

YOUR LEGACY WILL GUARANTEE THEIRS.

**Guide  
Dogs**  
WA

[guidedogswa.com.au](http://guidedogswa.com.au)

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Every day, nine  
Australians learn  
that they will  
go blind in  
their lifetime.

You, or someone  
you know and love,  
may one day turn  
to Guide Dogs WA  
for support.

Our Guide Dog  
training program  
is the only one  
of its kind in  
Western Australia.  
.....



# Life-changing companions

**Guide Dogs: these remarkably skilled and loyal dogs have been transforming the lives of people living with blindness and vision impairment since Guide Dogs WA opened its doors in 1951.**

Today, Guide Dogs WA trains and provides a range of other dogs: Autism Assistance Dogs; Companion Dogs for children and adults with a disability or illness, and Therapy Dogs for school counselling, health and aged care services.

These beautiful dogs do so much more than help people who are blind to navigate the world around them. They do more than settle and calm a child living with autism, or someone struggling with trauma or illness.

They are life-changing companions. Ever-alert to their human's needs, and their safety.

These dogs give the gift of independence and confidence to people who are living with blindness and other disabilities. And it takes two years of intensive training to prepare them for their unique task. They bring joy and companionship... hope and opportunity.

Between the ages of 8-10 years of age a Guide Dog reaches their well-earned retirement. When this time comes, it's vital that another highly trained Guide is ready to take their place as soon as possible. Otherwise, the Guide Dog user can face losing the freedom and independence they've treasured for many years.

That's why Guide Dogs WA is constantly training the next generation of Guide, Autism Assistance and Therapy dogs.

By leaving a gift in your Will, you will not only support the training of these incredible dogs, your gift will help many more Western Australians realise the power of the bond between human and dog in achieving greater freedom, independence and companionship.

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“My Guide Dog makes  
it possible for me  
to go anywhere  
and at anytime.

He has had an  
incredible impact  
on my life. He is  
a mate... and an  
absolute joy.”

– Danny  
.....



## A gift in your Will touches the future

Your Will is one of the most important documents you will ever sign. Of course, when preparing your Will, your priority will be to provide for your loved ones.

Many people also use their Will to make a powerful statement about their values and causes close to their heart. This is called a gift in Will (also known as a Bequest), and this brochure will explain how easy it is to include this very special gift in your Will to Guide Dogs WA.

**A gift in your Will is the ultimate expression of generosity, as it is the gift that keeps on giving – long after you are able to do so personally.**

It stands as a legacy to your memory, and one that has the power to transform the lives of Western Australians beyond your lifetime.

## Every puppy that joins the pack will change a life

Guiding is a complex and demanding task for a dog.

The love, dedication, energy and hope invested in the training of each puppy prepares them for a life of assisting people in need.

Depending on their specific skills, personality and temperament, a puppy in training may graduate as a Guide Dog, Assistance or Therapy Dog. If, for some reason, they are not suitable for this role, they will be matched as a Companion Dog with a child or adult with disability or illness.

Wherever they are placed, and whoever they are matched with, each dog will have a life-changing impact on an individual Western Australian or family living with disability or illness.



.....  
“One day at school  
I was able to read  
the blackboard at  
the back of the class.  
The next day  
I couldn’t. There  
have been times  
where I’ve felt  
hopeless, lost  
and isolated.”

– Eric

.....



At a glance:

## Guide Dog Program

A Guide Dog provides companionship and support for a person who is living with blindness or low vision: giving them the gift of independence and freedom.

These very special dogs are trained to guide their handler along learned routes to reach a destination, and to locate specific items such as a door, empty seats or pedestrian buttons at the traffic lights.

Guide Dogs WA provide services within the community that increase mobility, independence and quality of life for Western Australians living with blindness or vision loss.

**Eric experienced sudden vision loss when he was just eight years old. His vision loss was due to a rare genetic condition known as Stargardt's Disease. It causes progressive damage to the centre of the retina, resulting in significant vision loss.**

**When he began working with Guide Dog Sundae, Eric's life improved dramatically. Sunday gives Eric the confidence to navigate the world around him in a way he never imagined possible.**



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“Before Koha came into our lives, we were all completely exhausted. We just got stuck at home because even walking around the block was just so hard and stressful.

Life is beautiful now that Koha is in our lives. We went for a walk yesterday and we’re just walking around casually, and Fletcher is content.”

– Kate, Fletcher’s Mum  
.....





At a glance:

## Autism Assistance Dog Program

An Autism Assistance Dog helps improve the quality of life of a child with autism and his or her family through companionship, safety, independence and inclusion. Autism Assistance Dogs have a remarkably calming effect on children with autism. And so much more.

**Fletcher is four years old and lives in a world of frustration. Fletcher has low functioning, non-verbal autism. He is at the extreme, high needs end of the spectrum. He cannot communicate or understand those around him. Unable to express his fears, his frustrations, his needs and his emotions, his way of coping was to run or 'bolt' at every opportunity.**



.....  
“Companion Dog Ellie  
brings incredible relief  
and joy into our lives.  
Her unconditional  
love lights up our  
whole house.

No matter how hard  
life gets Ellie is always  
there for us – always  
happy, all of the time.”

– Raquelle, Caitlin and  
Bethany’s Mum  
.....



At a glance:

## Companion Dogs

A Companion Dog opens a world of opportunity for Western Australians living with disability or illness.

Our Companion Dogs provide many benefits to adults, children and families from helping them to cope with the difficulties of everyday life, to helping them achieve their therapy goals, to just making family life easier and fun again.

**13-year-old twins, Caitlin and Bethany, both live with a genetic vision impairment. Their condition is irreversible and will continue to get worse. Caitlin is already legally blind, and Bethany has 20% vision loss.**



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"Bazza provides children with a very special medium of therapy. He provides meaningful opportunities for the children to interact in their own special way whether that is verbally, through sight or touch and being close to Bazza.

Bazza is not only an affectionate presence but is also a communication partner who can engage with the child on a level that some humans cannot. "

– Paige, Occupational Therapist  
.....



At a glance:

## Therapy Dogs

A Therapy Dog provides affection and comfort to children and adults in a wide variety of settings, such as schools, counselling, health and aged care services.

Guide Dogs WA Therapy Dogs assist in so many ways such as providing motivation for a child to reach their therapy goals, to comforting and supporting those with memory loss.

**Therapy Dog Bazza is a valued staff member at VisAbility. Working within the Children's Services, Bazza spends his workday with occupational therapists, speech pathologists and physiotherapists to achieve specific therapy goals for the children who visit the centre.**

**Bazza helps children of all ages with a range of disabilities such as autism, developmental delay, intellectual or learning disabilities, vision and sensory impairment and physical disabilities.**

**Did you know? It takes over 2 years and costs more than \$50,000 to train a guide or assistance dog.**



# What is a gift in Will?

There are many ways you can include a gift in your Will to Guide Dogs WA. You should seek advice from you solicitor or legal advisor, and they will talk you through your options which include:

- Percentage: a percentage of either the residue or your entire estate.
- Residuary: the remainder of an estate after all other gifts have been disbursed.
- A specific asset such as real estate, shares, bonds or other items of value.
- Pecuniary: a specific gift of cash.

When you visit your solicitor or legal advisor, please take this brochure with you, or detach the form on the following page to include with the documents you give to your solicitor or legal advisor.

If you would like to discuss your wishes or have any questions, please contact Guide Dogs WA's Planned Giving Coordinator on **(08) 9311 8285**.

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## When you leave a gift in your will to Guide Dogs WA, rest assured:

- ✔ You will be helping to provide life-changing services which increase the quality of life for people who are blind or vision impaired or living with other disabilities.
  - ✔ Your gift stays in WA and will continue to help Western Australians long into the future.
  - ✔ You will be making a powerful statement to those you leave behind about your values, and your passion for helping others.
- .....

# Life-changing companions

*Please complete this form, tear it off and take along to your solicitor or trustee.*

“I give to Guide Dogs WA (operated by EverAbility Group Limited ABN 11 157 291 960);

- The rest and residue of my Estate or
- \_\_\_\_\_ percent of my Estate or
- \_\_\_\_\_ percent of the residue of my estate or
- The sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for its general purposes or
- The sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for its (insert specific purpose/s, i.e. Veterinary Expenses), or in the absence of such specific purpose/s, its general purposes.

If this gift cannot take effect completely or at all, to the extent that it cannot take effect: to the charitable organisation or organisations in Australia which my executors in their discretion consider most nearly fulfils or fulfil the objects I intend to benefit in the share or shares my executors think fit. The receipt of the treasurer or current officer of the beneficiary under this provision is a sufficient discharge to my executors in respect of a gift to that beneficiary.”

Telephone 1800 847 466  
Email [giftsinwills@guidedogswa.com.au](mailto:giftsinwills@guidedogswa.com.au)

Guide Dogs WA  
61 Kitchener Avenue, Victoria Park WA 6100  
PO Box 31, Victoria Park WA 6979



# Welcome to the Arnold Cook Society

Although you are not obliged to inform us if you are planning to leave a gift in your Will, we encourage you to do so. Not only so that we can thank you in person and discuss your wishes, but also because we would love to welcome you to join the Arnold Cook Society.

The Arnold Cook Society honours Dr Arnold Cook who established Australia's very first Guide Dog institution right here in Western Australia.

When you become an honorary member of this exclusive Society, you will receive invitations to VIP Guide Dogs WA events, along with regular updates. You will also receive an exclusive membership pin and other opportunities for recognition.

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"My uncle lost his vision later in life, and while he did not have a Guide Dog, I saw first-hand the effect vision loss can have on someone's life. I have chosen to leave a gift in my Will.

I'm proud to know that I can help someone else enjoy life as much as I do; that they can still experience everything I get to experience even though they might not be able to see as well."

– Judith, Arnold Cook Society member and passionate supporter of Guide Dogs WA.  
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# Register for the Arnold Cook Society

*Please complete, detach and return this reply slip.*

- I/We confirm I/We have left a gift to Guide Dogs WA in my/our Will(s).  
Please enrol me/us in the Arnold Cook Society.
- I/We would like further information about leaving a gift in my/our Will(s)  
to Guide Dogs WA.

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Suburb: \_\_\_\_\_ Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

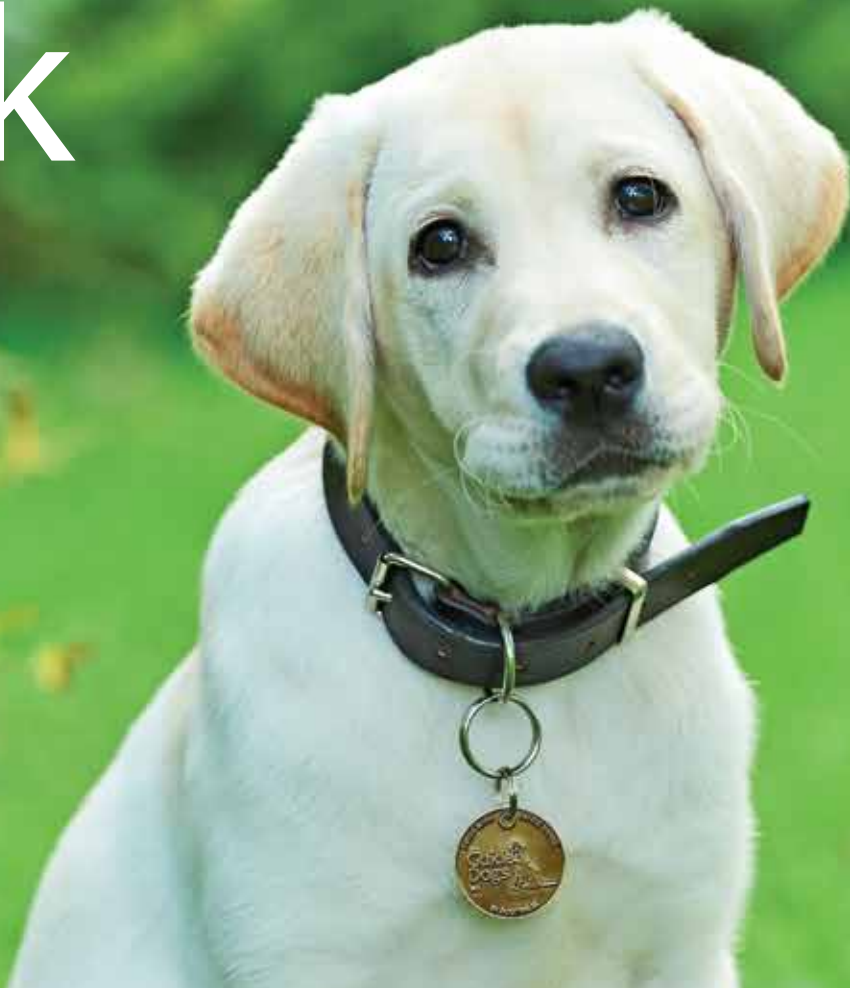
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Guide Dogs WA  
61 Kitchener Avenue, Victoria Park WA 6100  
PO Box 31, Victoria Park WA 6979  
Or email your details to:  
giftsinwills@guidedogswa.com.au



Thank  
You!





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Guide Dogs WA is owned and operated by EverAbility Group Limited. EverAbility is committed to protecting the privacy of all individuals with whom it conducts its service and business operations.

You can rest assured that all of your information will be kept strictly confidential.

Thank you again for considering leaving a gift in your will to Guide Dogs WA.

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**Guide  
Dogs**  
WA

Telephone

1800 847 466

Email

giftsinwills@guidedogswa.com.au

Find us at

61 Kitchener Avenue, Victoria Park WA 6100  
PO Box 31, Victoria Park WA 6979

THANK YOU FOR MAKING A BIG DIFFERENCE.

[guidedogswa.com.au](http://guidedogswa.com.au)

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Guide  
Dogs  
WA