# Puppy Walker Information

**Puppy Walker**

We believe you may wish to know more about the work and goal of a Puppy Walker. A Puppy Walker is a volunteer family who commits to look after the Seeing Eye Dog puppy, aged from 2 months to around 1 year old, at their. In order to become a Seeing Eye Dog, a puppy must learn how to get along with human beings during its stay with the Puppy Walker’s family where it can experience love and care. Hence, it can develop a gentle temperament and adapt to the living environment of human begins.

Puppy Walkers play a vital role in shaping the puppies to become the future Seeing Eye Dogs. They must understand that raising a Seeing Eye Dog puppy is very different from raising a pet dog. For example, the puppies should never be fed with human food. They must be taken to walk and exercise every day. They are strictly forbidden to lie or sleep on bed nor sofa, etc. Through proper care and interaction, the puppy is socialized to behave what a normal Seeing Eye Dog will behave under different circumstances. This lays the ground work for further professional training.

# Responsibilities of a Puppy Walker:

1. Develop trust between the puppy and human
2. Take care of the puppy’s well being
3. Provide basic behavioral training
4. Develop its socialization skills

# Requirements and knowledge of a Puppy Walker:

* It must be legal to keep dog in your living place.
* There is a male and female host in the family. Ideally one is retired or does not need to work outside home as the puppy must not be left alone at home for more than 4 hours.
* The family must not have more than 1 child under 5 years old and has no pet dog. If you already own a pet dog during the time of application, it needs to be assessed by our trainers.
* You should fully understand that the puppy is trained to be a future Seeing Eye Dg and to serve the visually impaired.
* Do not treat the puppy like a house pet. Love, but not over pampered.
* The puppy must be kept indoor, in a place where it is clean, safe, and full of love.
* For the sake of its proper growth, you must have sufficient time to interact with the puppy.
* The family should walk the puppy to different places so they can start experiencing the community at its early age.
* You should follow our professional advice to train the puppy with proper behaviors.
* HKSEDS trainers will visit regularly to assess the puppy or offer specific training. The puppy walker should co-operate.
* Keep a close contact with HKSEDS. In case of any doubt, please contact us immediately.
* Puppy walker is expected to attend all activities and meetings organized by HKSEDS. Advance notice of absence is appreciated.
* Please understand it is a volunteer service without monetary remuneration. However, your expenses relating to the puppy’s food and medical care will be borne by HKSEDS.

Thank you for your interest towards being a Puppy Walker. Should you have further enquiry, welcome to contact us anytime through Email([services@seeingeyedog.org.hk](mailto:services@seeingeyedog.org.hk)) or Facebook (Hong Kong Seeing Eye Dog Services).