



BUSINESS ALLIANCE

WE CHANGE LIVES,

AND YOU CAN TOO.

The background of the slide is a stylized, semi-transparent American flag. The stars and stripes are visible but faded, creating a patriotic backdrop for the text.

OUR MISSION

To change lives through the training and placement of Service Dogs for Veterans with disabilities and children with autism.

ABOUT RFI

Retrieving Freedom, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization committed to serving Veterans and children with autism through our specialized service dog program.

Operating from facilities in Sedalia, Missouri and Waverly, Iowa, we breed and train dogs to perform tasks in service of specific individuals. Our training isn't designed to teach dogs to follow a certain program. Instead, our dogs are trained to meet the specific needs of their client. RFI dogs go through a minimum of two years of training to meet our strict standards before being placed into service.

Our expertly trained service dogs enhance the lives of their clients by assisting with designated tasks and responsibilities aligned with their needs. Service dogs assist with daily activities and routine tasks, but also enriches the lives of those they serve by providing companionship and unconditional love. Service dogs exemplify the profound impact of the human-animal bond.



***“Service dogs are not just companions; they are lifelines for patients. Their unwavering support enhances independence, safety, and emotional well-being.”
- Mayo Clinic***

FROM THE CEO

On my first visit to RFI Headquarters, I met a Veteran client and his wife who were training and staying onsite at the time. Ivan served multiple tours in Vietnam and now suffers from severe PTSD. Mary Jo is his beloved and devoted companion. Listening to her explain what it is like to be the spouse or primary caregiver of a person dealing with PTSD was eye opening. The way she detailed her experiences of living on edge led me to an understanding of what Retrieving Freedom really does. We bring freedom to the lives of individuals who receive service dogs, and to the lives of those caring for those individuals by freeing them from constant service. The dog carries some of the weight. It was a lightbulb moment. From then on, I've felt a calling to serve the mission of this organization. I hope as you learn more about Retrieving Freedom, you feel the call to join us in providing service dogs, for free, to Veterans and children with autism.

Veterans. Children. Puppies.

Brenda B. R.



UNDERSTANDING SERVICE DOGS

Roles and Responsibilities

- Picking up dropped items.
- Bracing to provide stability for a person who has difficulty standing.
- Pulling a manual wheelchair.
- Opening and closing doors.
- Space building in public to create a buffer for individuals in crowded or overwhelming environments.
- Nightmare interruption.
- Anchoring to prevent a child with autism from eloping.
- Intervening to redirect repetitive or self-harming behaviors in autistic children towards safer activities.
- Facilitating positive social engagements, enhancing communication, and reducing isolation.
- Various pressure therapy tasks to alleviate anxiety, depression, and stress.

ADI Accreditation

ADI is the leading authority in the Assistance Dog industry since 1986. Accreditation means we adhere to rigorous standards ensuring the ethical treatment of our dogs and clients, superior training methods, and the utmost in safety and cleanliness. This accreditation is your assurance that we are committed to providing:

- Comprehensive education on the training and utilization of an assistance dog.
- A professionally trained assistance dog to mitigate disabilities.
- A thorough understanding of public access rights and responsibilities.





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When I first joined the Retrieving Freedom family, I thought I didn't need a Service Dog, I did not deserve one, and there were better men and women out there who needed it more than me. Now that I have Wrigley life has returned to me, and I can see a future.

- RFI Veteran Client Ty



HEALING PTSD & VETERAN SUICIDE

Stark Realities

- 7 out of every 100 Veterans will have PTSD.
- More than 1-in-10 U.S. Veterans have been diagnosed with a substance abuse disorder.
- Between 17 and 22 Veterans or service members take their own lives every day, which is more than 6,000 per year.
- Over 30,177 service members and Veterans of the post-9/11 wars have committed suicide -- over four times as many as have died in combat.
- Veterans commit suicide at a rate 57% higher than civilians.

How RFI Provides Hope

Service Dogs offer crucial support to Veterans with PTSD, aiding during anxiety, night terrors, and crowded spaces.

They also assist physically disabled Veterans, enhancing daily tasks and independence. Retrieving Freedom leads in addressing PTSD and Veteran suicide, providing crucial support to those who served with our Service Dogs.

Supporting Retrieving Freedom directly aids Veterans on their path to healing and independence, empowering us to expand our program's reach and combat Veteran suicide.

TRANSFORMING AUTISM CHALLENGES

The Daily Realities

- About 1 in 36 children have been identified with autism spectrum disorder (ASD).
- The average age of autism diagnosis is 4 years old.
- An estimated 30% of children with ASD are minimally verbal or non-verbal.



How RFI Provides Hope

Service Dogs provide emotional regulation for children by offering a calming presence during moments of distress. They are trained to intervene during meltdowns, offering a soothing influence that helps reduce anxiety and stress levels. They bridge social gaps for children with autism, promoting communication, interaction, and companionship while empowering independence and enhancing quality of life.

Retrieving Freedom positively impacts children with autism, providing trained Service Dogs for emotional support, social interactions, and safety, enhancing lives and fostering community understanding and independence. Our Service Dogs are trained to prevent children from wandering off by tethering, ensuring safety for both the child and their family.

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Damon has opened up the world for Chris and is truly one of the most significant therapeutic interventions we have experienced. We are so grateful for Retrieving Freedom and all who took part in getting Damon ready for Chris!

- Mom Elizabeth; RFI autism client Chris





NOTABLE PARTNERS



BUSINESS ALLIANCE

As a member of the Retrieving Freedom Business Alliance, you are joining a family of business partners working together on behalf of our nation's brave Veterans and families of children with autism. Each Business Alliance membership moves us one step closer to uniting deserving individuals with their life-changing Service Dog. Remember, these aren't just dogs – they're lifelines, companions, and beacons of hope.

Your Business Alliance membership plays an instrumental role in Retrieving Freedom's vital mission – ensuring Service Dogs are provided to Veterans with disabilities and children with autism nationwide, completely free of charge to our clients.

We know your marketing and philanthropic funds must be carefully distributed. We are proud to report Retrieving Freedom is Gold Transparency rated by Candid. When you partner with Retrieving Freedom you can trust your support is being directly applied to our mission.

There are many benefits of membership. Yet, none compare to the feeling you will have when you watch a child smile when telling you about their best buddy, or when you shake the hand of Veteran whose mind rests when their Service Dog is present.

PLATINUM ALLIANCE

Your Platinum Business Alliance Membership Includes:

- Company logo and description on RFI website
- RFI Business Alliance membership plaque
- Press release announcement of membership
- Social media posts to over 20,000 followers
- Inclusion in RFI branded marketing materials
- Recognition at RFI hosted events
- Meet and greet opportunities with staff and ambassadors
- Special sponsorship opportunities
- RFI logo and branded material use for your marketing communications.

**Gold
Transparency
2024**

Candid.

RETRIEVING FREEDOM FACILITIES

Waverly, IA



Operating from two facilities located in Waverly, Iowa, and Sedalia, Missouri, the dogs go through more than two years of training to meet our strict standards for a successful placement.

Sedalia, MO



Sitting on 22 acres of land donated by Robert and Barbara Hayden, The Hayden Home of Retrieving Freedom was established in 2019.



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It's no coincidence that Dog is God spelled backwards, and if everybody could act more like a dog, this world would be a lot better place.

- Robert Hayden

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If we can help wounded veterans and kids with autism, and work with dogs, that's a homerun for the heart.

- Barbara Hayden



At Retrieving Freedom, we celebrate and acknowledge those who pave the way for us to work our mission. Our partners champion the cause of Service Dogs for Veterans with disabilities and children with autism. Through the power of our partnerships with businesses, organizations, and individuals working together, we continue to offer a path of hope, relief, and independence.

Please join us as a Business Alliance Partner. Become part of the extraordinary community that makes our mission possible. We will do everything in our power to ensure your investment is applied wisely to our mission - To change lives through the training and placement of ServiceDogs for Veterans with disabilities and children with autism.

Brandon Butler, CEO

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