

Thanks to all the veterinarians who support our mission.



Message from the President

[Veterans Moving Forward](#) (VMF) dedicates this monthly newsletter to our veterinarians in the DC area and those local to our veterans with VMF service dogs in Arizona, Indiana, Maryland, New York, Texas, and Virginia. They ensure our canines are strong, healthy, and able to serve our veterans.

While our generous veterinarians help our dogs grow strong, our canine operations team continues to provide top notch training to our canines. As part of that effort, they are spearheading the build out of the new training facility. Drywall is going up this week and painting is scheduled for next week. Check the article at the end of this email for more details.

Ken Dowd
President/CEO
Major General (R)

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Eagle is Cleared for Duty

Assistance Dog in Training (ADIT) Eagle has passed his physical. We now know Eagle has the vision to see/retrieve objects like cell phones and keys, strong hips to help a veteran brace himself to get up to standing position, and good elbows to go up and down stairs. At about one year of age, VMF ADITs receive a medical evaluation to ensure they can perform necessary duties for their future veteran. This includes a Penn Hip evaluation developed by Penn State University, elbow x-rays, and a CERF eye exam by the Canine Eye Registration Foundation, all administered by qualified canine health professionals. Eagle was in good health, with excellent hips, normal elbows and healthy "Eagle



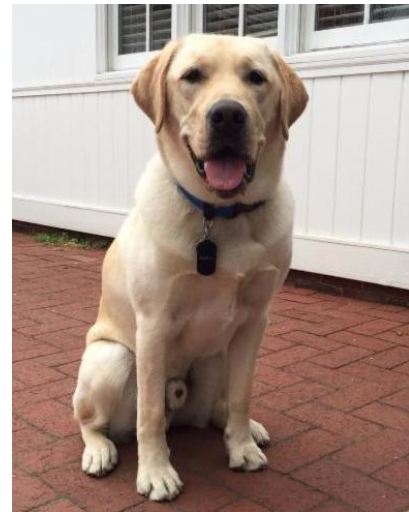
Canine Operations Director Michele, Veteran Coordinator Mike, President Ken, and Assistant ADIT Coordinator Suzanne getting the facility ready

eyes" without heritable eye disease.

VMF extends our gratitude to **Dr. Krochak** from **VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital** for conducting the Penn Hip exam and neutering procedure of not only Eagle, but most VMF ADITs at a significant cost savings.

By reaching this milestone, ADIT Eagle joins ADIT Mac in a search for his veteran. If you know a veteran who might be in need of a service dog, encourage them to [contact us](#) or get more info on the [Veteran FAQ](#) page of our website.

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ADIT Eagle passed his one year physical exams.

Dr. Dan Murphy, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine at Capitol Hill Animal Clinic

Local DC area veterinarians generously discount or donate their services for our ADITs as a way to give back. While VCA Alexandria provided Eagle's one year evaluation, **Dr. Dan Murphy of Capitol Hill Animal Clinic** takes care of Eagle's regular veterinary care.

Dr. Murphy provides Eagle with free wellness visits, blood work and vaccines, and did so for ADIT Jug before he became a service dog for a veteran in Arizona last year. Dr. Murphy served in the US Navy 1968 to 1972.

"Ever since then a lot of people have been hurt and wounded serving our country," Dr. Murphy shared. "I'm just trying to help them out. VMF is a fantastic group. I am happy to work with them and want to continue to do so, even when I am a retired veterinarian."

Dr. Murphy hopes that anyone who has the time can help our veterans and give them the support that they need.

[Volunteer for VMF](#)

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Dr. Murphy donated services to ADIT Jug

Calling Alexandria Area Animal Lovers

VMF's long time supporter VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital is hosting their annual open house next month. During the event, they will raise funds for us and help recruit VMF Puppy Raisers. We'll be there too. Come out to see us.

VCA Alexandria Animal Hospital Open House
Sunday, April 17, 2016, 1:00 - 4:00 PM
2660 Duke Street, Alexandria VA

- Hospital tours, microchip booth, raffles and fun.
- VMF information table
- Raffle benefits VMF. Pre-purchase tickets by calling or



visiting VCA Alexandria.

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VCA Alexandria's Annual Open House

It Takes a Village to Open a Training Facility

Last month, we asked you for a refrigerator, washer and dryer for our new facility, and you stepped up to the plate. Thank you, **Darren and Raichael Hardy** for donating a refrigerator, and **Mr. and Mrs. Norton** for donating a washer and dryer. Our ADITs can now learn how to help with the laundry and retrieve items from the fridge--and our volunteers can store their lunch.

In addition, **Beth Francis**, an interior designer who runs **Vintage Rescue Furniture** refurbished two desks for our office space at a reduced cost. The funds to refurbish the desks were donated by **Susan Duncan**. That's a good team, practically a whole village!




**Refurbished for VMF by
Vintage Rescue Furniture**

Our Canine Operations team compiled a wish list of items for the facility. If you would like to donate funds to [help offset costs](#) of any of the items below, please write "training facility" in the comments box online or on the memo line of your check.

| | |
|--|------------|
| 9 Poster Size Frames for Training Area | \$20 each |
| 3 Desk Chairs | \$80 each |
| 2 Waiting Area Chairs | \$100 each |
| 2 Pole Pads for Concrete Pillars | \$175 each |
| 2 Office Rugs | \$235 |
| Laminate Wood Flooring for Office | \$400 |
| Rubber Flooring for Training Space | \$10,000 |

Whether you [donate](#) funds, your [talent](#), or [supplies](#), we are so appreciative of your contribution to support our mission and that **you are a part of our VMF village** serving our Nation's deserving veterans. Once the facility is ready, we'll announce a grand opening celebration so you can see it. Keep an eye on future newsletters.


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VETERANS[®]
MOVING FORWARD
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*Veterans Moving Forward (VMF) is a veteran-centric, non-profit foundation and 501(c)(3) charity dedicated to providing trained service dogs and canine therapy services to veterans with physical and mental health challenges across the full spectrum of needs. Your **tax-deductible donation** to VMF will help us with this mission.*

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VMF is proud to have earned the GuideStar Exchange Silver Logo as a symbol of our commitment to transparency and accountability. We encourage you to



visit our GuideStar profile.

WATCH OUR DOGS GROW ON SOCIAL MEDIA



*Donate dog supplies on our [Amazon Wish List](#).
Shop [Amazon Smile](#) to benefit Veterans Moving Forward, Inc.*

[Make a tax-deductible donation.](#)

Veterans Moving Forward, 909 N. Washington Street, Suite 410, Alexandria, VA 22314

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