

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 9, 2020 Contact: Harvey Potts, harvey@dogsforbetterlives.org, (541) 826-9220

## **Unprecedented Times Hit DBL and Southern Oregon Hard**

**Central Point, OR** – Dogs for Better Lives (DBL) is currently dealing with unprecedented times and we're asking that our clients, donors, and general public have patience and understanding when trying to connect with us. In addition to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic since February, DBL and its staff in southern Oregon are dealing with extremely hot and dry weather, which on Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>, ignited several wildfires in Oregon's Rogue Valley and beyond.

DBL staff and dogs-in-training on their southern Oregon campus at this point are all safe and being taken care of. The majority of DBL staff are still working remote during the pandemic. Further challenged by the recent wildfires, staff have been encouraged to take (unofficial) time off to attend to family and loved ones that may have been evacuated and/or lost their homes due to recent fires. Nearby towns of Phoenix and Talent, as well as parts of nearby Ashland, Central Point, Eagle Point, and Medford have significantly been impacted, including loss of structures, homes, and lives.

## To learn more about the wildfires in Jackson County (OR), visit...

https://jacksoncountyor.org/emergency/News/News-Information/level-2-and-3-evacuations-alameda-fire-southmedford

## KDRV (ABC) – Local News https://www.kdrv.com/

KTVL (CBS) – Local News

https://ktvl.com/

KOBI5 (NBC) – Local News https://kobi5.com/

If you're trying to contact individual DBL staff member, though don't have their telephone number or email, please reach out to (541) 826-9220 or <u>info@dogsforbetterlives.org</u>.

Thank you for continuing to keep us in your thoughts and prayers

• • • •

Dogs for Better Lives is a national 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization focusing on the training and placing of Hearing Assistance Dogs, Program Assistance Dogs, and Autism Assistance Dogs. Accredited by <u>Assistance Dogs International (ADI)</u> and recognized by <u>Charity Navigator</u> as a 4-star nonprofit, Dogs for the Deaf has been rescuing dogs, bettering lives, and providing assistance dogs since 1977.

10175 Wheeler Road, Central Point, Oregon 97502 • (541) 826-9220 • <u>www.dogsforbetterlives.org</u>