progressing well.

Guide Dog After-Care: 11

We provided our clients with two follow up visits. Our guide dog teams have been reported to be working very well with minimal concerns. All of our teams are active in their respective community.

Guide Dog Health Care Program: 11

Guide dogs are high maintenance animals and require regular veterinary and grooming care. Maintaining high level care provides for a happy and comfortable service animal. This program provides financial assistance with the high cost of veterinary and grooming services. Continued regular veterinary care also contributes to the prevention and detection of illnesses that the handler may not otherwise detect early enough.

Retired Guide Dog Program: 3

Since a guide dog has been accustomed to the high level of veterinary care throughout their career which averages 88 to 10 years, maintaining their level of care is equally important to provide for a long and happy retirement. The program provides some assistance with the dog's annual veterinary care and catastrophic incidents.

Electronic Aid: 6

Six KNFB Reader Mobiles were allocated in September. This device captures the image of various forms of documents ranging from menus to bank statements and is converted to electronic text allowing the screen reader to read the text to the user. Recipients of these devices were all adults who have active daily activities.

Education: 2400 children & adults

Meet & Greet a Guide Dog Education Program is designed to help children understand the job of guide dogs and re-enforce important rules that the public can follow which will allow the dogs to maintain their focus on their tasks. Our guide dog teams have visited approximately 1900 students statewide. Teams visited public schools, libraries and a few private schools.

Doing Business with Guide Dogs Project is designed to provide businesses and community groups with written references to laws and rules related to guide dog accessibility. We also provide businesses with posters that we believe will offer tips to employees that serve individuals with service animals. In addition, we offer a speaker that will talk to employees about service animals and blindness. At no cost to the business, we have visited approximately 500 employees.

REVENUES FOR 2008

Balance as of December 31, 2007 \$321,020

I N C O M E

- Aloha United Way (Oahu)
\$42,831
- Aloha United Way (Other)
\$908
- Trusts
\$192,155
- Miscellaneous \$2,402
- Interest \$6,755
- Fund Raising \$0

Total Income: \$245,051

EXPENSE	
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Program Services	\$243,528
Administrative	\$46,034
Fund Raising	\$0
Total Expenses:	\$ 289,562

BUDGET 2009

Balance as of December 31, 2008	\$253,009
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REVENUES	
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Aloha United Way (Oahu)	\$32,000
Aloha United Way (Other)	\$13,000
Trust Funds	\$133,300
Miscellaneous	\$6,000
Interest	\$1,000
Fund Raising	\$0
Total Income:	\$185,300

EXPENSES	
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Program Services	\$137,000
Administrative	\$115,158
Fund Raising	\$5,500
Total Expenses:	\$257,658
Balance (Revenues less Expenses)	\$180,651

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