

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 23, 2020 Contact: Harvey Potts, harvey@dogsforbetterlives.org, (541) 826-9220

Matty Walsh Joins Young Professionals Board, Expanding Pacific Northwest Presence

CENTRAL POINT, OR – Earlier this month, Dogs for Better Lives' (DBL) <u>Young Professionals Board (YPB) – Puget</u> <u>Sound</u> secured its fifth board member, Matty Walsh. Matty joins an already dynamic and growing board made up of professionals from across Washington's Puget Sound and the larger Pacific Northwest.

"We're excited to have Matty join the YPB – Puget Sound and know with her skillset, energy, and passion for the mission, she will help to elevate DBL's exposure in the region to the next level," stated CEO, Bryan Williams. "YPBers will be responsible for helping to market the mission of DBL, participating in outreach events, as well as planning their own fundraising events.

As DBL continues to grow and expand on its mission to better the lives of those with disabilities, pairing them with an Assistance Dog, they are cultivating in tandem, the next generation of leaders in Washington's Puget Sound and larger Pacific Nortwest region, further engaging in and championing DBL's mission and vision.

"In following DBL's strategic plan in further establishing its regional and national reach, the Young Professionals Board (Puget Sound) is playing a critical role in assisting with community outreach and engagement, further extending our reach into the Pacific Northwest, stated YPB Chairman, Corey Wise. "I'm looking forward to working with Matty and the YPB team, as we continue to grow and make our presence known in the region."

The DBL Young Professionals Board (YPB) is comprised of like-minded individuals in their 20s, 30s, and 40s that have a passion for dogs and giving back to people with disabilities in their communities. Members will be responsible for marketing the mission of DBL, participating in outreach events, as well as planning and fundraising through a variety of initiatives.

With the support and guidance of the regional Young Professionals Board in Washington's Puget Sound, DBL will host a yet-to-be-determined signature event, engaging donors, clients, and community partners. Eventually, we will have Young Professionals Boards across the country, working to support each of our planned satellite offices. Currently we have satellite offices in Puget Sound (WA) and Central California, with plans next for Southern California (2021).

Matty Walsh

Matty Walsh is a freelance graphic designer, and currently the marketing intern for Corvallis Custom, a printing specialist for customers in, and around, the Corvallis, Oregon area. Overall, she assists with the creation of promotional materials, social media, and events for Oregon State and the city of Corvallis.

She was adopted from China, grew up in Cleveland, Ohio, and moved to Portland, Oregon in 2015. Prior to graduating, she also studied Mandarin Chinese and Criminology at Kent State University. In 2019, she secured her bachelor's degree in fine arts from Oregon State.

With a graphic design background, she has a passion for brand identity, package design, as well as illustration. With every project she has had the privilege of working on, she strives to bring her own unique skill set and perspective.

Aside from being a creative, she is a full time dog mom and crime show/horror enthusiast. She has a soft spot for bully breeds, and her favorite horror movies is Silence of the Lambs. With her free time, you will most likely find her long boarding with the pup, snowboarding, or baking.

She has had the opportunity to work with Dogs for Better Lives in the past, designing their print and digital ads for *AARP – The Magazine*, so the chance to join YPB was a no-brainer.

Matty Walsh is a small fry with a sense of humor, a diverse graphic designer, and a passionate individual who enjoys giving back to her community in which ever way she can.

To learn more about the Young Professionals Board – Puget Sound, and/or to submit your application for consideration to the YPB, please visit... <u>https://dogsforbetterlives.org/young-professionals-board/</u>.

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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.

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