

Veterans Moving Forward



Expectations of a Puppy Raiser

First and foremost; **show love, respect, and kindness** to the puppy under your care. The bond you create with the puppy is what will transfer to the veteran and set the foundation of their relationship.

1: The puppy is dropped off for “school” Monday – Friday; at least 3-4 times a week to VMF (Veterans Moving Forward) at
44225 Mercure Cir
Suite 130
Dulles
VA 20166
Drop off on or before **9:30 a.m.** Pick up no later than **6:30 p.m.**

2: Socializing is important; much of this is done during school time but also is expected of the puppy raiser. We ask the raiser to socialize the puppy at dog friendly establishments until they are old enough and capable of public access. Monthly outings will be done with the VMF trainer.

3: Potty training the young pup will be done with the guidance of the VMF trainer.

4: Crate Training. All VMF puppies will be crate trained. VMF provides the crate with instructions on crate training, yes this can be done in a fun way 😊 We use Crate Games to make this enjoyable for all involved.

5: Obedience; this is taught to the puppy during school and will need reinforced at home. **Weekly meetings** with the VMF trainers will be held in order to teach leash skills, commands and tasks.

5: Food is provided by VMF, or it can be reimbursed monthly; type of food will be determined by VMF. Some raisers choose to make this an in-kind donation, In Kind Donation forms are provided for tax purposes.

6: All training is done with positive reinforcement using food, treats and/or toys. VMF will provide most of these items. If you purchase items for the VMF pup, we will provide In Kind Donation forms. We ask these to be filled out monthly if possible.

7: Veterinarian bills will be covered by VMF, but the puppy raiser will be expected to assist with transportation to vet visits in emergency situations.

8: Around 1 year of age; as determined by the VMF trainer, the puppy will be paired with their matched Veteran, and this is where we start the more specialized task training. Around 2 years of age we will place the puppy with its veteran. The puppy raiser will participate in the process and will be invited to their graduation ceremony. This is where you get to see the reason for all heartfelt work that goes into raising a puppy.

44225 Mercure Circle Suite 130 ★ Dulles, VA 20166
703-665-2129 ★ 866-375-1209 ★ admin@vetsfwd.org ★ www.vetsfwd.org