**Vision statement** – B.E.S.T. Service Dogs enriches the lives of people with disabilities by breeding and training service dogs. It is our goal to provide as many healthy, trained dogs as possible to assist in providing the B.E.S.T. quality of life for our clients. We strive to be the B.E.S.T. possible providers of service dogs, training and education to our clients and our community.

**Mission statement** B.E.S.T. Service Dogs stands for Breeding, Education, Service and Training. We provide specially selected Labrador Retrievers as service dogs to families affected by autism and veterans with PTSD. These dogs perform a multitude of trained tasks to mitigate a disability. With these canine partnerships, we provide life changing companions that increase their well-being and independence.

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Autism has become an epidemic in this country where 1 in 54 births are affected. Autism is the fastest growing developmental disability. Service dogs have been shown to make a significant difference in social and mental development in young children. Relatively new on the scene, autism service dogs provide companionship, deep pressure therapy and reduced anxiety. There is a tremendous need for autism service dogs that cannot be filled.

Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in veterans occurs during active duty in service. Trained PTSD service dogs have been shown to reduce anxiety and stress. They also increase a veteran’s self-esteem, patience, and understanding; are open to other therapies, lower isolation, create companionship without judgment, love and happiness outside of grief and despair, and peace of mind. PTSD Service Dogs save lives!

These two groups have been underserved when it comes to accessing a service dog for their specific needs. Our goal is to increase the number of veterans and children that can benefit from a trained service dog. Our puppies are bred to this purpose and are selected for success.

Funds from individuals and grants have supported our organization to:

Place 12 puppies in training as service dogs

Obtain two grants to help improve our facilities.

We were featured as a Woman Owned Business by KCRA News in Sacramento in 2019

Our annual Art Show/Sale fundraiser brings together local artists and our community to celebrate these dogs and the work they do.

Annual budget - $50,000