FAQ

Why does Pilot Dogs, Inc. need a new kennel facility?

Pilot Dogs, Inc.’s current kennel was built in 1963. It is in need of significant, costly repairs to remain in service and its location is inconvenient and inefficient for our program. Moving the kennel adjacent to our other facilities on West Town Street will bring our entire organization to one campus. The new kennel is essential to providing the best care for our dogs and our program running at its most efficient.

How will it affect the dogs?

The dogs will see a significant improvement in comfort, both physically and emotionally. The new kennel will have runs large enough for two dogs, so they will get more socialization and stimulation to prevent boredom and stress. They will no longer have to be shuttled back and forth from the main kennel to the training kennel daily, eliminating another stressor. A hospital ward will be added to the new facility allowing the dogs to be cared for onsite, with a quiet area for recovery. There will also be an isolation unit with a separate ventilation system from the rest of the kennel to prevent the spread of illness.

How will it affect the training staff?

The training staff will no longer have to wait for the dogs to be transported from the main kennel to the training kennel, so they will have more active training time in their day. There will be more indoor space to work with the dogs as a group and when weather prevents outside work.

What is Design-Build?

“Design-Build is a method of project delivery in which one entity – the design-build team – works under a single contract with the project owner to provide design and construction services. One entity, one contract, one unified flow of work from initial concept through completion – thereby re-integrating the roles of designer and constructor. Design-build is an alternative to the traditional design-bid-build project delivery method. Under the latter approach, design and construction services are split into separate entities, separate contracts, separate work.” – www.dbia.org

What financial impact will the new kennel have on Pilot Dogs?

Due to increased efficiency, we anticipate a savings of 10% in heating costs and 15% in water. We will also be able to eliminate the vehicle used to shuttle the dogs back and forth, saving on insurance, maintenance and gas.

When did the campaign start?

The planning started in September 2014, with the campaign beginning in December 2014 and going public in June 2014.

What is the campaign goal?

The Four Paws, Two Feet, One Team, One Campus campaign has a goal of $8,000,000.00.

Will the new kennel provide room for growth?

With the new kennel we will be able to house 160 dogs, allowing us to serve 180 blind and visually impaired individuals annually, which will sustain our growth for at least the next two decades.