

# FUNDING APPLICATION

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Organization Information

<b>Legal Name:</b> Texas Hearing and Service Dogs Inc.		<b>Federal Tax ID#:</b> 76-0260567		<b>Are you a 501(3)(c) charity?</b> Yes	
<b>Address:</b> 4295 Bell Springs Road		<b>City:</b> Dripping Springs		<b>State:</b> TX	
				<b>Zip Code:</b> 78620	
<b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.servicedogs.org">https://www.servicedogs.org</a>		<b>Fax:</b> (512) 858-1495			

### Head Of Organization

<b>Name:</b> Sheri Soltes		<b>Title:</b> Chief Executive Officer	
<b>E-Mail Address:</b> sheri@servicedogs.org		<b>Phone:</b> (512) 858-1495	

### Application Contact

<b>Name:</b> Marsha Jaquays		<b>Title:</b>		<b>E-Mail Address:</b> mjaquays123@yahoo.com	
				<b>Phone:</b> (954) 857-9574	

**Has the organization applied to the Gordon Hartman Family Foundation in the past and been declined?**

No

<b>Grant Amount Requested \$:</b>	<b>Total Project Budget \$:</b>	<b>Organization's Annual budget \$:</b>
\$20,000	\$0	\$1,210,000

**Mission Statement:**

To provide free Service Dogs to individuals living with hearing and mobility disabilities, which assures increased independence and inclusion at home, school and in the workplace. Our mission is to empower those in need to overcome physical/emotional challenges, so they can pursue renewed lives filled with love and purpose.

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

**Program / Project Title:**

Service Dogs: Technology You Can Hug

**PROJECT TIMELINE**

<b>Start Date</b>	<b>End Date</b>
01/01/2021	12/31/2021

**Program / Project Description:**

The generosity of the Gordon Harman Family Foundation will help sustain individuals living with disabilities by providing a free Service Dog. We renew lives by: To renew lives by:

- o Bringing independence and security to those living with loss of hearing or mobility disabilities
- o Building a bridge for clients to have greater inclusion into the workforce and community

**? Services Provided**

? Hearing Dogs - alert: Oven timer, door knock, microwave oven, baby's cry, child or adult calling their name, emergency alarms in offices, sirens in traffic, smoke alarms, phone ringing and other custom sounds.

? Mobility Assist Service Dogs - Retrieve dropped item, including keys, shoes, credit cards, remote control, wallet more ... turn lights on/off, open/close doors, open refrigerator/retrieve items, nudge paralyzed limbs into position, tug off jackets/socks, open/close cabinets/drawers, help partner sit up/roll over in bed, go get help as well as other customized tasks.

SDI does not breed dogs. There are many unwanted dogs in shelters and rescues who yearn for a second chance. We select our dogs based on their temperament, such as being people-focused, interest in sounds and retrieving as well as eagerness to learn. We match dogs based on the unique needs of the client, then custom train advanced behaviors requested by the individual client, e.g. help rolling over in bed. Clients attend a week-long Team Training class at our 6-acre campus, followed by three months of weekly training sessions in the client's home, workplace or school and community. Our professional team strategically works, monitors and supports clients throughout the lifetime of the dog. Our goal is to provide our clients with increased independence, security and unconditional love. In turn, they reengage with their communities in a healthy, productive and collaborative manner.

SDI serves clients throughout Texas. Texas ranks second nationally in number of disabled residents, with more 22.9% adults reporting as cited by the Center for Disease Control. Adults with disabilities experience significant differences in health behaviors compared to adults without disabilities. Texas has a 3.5% higher number of adults with disabilities who are inactive than the national average. Adding to this are the 1.5 million veterans, of which 28% suffer from a physical disability plus the thousands more who are coping with severe mental and emotional trauma, according to a recent demographic study conducted by the Texas Workforce Investment Council. These statistics do not even take into account those suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). PTSD and a host of debilitating symptoms are often the root cause of veteran homelessness, poverty and poor assimilation back into communal life. Per the Demographic Study, the largest age demographic of veterans in Texas is 33-54 years old, serving in the Gulf War I and II Era - followed by those who served in Vietnam. As the population ages, the lowest demographic are veterans who served in WWII. More than 425,000 Texan veterans report having a physical disability. Per the Demographic Study more than half of those are ambulatory difficulty.

Individuals with disabilities enhance workforce diversity and offer employers the skills, knowledge, and experience that Texas businesses need to thrive. These individuals can strengthen the current and future Texas economy and are a valuable resource for Texas employers. Per the Texas Workforce Investment Council, 6.5% of the total labor force aged 16 and older have a disability. The average age of a labor force participant with a disability is 50.4 years of age. Individuals between the ages of 25-64 makes up the largest group of labor force participants with disabilities. SDI helps to alleviate employment barriers to individuals with disabilities. SDI can custom train clients' Assistance Dogs to adapt to their on the job needs. For example, a Hearing Dog alerting a deaf employee to a ringing phone, summons from a co-worker or emergency alarm; a Service Dog picking up dropped supplies, delivering items to co-workers for an employee with mobility challenges.

#### **Evaluation Plan:**

Our professional team strategically works, monitors and supports clients throughout the lifetime of the dog. SDI measures outcomes through a certification exam given to each client-dog team at the conclusion of training. It evaluates the dog performing its assistance behaviors, such as Hearing Dog alerting client to baby's cry, smoke alarm, etc.; a Service Dog retrieving a wallet or keys, opening and closing doors, assisting with laundry; and, obedience behaviors. The certification exam incorporates the Assistance Dogs International Public Access Text, including a 30-minute down stay in a restaurant, allowing a third person to take the dog's leash (needed if the client ever has a medical emergency), recovering after being startled by a sudden sound in public, keeping a down stay while the client leaves the area temporarily as well as other advanced public obedience behaviors. Annual recertification includes this same test plus making sure the dog's weight is within a five-pound variance of its weight at the time of completing Team Training. SDI provides additional training and guidance to help clients pass their certification exams when necessary.

#### **Plans to sustain project beyond the term of this request:**

SDI partners with health care facilities and professionals, disability support groups, wounded veterans' groups and alumni. We are proud to have earned the gold standard recognition from Guidestar. Through fiscal transparency and measured results, SDI has earned an esteemed reputation for transformational impact within Texas communities, garnering generous support of philanthropists. We generate \$125,000 annually with our Mighty Texas Dog Walk, which attracts 3,000 Texans and their dogs, and has fetched eight Guinness World Records. Service Dogs, Inc. is proud to have established collaborative partnerships with Purina, Petco,

PetSmart and H-E-B Texas Grocery, Austin Community Foundation and many other area businesses and foundations. By leveraging resources, we are able to maximize all-income streams to assure the greatest impact, helping so many with disabilities and our veterans.

Our revenue portfolio includes:

Individual Gifts - 38%

Foundations - 24%

Corporate - 21%

Service Organizations - 1.9%

Special Events - 12.4%

Interest Income - .04%

Other - 1.9%

#### **Line item Budget:**

<b>Line Item Description</b>	<b>Total Project Funds Allocation</b>	<b>Gordon Hartman Funds Allocation</b>
Program Services	\$1,020,000	\$20,000
Manamgement/General	\$45,000	\$0
Fundraising Expenses	\$125,000	\$0
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$1,190,000</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### **LIST OF BOARD DIRECTORS**

<b>Name &amp; Office Held</b>	<b>Corporate Affiliation</b>
Dr. Alyce S. Adams, Ph.D.	Research Scientist, Kaiser Permanente
Ms. Amrita Prasad Adhikary	Founding Designer, Kalo Design
Dr. Stephanie Beardsley, DVM	Founding Partner, Central Texas Veterinary Specialty Hospitals
Mr. Jonathan Bickham	Partner, Craig, Caton & James
Mr. Douglas Fullerton	Graduate, Service Dogs, Inc.
Mr. Jim Mickey	Vice President / General Manager MetroPCS
Ms. Alexandra Miller	Retired, Service Dogs, Inc.
Mr. Jim Spencer	Chief Weathercaster, KXAN-TV Austin (NBC)
Mr. Robert Yordi	Zoological Director, SeaWorld Parks