

## TADSAW TRAINING PROGRAM

The TADSAW training program is based on a 15 to 25 week course of Positive Reinforced training, depending on the Team's progress. The ability of the human and the canine 'Battle Buddy' to work together is key to developing a successful Service Dog Team.

### PHASE 1: (7 to 8 weeks)

The initial part of the program focuses on being able to give the obedience commands, to have the Dog follow those commands, as well as to behave appropriately in public as determined by the American Kennel Club's Canine Good Citizen test. The Veteran will also learn to read, understand and proactively respond to the Dog's body language.

### PHASE 2: (6 to 8 weeks)

The second part of the program focuses on the social interaction skills necessary to be in public settings. These include hospitals, medical clinics, shopping centers, restaurants, movie theaters, workplace environments, etc. Also, the Veteran's special needs, such as special tasks and training, will be finalized.

### PHASE 3: (4 to 6 weeks)

This part prepares the Service Dog Team for the Public Access Temperament Test (PATT), which is the final classroom session of the program. When the Team passes this Test, they are considered to be accredited and certified as a TADSAW Service Dog Team.

## FLASH! NEW VA POLICY!

**August 4, 2016, Clinical Protocol for Service Dogs for Veterans with Mental Health Disorders (VAIQ#7717966), in support of mobility service dogs for veterans with mobility limitations associated with mental health disorders.**

TADSAW combines the disciplines of occupational, physical, psychopharmaceutical and spiritual therapy in a single program, designed to enrich the Quality of Life and re-connect and heal the Veteran over a period of time, with the training of a canine "Battle Buddy" with their family, in their neighborhood and in their community.

## IS THIS FOR YOU?

1. Recognize and accept that you have PTSD/ TBI and want an alternative therapy to assist in restoring and improving your quality of life.
2. Make certain all immediate family members, and/or support systems are 100% supportive.
3. Make certain health care provider is on board.
4. Strong commitment to training, including your time, effort, and gas to attend the sessions and be a part of a service dog team.
5. Accept and understand that having a service dog will initially focus more attention to you. You will learn how to handle the situation and be more comfortable.
6. It is your obligation to keep your Battle Buddy healthy, well cared for, and safe.
7. Personal dogs to be evaluated must be spayed/neutered and at least 12 months of age.
8. If you are in agreement, contact TADSAW, INC. for an application.



Please visit [www.tadsaw.org](http://www.tadsaw.org) to learn more about the Veterans' journeys and the lives that have been changed or for more information on the application process.

### Contact Information:

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# TADSAW



**VETERANS' LIVES MATTER!**

## TRAIN A DOG - SAVE A WARRIOR PROGRAM

*"Life was locked in my house all day. Afraid to leave, afraid to go to a restaurant or to my kid's Soccer game, or to the grocery. I had to sit with my back to the wall, watch all the doors, never slept without horrible flash-backs, was hyper vigilant and drank too much. Twice I came close to killing myself when my wife stopped me."*

All too often TADSAW hears these words from other Veterans seeking assistance. The above Veteran's life was changed in the Fall 2011 with a Service Dog, named GUNNY.

Since July 2010, TADSAW INC. has accredited **750+ Service Dog Teams**, including 92 Vietnam Veteran Teams and ONE Korean War Veteran Service Dog Team. Are you ready to sign up?

TADSAW, INC., founded in 2012, is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, EIN:45-4556055.



## MISSION STATEMENT

The **Train A Dog - Save A Warrior (TADSAW)** mission is to provide for the training of a Medical Alert Service Dog, as designated by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines, for **ANY** wounded Veteran Service Members (Active Duty, Retired, Discharged), surviving with Military Induced Anxiety Depression Syndrome (MIADS), Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Military Sexual Trauma (MST) and/or Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), in order to improve and restore the Veteran's Quality of Life with a canine 'Battle Buddy', at **NO CHARGE** to the Veteran or their family.

Remember the TADSAW program philosophy is, **"Together you train to hone your skills and Bond as a Team"**. These same words appear on the U.S. Military Working Dog Monument at Lackland AFB, San Antonio, Texas.

Another unique TADSAW concept, based upon Military culture, is **'Plan - Prepare - Engage'**, in order to increase the probability of successfully completing the mission.

## WHO WE ARE

TADSAW INC is based in San Antonio, Texas and has been providing services to Veterans since July 2010. Since then, we have accredited **750+ Medical Alert Service Dog Teams** across the United States. We will try to locate trainers within a 60-90 minute driving radius of your home, if not closer.

*"Learn One – Do One – Teach One". "Listen, Learn then Lead", "Plan-Prepare-Engage",* are phrases associated with the United States Military and are the words all Service Members learn and live by to complete a successful mission. These phrases are essential to the success of TADSAW.

## SO YOU THINK YOU WANT A SERVICE DOG?

What kind of "crutch" do you want? Psychological counseling, polypharmaceutical, or a service dog ~ the choice is yours! **Having a service dog is a 24/7/365 commitment.**

## HOW TRAINING WORKS

After your application has been received, the TADSAW trainer will evaluate a personal dog for viability, or an appropriate candidate from a shelter will be selected if you do not have a dog. Note: Personal dogs must be at least 12 months old, and be spayed or neutered to be a viable candidate.



TADSAW utilizes positive reinforced training techniques, which ensures the human-canine bond will build and strengthen during the 15-25 week training period and continuing thereafter. During your training, the TADSAW trainer will give homework assignments to prepare for the next lesson. It is your obligation, as Team Leader, to consistently work on a daily basis with your 'Battle Buddy'.

Two training sessions per week provide for: the learning of obedience, the appropriate behaviors necessary for a service dog, special needs tasks, and learning how to read, understand and proactively respond to your dog's body language. The Team's mission is passing the Public Access Temperament Test (PATT) for Service Dog accreditation. At that time, you and your 'Battle Buddy' will be certified and have full access to all public places.