



GREAT PLAINS SPCA
Heroes for pets. Partners for life.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 30, 2017

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Shelter Dogs Selected to Become Service Dogs for Veterans

Great Plains SPCA Announces Partnership with Warriors' Best Friend

Kansas City metro (August 30, 2017) — Great Plains SPCA is thrilled to partner with Warriors' Best Friend to save pets' lives and help veterans living with Post traumatic stress disorder or Traumatic brain injuries.

Warriors' Best Friend, a local nonprofit, carefully selects homeless dogs from Great Plains SPCA for its six to eight month service dog training program. During training, dogs will learn 25 commands to provide specialized and important care for a veteran.

Michael, a returning soldier, was matched in 2016 with Nani, a three-year-old Weimaraner mix who went through service training at Warriors Best Friend. She was brought to Great Plains SPCA as a stray, and now is a hardworking companion. "Gradually my life started to change for the better. Instead of locking myself up in my house, I started to get out and go places without my family trailing along. I noticed that the longer I worked with Nani, the more of my independence I regained."

Michael is now completing an apprenticeship with Warriors' Best Friend and will soon become a trainer. Michael understands how his involvement can help make a difference upon the lives of men and women who find themselves in the same place he did two years ago, "Without this organization, I would still be lost, a prisoner in my own home."

To raise funds and awareness for this exciting new partnership, the two organizations will host the first annual Paws on the Prairie 5K on Saturday, Sept. 30. For more information please visit www.pawsontheprairie5k.org

Interviews and Video: Video of Nani working and interviews with Michael and organization spokespersons will be made available by request on Monday, August 28 and Wednesday, August 30.

About Great Plains SPCA:

Great Plains SPCA is the Kansas City Metro's most comprehensive resource for pets and their human companions, serving more than 35,000 pets annually – more than any other animal welfare agency in the area. Great Plains SPCA, a No Kill shelter, works to save, protect and improve the lives of animals, while strengthening the relationship between pets and their human companions by

providing humane sheltering, adoptions, and affordable spay/neuter and veterinary wellness services. Great Plains SPCA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and not the ASPCA but a local organization focused on being a society for the prevention of cruelty of animals. For more information, please visit www.GreatPlainsSPCA.org

About Warriors' Best Friend Foundation Warriors' Best Friend has two purposes: Our primary mission is to rescue, train, and pair shelter dogs with veterans suffering from Post traumatic stress disorder and TBI completely free of charge to veterans. Secondly, WBF is committed to demonstrate the potential and value homeless dogs have to positively impact the lives of America's wounded soldiers. To address this mission, we partner with local animal shelters to identify canines that possess a certain set of characteristics necessary to become a service dog—and in doing so, have become one of just a handful of organizations in the nation that only adopts dogs for their program. To learn more about Warriors' Best Friend and find out how you help more homeless dogs and wounded soldiers visit <http://www.warriorsbestfriend.org>

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