Over 1,000 active graduates are sharing their journeys with Guiding Eyes guide dogs.

• Jane Russenberger, Senior Director Breeding & Genetics, received the International Guide Dog Federation’s (IGDF) highest honor, the Ken Lord Award – presented at the 2014 IGDF Seminar in Tokyo, Japan.

• Head Nurse, Marianne Coiro, received Hudson Valley Magazine’s Excellence in Nursing Award for her impact, commitment and lifelong professionalism.

• President and CEO Thomas Panek ran the Boston and New York City marathons to raise awareness and support for Guiding Eyes.

• We have expanded our support of guide dogs in Hong Kong by welcoming new students into our program and continuing our collaborative breeding.

• Active construction continues at our Canine Development Center, with the planned opening of a new administrative wing, and the Arthur Milton Kennel framed and ready for completion in 2015.

• Guiding Eyes was featured on numerous major media outlets, including the Today show and Katie Couric, providing a wonderful opportunity to educate the public about our mission. View our “Hope To It” segment.

• We hosted the first White Plains Kids Safety Day in partnership with Bunge Limited Communications, to educate kids on the use of guide dogs and service dogs, which are a fixture in their communities.

• Guiding Eyes pup, Benton, participated in Animal Planet’s annual Puppy Bowl event, helping to share our mission. He even scored a few points for his team!

Interested in learning more about our 2014 achievements? Visit the Guiding Tales blog at guidingeyes.org
Dear Friends,

Every month, individuals from all walks of life travel to Guiding Eyes from small towns and big cities, each with great hope and anticipation. Our team cheerfully greets new students at the airport, train station or offers in-home training. At our Training Center, suitcases are unpacked, dinner is served and white canes are set aside. The journey begins.

Long before this pivotal moment, volunteers open their hearts and homes to puppies born at our Canine Development Center. Eager young dogs became welcome additions to puppy raiser families. Many months later, and with a lot of love and hard work, proud families bid farewell to grown, energetic dogs ready for formal training here at Guiding Eyes. Then, it is up to our professional instructors to teach our students the care and skills needed to safely navigate the world with their new guide dog. Anticipation and hope turn into appreciation and independence.

This year, we supported 1,000 active teams, graduated 141 new guide dogs, and twelve dogs were released from guide dog training to partner with children on the autism spectrum. We also provided very specialized training for guide dogs for people of all ages, from 18 to 88 years young, with multiple disabilities in addition to vision loss. Other Guiding Eyes dogs born at our Canine Development Center were released and went on to partner organizations to help first responders, and some puppies preferred companionship as a family pet.

Meanwhile, around the kitchen table, at office desks and on our website, generous donors selflessly wrote checks, planned estates and sent gifts in support of our mission – to provide guide dogs to people with vision loss, as well as service dogs for children with autism. Each and every donation has helped an individual or family member travel to our school, kept our fleet of vans fueled, our sidewalks shoveled and our newborn litters warm.

We see remarkable teams that can do so much more together than they could apart. As always, our progress and achievements are inextricably linked to your loyal support and for this, we are deeply grateful.

Sincerely,

Wendy Aglietti
Chair, Board of Directors

Thomas A. Panek
President and Chief Executive Officer
Paul and Ray

Veterans | Seniors

Former Columbia professor of medicine and military veteran Paul Ellner wanted a guide dog, but wasn’t sure he would even be considered at 88 years old. As Paul’s vision diminished, so too did opportunities to explore the outdoors and flexibility to come and go as he pleased.

This was a far cry from the boundless freedom he had known flying Search and Rescue missions for the Civil Air Patrol. Paul knew his “flying days were over” when his landings started getting bumpier and he was later diagnosed with age-related Macular Degeneration.

Of his first encounter with his guide dog, black Labrador Ray, Paul says, “It was love at first sight. We bonded and for the next three weeks my instructor and I worked together. After graduation, I came home with Ray and another instructor joined us for several days to ensure that Ray and I became familiar with our home area.”

Paul’s follow-up experience once he returned home is not unique; we provide lifetime follow-up services to all our graduates for as long as they have their dogs. Applying all that has been learned in training to everyday life can be an adjustment, and our training staff is there every step of the way to ease the transition. When life happens – graduates move, change jobs and experience new physical challenges – our training staff is a phone call away, ready to jump on a plane or hop in a car to ease these transitions. For Paul, whose advanced age will likely mean Ray may have to make adjustments in the future, these services are invaluable.

Paul has his busy life back, saying, “With Ray’s help, I am on new trails through the woods and my life has definitely improved. Ray is a friendly, gentle companion, but he is strictly business when wearing his harness.”
Guiding Eyes dogs are on a journey with their partners, providing safety and companionship to individuals from all walks of life.
The Training Center at Guiding Eyes is perhaps most alive – the sense of opportunity and adventure at its peak – in the summer months when our youngest students come to class to train with their dogs before school resumes. It was during this time that Hunter, who has Usher’s syndrome (a genetic disorder characterized by hearing impairment and gradual vision loss), came to Guiding Eyes to meet Atlas. As a person with dual sensory loss who is also college-bound, Hunter was a good candidate for the Special Needs and Sights on College programs. The Special Needs Program was created more than 20 years ago to meet the needs of students with challenges additional to blindness; and the Sights on College Program offers assistive technology access and residential training to those seeking higher education.

Fast forward a few months and Hunter is now a college student using public transportation to travel to school. He says, "Atlas anticipates what is 10 to 20 feet ahead and is always ready." Atlas received additional training – like all guide dogs in the Special Needs Program – to keep Hunter safe and cater to his specific needs.

Like many of our young graduates who have come before him and gone on to college, Hunter sees a difference in the way people approach him with his guide dog; they are drawn to Atlas, asking questions and starting conversations. Many people who are visually impaired talk about the profound social difference between having a white cane and a guide dog. We hear over and over again that an inanimate object like a cane can be socially isolating, as many do not know how to approach. But a dog is relatable, drawing people in and paving the way for social interaction. Hunter and Atlas are just beginning their journey together, and the future has never been brighter.
Twalla says, simply, she lives “more broadly” with a Guiding Eyes dog by her side. At 39, Twalla studies child development at California State University in Sacramento and plans to become a pre-school teacher. This past summer, she received her third guide dog Charles through the shortened 21-day Residential Training Program. Charles quickly filled the big shoes of Twalla’s retired guide dogs, and like his predecessors, is enabling safe travel, social interaction and unwavering companionship.

Born partially blind as the result of retinopathy of prematurity, Twalla lost all sense of color and light by the age of 13. Her favorite hobby at that time was putting together jigsaw puzzles, and as a testament to her spirit, this remains her favorite pastime. At first, the puzzles were small and the pieces large. Now, they are made of thousands of tiny pieces and completed entirely by feel. Twalla feels the puzzles are a metaphor for the way she lives – finding a way to do what she loves, no matter what. Twalla is poised for the next stage in her journey with Charles – a journey that began nearly twenty years ago when she received her first Guiding Eyes dog.
Ten-year-old Lucas had been having what his mom, Michelle, describes as “a very rough time” for at least half his young life before receiving Heeling Autism dog, Rafael. Lucas was considerably underweight, his outward appearance mimicking the rampant anxiety he felt constantly as a result of his autism. Lucas’ parents had contemplated getting a service dog for many years, but their decision was accelerated by growing concern that if they did not get their son’s eating issues under control, they would have to look to alternate ways of feeding him. Lucas was also waking several times at night – wracked with worry and fear – and had not slept through the night in several months when his parents contacted Caroline Sandler, Director of the Heeling Autism Program.

Lucas’ parents could hardly believe the transformation in their son. They share, “Within the first three months of having Rafael, Lucas became a different child. He began eating and gained a much-needed sixteen pounds. Lucas now sleeps through the night and hasn’t come into our room once since Rafael came home. He’s being weaned off his anxiety medication, as he no longer needs it...he’s even stopped twirling and pulling his hair. Lucas used to hide in his room, not wanting to mingle with company. Now, he comes downstairs and wants to be part of it all. He loves showing off his dog. We have our son back.”

Lucas’ transformation and the impact it has had on his entire family is dramatic. What is truly remarkable is that we now have more than sixty stories like Lucas’ – stories of children on the autism spectrum whose lives and those of their family members have been drastically altered because of the bond they share with their Heeling Autism dogs.

Six years since this program’s inception, the success rate is nearly 100%, with 12 additional children partnered with a Heeling Autism dog in 2014.
Barbara Ward-Blank

Volunteer Puppy Raiser

We can’t say it enough – without the tireless commitment of our volunteers, Guiding Eyes would simply not exist. All sharing an abiding passion for our mission, some lend their time and talent at events; others are the first warm human hands a newborn puppy touches hours after birth; and some raise our future guide dogs. Barbara Ward-Bank is a repeat puppy raiser who also fosters a German shepherd brood, Kayla.

Barbara has experienced firsthand the joy and fulfillment (and hard work!) that comes from raising a Guiding Eyes dog. “There’s so much about Guiding Eyes that I love,” says Barbara, who is currently raising Thea, a seven-month-old German shepherd with the help of her husband and children. “It’s an honor to play a small part in the life of this wonderful puppy that will eventually give someone the gift of independence.”

“Recent graduate Jacque is that someone.” She received Gracie, a yellow Labrador raised by Barbara and her family, this past fall. Gracie is Jacque’s third guide dog and Jacque cannot imagine her very full life without her guides. She is retired now, traveling all over the world and is, herself, a dedicated volunteer who trains bus drivers to assist people with visual impairment. Guiding Eyes’ moving monthly graduation ceremonies bring together graduates and their guide dogs, as well as the puppy raisers who were there for the pup’s early days. Many, like Barbara, raise puppies over and over again: “You definitely get attached to each puppy you raise, but knowing this sweet dog is going to make someone’s entire life easier makes it worth it...when we’re ready, we can start all over again and watch with pride as that puppy goes on to make a real difference. How could I not want to be part of this special program over and over again?”

We are extremely proud to be the kind of organization that attracts people like Barbara, who is one of more than 1,400 volunteers – volunteers who are an integral part of raising, training and socializing our future guide dogs and supporting our operations.
Our Generous Donors*

*Our donors for fiscal year October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014

Photo: Ali Fairhurst

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PetSmart
This past summer, thirteen volunteers from PetSmart, a retailer of specialty pet supplies and services, generously donated their time to spruce up our campus and dogs-in-training by painting a building and grooming our pups! The group toured the campus and ate lunch with students, gaining first-hand knowledge of our organization. The day ended with PetSmart employees presenting us a check for $5,000.
In July 2014, Guiding Eyes dedicated a new flagpole and plaque to the memory of Laura Trexler. Following four years of service in the US Navy, Lt. Trexler dedicated her career to the education of young people, initially in the area of high school guidance, and later, in the US Department of Education. She sponsored refugee families from Vietnam and the Czech Republic and helped them adjust to their new lives in the United States. Laura Trexler's legacy will endure, and the waving flag at our Guiding Eyes Campus will long serve as a reminder that freedom and independence are for all.

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Following a generous monetary donation from The Grainger Foundation, employees from the Grainger Industrial Elmsford branch donated their time and talent to detail Guiding Eyes’ fleet of vehicles. Reliable transportation is essential to fulfilling the organization’s mission. Staff must be able to travel to a variety of locations so they can train future guide dogs and students who are blind in diverse environments. Volunteers and support staff also rely upon these vehicles to assist the school with its programs and services. Grainger Industrial is North America’s leading broad line supplier of maintenance, repair and operating products.
Our annual wine tasting fundraiser was once again hosted by renowned sommelier Amy Dixon and musician Blessing Offor, both guiding Eyes graduates, for a unique musical concert and paired wine tasting experience.
EMS and Service Dogs - The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires first responders to offer service dog users the same assistance as their peers. With the support of graduate Cecilia Warren, Guiding Eyes created a reference guide for EMS providers that has been shared throughout the country.

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We were thrilled this year to have forged a partnership with the California-based dog treat company, Cloud Star, that became our Official Training Treat Partner for a 12-month period. In this capacity, the company has provided all our training treats free-of-charge. Cloud Star has been creating wholesome products for dogs for more than a decade and is committed to giving back to organizations that benefit animals, women, children and the environment.
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Camp Hillard, founded in 1929 by Morris and Hannah Libman, raised funds for Heeling Autism throughout the 2014 summer season. The camp’s incredible support will go far in helping us to match more service dogs with families with children with autism.
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Estate and Trust of Dorothy C. Goiny
E. Allen and Adelaide R. Ginkinger Memorial Trust
Sanford Fox Irrevocable Charitable Remainder Unitrust
Estate of Jeremiah T. Flynn
W. Moreland and Ruth U. Ernst Charitable Trust
Estate of Genevieve Irene Edmonds
Edna Marie Erwin Living Trust
William W. Fabing
Estate of Patricia Jane Flaherty
Estate of Martha W. Fabing
Edna Marie Erwin Living Trust
Estate of Dorothy C. Goiny
Estate of Thelma Golighty
Osborne Gray Trust
Anne Groot Charitable Remainder Unitrust
Sally Ann Gulick Revocable Trust Dated January 15, 1982
Living Trust of Laura Gull
Estate of Hilda Hanley
Glenn P. Happ and Lucille D. Happ Family Trust dated July 15, 1986
Eileen E. Harrison Trust
Perry and Rose M. Harten Trust
Estate of Wyman D. Herbert
Estate of Martha S. Herman
Estate of Priscilla M. Hobbs
The Paul Hodgik Living Trust
Estate of Joseph V. Hivuar
Estate of Jeanne B. Irwin
Estate of Robert H. Isaacson
Estate of Hannah Jacobson
The Janis Jacobson Trust
Chester Janis and Doris K. Janis Revocable Trust
Estate of Carolyn S. Johnson
The Joldon Trust
Ruth M. Jones Memorial Fund
Carl L. Kahn Survivor's Trust
Mary Lou Kahn Family Trust
Alma A. Karcher Irrevocable Trust
Estate of Ellen E. Kierman
Estate of Beatrice N. Kilmartin
Rocky H. Kimura Trust
Estate of Anna Koluet
Ruth E. Komitzer Living Trust
The Krause Family Living Trust
Bernice J. Roberts and Marguerite E. Lawrence
Declaration of Trust
Estate of Elsie Levdar
Estate of Jane Lobdell
Estate of Eileen Lottman
Bette S. MacGeorge Trust
Charles L. Mannino Revocable Trust
Aldamae F. Martin Charitable Remainder Unitrust
Ilse Marx Revocable Trust
Elizabeth McCann Estate
Estate of Nancy McDonald
The Medwin Family Trust
Estate of Dorothy Meridith
Carol B. Michael Trust
Patricia A. Morey Living Trust
Estate of Nancy F. Morgan
Estate of Sharon M. Morsa
Horace A. Moses Trust
Ruth N. Moulton Charitable Trust
The Dorothy J. Mulcahy Living Trust
Estate of Leroy O. Myers
Norbert N. Grantor Trust
Estate of Alvin A. Nevins
Earl Nisbet Living Trust Dated March 26, 2004
Walter R. & The Emma Otto Charitable Remainder Unitrust
Walter R. and Emma Otto Charitable Remainder Unitrust
David A. Perry Trust
Walter P. Pettipas Revocable Trust
Frances D. Phillips Irrevocable Charitable Remainder Unitrust
Frances D. Phillips Irrevocable Charitable Remainder Unitrust
Harold H. Pulf Trust
Eva Powers Trust
Marjorie Price Irrevocable Trust
Lois M. Ransom Charitable Remainder Trust
The Rauscher Revocable Living Trust
Estate of Joan Carol Anne Redden
Estate of Bozena Ridley
Roessler Family Trust
Estate of Anna C. Roobenburg
The Kensley Rose Trust Agreement
Estate of Susan U. Rosenblum
Estate of Terry Rubin
Estate of Margaret L. Ruth
Margaret Sage Charitable Trust
Mary Sage Charitable Trust
Estate of Patricia Salisbury
Victor M. & Ruth R. Salter Charitable Remainder Unitrust
Helen Samaras Trust
Estate of Michael D. Savoca
Martin & Barbara Shechtman Charitable Remainder Unitrust
Norman Sage Trust
Jack O. Scroggins Charitable Foundation
Faith Ann Searle Trust
Estate of Sophia A. Siegel
Estate of Dolores Skiba
Estate of Lois Hassler Smith
Roy S. Smith Charitable Trust
Estate of Ann and Joe M. Stanford
Grace C. Stebbins Trust
Estate of Arthur Stern
Estate of Laura A. Stuart
Dorothy J. Swanson Trust
May Duane Thomas 2000 Trust
Estate of Laura M. Tredar
Virginia M. Trehca Revocable Living Trust
The Caroline Velazquez Trust
Kenneth Paul Venturi Revocable Trust
Vermaa Revocable Living Trust
Albert Walters Trust
Estate of James Elvin Watson, Jr.
Estate of Ruth H. Wawierka
Donald J. Weber Marital Trust
Frances E. Weber Irrevocable Trust
Robert N. Williams 2005 Trust
The Doris E. Wofford Charitable Remainder Trust
Estate of Gladys Wolkof
Estate of Nancy R. Wood
Charles Edward Wozen Living Trust
Estate of Beatrice Wunderlich
The Rosemarie Younker Trust
Marianne Zadek Trust
Anonymous Bequests
*And the more than 250,000 generous individuals who support
Guiding Eyes through our Response Marketing program.
Our Board of Directors

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Director of Marketing and Communications

Phil Cotennec
Vice President of Finance

Carolyn Kihm
Director of Human Resources

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Senior Director, Response Marketing

Linda Press
Vice President Strategic Partnerships

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Chief Operating Officer and Director of Veterinary Services

Kathy Zubrycki
Vice President of Training Programs

Development Staff

Risa Nicolosi
Manager of Grants and Partnerships

Gail Resnikoff
Director of Planned Giving

Millions of people around the world witness our powerful stories through social media. Join our communities on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube.
## Financials

### Statement of Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public Support</th>
<th>UNRESTRICTED</th>
<th>TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED</th>
<th>PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>$14,494,748</td>
<td>$2,816,767</td>
<td>$40,000</td>
<td>$17,351,515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Planned giving</td>
<td>7,006,624</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7,006,624</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>506,917</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>506,917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net assets released from restrictions</td>
<td>2,921,652</td>
<td>(2,582,980)</td>
<td>(338,672)</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Public Support</strong></td>
<td><strong>24,929,941</strong></td>
<td><strong>233,787</strong></td>
<td><strong>(298,672)</strong></td>
<td><strong>24,865,056</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Expenses:**

- Program services
  - Student Instruction & Dog Training: $5,781,623
  - Student Services: $970,696
  - Veterinary Hospital: $2,862,442
  - Canine Development Center: $4,892,007
  - Facility & Food Service: $1,888,139
  - Enrichment: $2,754,341
  - **Total program services**: $19,149,248

- Supporting services
  - Management & general: $1,585,805
  - Fundraising: $4,103,913
  - **Total supporting services**: $5,689,718

- **Total expenses**: $24,838,966

**Excess of public support over expenses**

- Investment income: $3,323,001
- Other net asset adjustments: $(2,430,538)
- Net assets, beginning of year: $57,048,926
- Net assets released from restrictions: $(2,921,652)
- **Net assets, end of year**: $58,032,364

**Statement of Financial Position**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>UNRESTRICTED</th>
<th>TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED</th>
<th>PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$12,227,320</td>
<td>$1,061,040</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>$13,288,360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receivables and prepaids</td>
<td>$2,825,118</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>$2,825,118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>$37,927,887</td>
<td>$5,741,123</td>
<td>$7,936,266</td>
<td>$51,605,276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other assets</td>
<td>$585,984</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>$585,984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land, buildings and equipment, net</td>
<td>$17,930,558</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>$17,930,558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>71,496,867</strong></td>
<td><strong>6,802,163</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,936,266</strong></td>
<td><strong>86,235,296</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Liabilities & Net Assets**

- Accounts payable & accrued expenses: $1,247,894
- Gift annuity and other reserves: $1,539,398
- Bonds payable: $4,430,000
- Accrued pension obligation: $6,247,211
- Net assets released from restrictions: $(2,921,652)
- **Total Liabilities and Net Assets**: $71,496,867

### FY14 Public Support

- Contributions: 70%
- Planned Giving: 28%
- Other Income: 2%

### FY14 Functional Expenses

- Program services: 77%
- Management & General: 6%
- Fundraising: 17%
Guiding Eyes proudly provides these services to individuals who are blind or visually impaired – and to children and their families whose lives are affected by autism – at no charge.

Thank you for your continued support.