Criteria for Selection of D4D Clients

Dogs4Diabetics provides quality medical alert assistance dogs to insulin-dependent diabetics to enhance their disease management. Our dogs, client training, follow-up and support services are offered free-of-charge to qualified individuals. The following criteria are used by D4D's Applicant Review Committee to select clients after completion of all application processes.

Who Qualifies?

Engagement: Applicant's involvement with D4D through participation and volunteerism will be an aspect to be assessed for acceptance in the program.

Service area: Applicant must live within a 3 hour drive of our facility in Concord Ca. and have attended a D4D event (graduation, ABC's, fundraiser, etc.)

Length of diagnosis: Applicant must be insulin-dependent for at least a year.

Need: Applicant must have a legitimate need for a medical alert dog and have a personal desire to actively participate and enhance their disease management.

Age requirements: Applicant needs to be at least 12 years of age. There is no upper age limit.

Motivation: Applicant must display a level of motivation that supports working with D4D and a medical detection dog.

Physical ability: Our training program requires that applicants be able to walk a minimum of 3 miles and be able to sustain the activities of our training program for a minimum of 8 hours. The applicant must be able to verbally communicate with the dog and keep the dog under control (requiring a degree of strength, flexibility and coordination).

Learning ability: Applicant must have the ability to learn training concepts and apply them consistently, as well as the cognitive abilities to work with and handle a medical alert dog appropriately.

Emotional stability and maturity: Applicant must have the emotional stability and maturity to work effectively and appropriately with a medical alert dog, be able to cope with learning in a group environment, participate in all aspects of class, and be ready to work through potential problems that may occur while they and their dog are adjusting after placement occurs. They must be committed and able to work, live and care for their alert dog, appropriately maintain authority over the dog and have the flexibility to meet the dog's needs.

History: Applicant's past history with animals (pets or other medical detection dogs) should be positive in terms of adequately providing for the care and humane treatment of their animal(s). Applicants must have a positive history in regards to their interactions with D4D.

Home environment: Applicant (and their family) must be able to provide a safe, loving, healthy and stable home for a medical alert dog.

Safe environment: Applicant must display the ability to make adequate decisions that do not jeopardize their personal well being and the dog's safety in all environments.

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