



**MAGGIE GEIGER'S SPECIAL PROJECT
2023-2024**

Mission

The purpose of Dogs2DogTags is to create an opportunity to save at-risk, rescued, and donated dogs, train them, and place them with deserving service members who have been diagnosed with post-combat stress and anxiety. Dogs2DogTags provides significant treatment options to Veterans suffering from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Canine companionship can make a real difference in the fight against an incredibly high suicide rate among our veterans, while saving the lives of deserving canines.

Who We Are and What We Do

We are a group of men and women who have either served in or worked closely with our military. We have seen the difficulties that our men and women face when returning to civilian life, and we've known men and women who have tragically contributed to the unprecedented rate of veteran suicides. Our volunteers share the love of country and community, and above all, the utmost respect for our military veterans. We are committed to standing by our veterans and keeping them aware that we care.

Our goal is to pair a skilled companion dog in need of a home with a veteran in need of unconditional love and support. We know that a veteran's battles aren't always over when he or she returns home and that a dedicated service dog that will be a constant companion to help them cope with the unique challenges of their everyday life. Provided at no cost, this can be one of the simplest and most effective ways in which we can all stand by these brave men and women. As of April 2021, we have matched 28 dogs, and assisted over 40 veterans with these placements and other needed services.

Torre Willadsen Founder, President

Sheboygan Falls, Wisconsin

The idea for Dogs2DogTags™ came to Torre Willadsen while he was deployed as a civilian contractor working with military dogs in 2012. During his time with the 7th Marines, he developed close bonds with dogs and dog handlers alike, and when dog handler Chris Van Etten was wounded, Torre worked hard to help keep Chris and his dog Harley together during Chris's recovery. Torre suspected – and then saw firsthand – the profound effect a canine companion could have on a wounded man's frame of mind at a difficult time. That is when Torre knew that he wanted to bring that kind of unconditional support to those back home struggling with post-traumatic stress.

Torre has over twenty years of civilian and military dog training experience and a passion for training both dogs and dog handlers for service. He has helped many of his handlers to adopt their dogs. Torre's broad knowledge and deep understanding of how canines can help cope with stress, guides this organization and promises to help at-risk veterans recover from PTSD.

Financial Support

Dogs2DogTags™ is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that relies on donations to provide top-quality support dogs to veterans struggling with post-combat stresses. Donations go directly to funding the costs of obtaining, training, caring for, and transporting dogs to their new homes; veteran outreach services; as well as the general costs of running the program. We also cover the necessary expenses to make sure our veterans are set up for success, including dog food for a year; flea, tick, heartworm preventatives; and routine veterinary services for the life of the dog. Each veteran receives whatever is needed at the time of the placement, such as crates, leashes, toys, and even fencing if needed. We feel no veteran should be without an emotional support dog just because of their financial limitations. Thank you!

For further information and case histories, visit:

Website - dogs2dogtags.org

On FaceBook at [Dogs2DogTags](https://www.facebook.com/Dogs2DogTags)

On YouTube at [Dogs2DogTags](https://www.youtube.com/Dogs2DogTags) - *Saving Our Vets One Dog at a Time*