

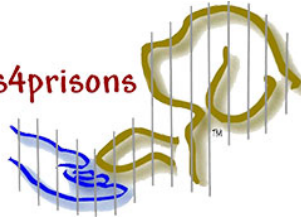
# AfghanDogZ™

Rescuing & Rehabilitating Dogs from the War Zone

a paws4vets™ program

Trained by Federal Inmates - Placed with Veterans with PTSD

paws4prisons™



paws4vets™

ASSISTANCE DOG TRAINING PROGRAM  
a recovery/intervention program for PTSD

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fabulous Photos Available Upon Request

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### MIDDLEBURG RESIDENT SPONSORS “THE FIRST DOG FROM KABUL” for AfghanDogZ™/paws4prisons™/paws4vets™

On February 3, 2009, Elaine Broadhead, of Middleburg, Virginia, became the first Sponsor of a paws4people™ [[www.paws4people.org](http://www.paws4people.org)] Afghan Rescue Dog when she donated the \$2,000 it costs to transport rescued dogs from Afghanistan to the paws4prisons™ [[www.paws4prisons.org](http://www.paws4prisons.org)] K-9 Training Program at US Penitentiary – Hazelton, Bruceton Mills, West Virginia. These stray dogs were adopted overseas by American soldiers serving in Afghanistan, a country devastated by war and poverty. Some soldiers are able to bring the dogs home to their families but others cannot. These dogs become available for programs like paws4vets™'s [[www.paws4vets.org](http://www.paws4vets.org)] AfghanDogZ™ program (see below).

After the Afghan rescued dogs are rehabilitated and trained by prison inmates participating in the paws4prisons™/paws4vets™ program, they will be placed with Veterans suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Complex Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (C-PTSD) and/or Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) as part of paws4vets™'s Strategic Partnership Program with the Wounded Warrior Project®. This partnership will enable paws4people™, through its paws4vets™ program, to provide a unique and dynamic PTSD recovery/intervention program for our Nation's wounded warriors.

“Wounded Warrior Project is excited to be a part of such an innovative and promising program. The hard work put forth by the paws4prisons™ team, prison staff, inmates, trainers, and veterans during this program is a testament to our mission: Honoring and Empowering Wounded Warriors.” (*Samuel Vaden, Project Manager for paws4vets/WWP, Inc. partnership*)

#### About Wounded Warrior Project®:

Wounded Warrior Project® is a non-profit organization whose mission is to honor and empower wounded warriors. WWP serves to raise awareness and enlist the public's aid for the needs of severely injured service men and women, to help severely injured service members aid and assist each other and to provide unique, direct programs and services to meet their needs. For more information, please call 877 TEAM WWP (832-6997) or visit [www.woundedwarriorproject.org](http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org).

There are more than 40,000 wounded veterans who need help and support. You can help provide some of these critically injured soldiers with the love, companionship and service of a paws4vets™'s Certified Assistance Dog by clicking on DONATE at [www.paws4vets.org](http://www.paws4vets.org).

If a person would like to HELP SPONSOR (full or partial) a dog rescued from Afghanistan, like Elaine Broadhead did, for inclusion in the paws4prisons™/paws4vets™ K-9 Training Program and eventual placement with a Veteran suffering from PTSD, C-PTSD and/or TBI, please go to: [www.AfghanDogZ.paws4vets.org](http://www.AfghanDogZ.paws4vets.org).



“I love this project,” Elaine Broadhead told paws4people™, Inc. Vice President, Diana Kingsbury-Smith Keese, “because of the hope and new life it gives to inmates, veterans and animals, victims caught in a brutal cycle of war and violence.”

*Elaine with “Salome”, the Maremma puppy she rescued in Italy.*

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The mission of the AfghanDogZ™ Program is to rescue stray or abandoned dogs from the war zone in Afghanistan. This process is accomplished through a strategic partnership with a rescue organization in Afghanistan.

Upon their arrival in the United States, these dogs are placed into the paws4prisons™ / SlammerDogZ™ training program within federal prison facilities. Here, the dogs are rehabilitated and taught basic/advanced obedience skills by the federal inmates in the program.

Upon graduation from training, the Afghan / SlammerDogZ™ will be placed with veterans suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), complex PTSD and/or Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) as a tool to aid them in their recovery process and to reconnect them with personal relationships in society.

Each dog cost \$3,000 to rescue, transport and for maintenance and veterinary care.

The first Afghan / SlammerDogZ™ is currently being identified in Kabul and when ready for transport will be on its way to its new home, life and mission in America.

