

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release



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One Team. Two Heroes. Canine Companions Provides Assistance Dog to Iraq War Veteran

Santa Rosa, CA May 1, 2008)— In February 2008, Canine Companions for Independence® provided assistance dog Sharif to First Lieutenant Jeffrey Adams, an Iraq War veteran. Canine Companions provides assistance dogs free of charge to adults and children with disabilities.

On November 7, 2004 Jeffrey lost his leg to a roadside bomb while serving in Iraq. Since then Jeffrey has recovered from his injury and walks with a prosthetic titanium leg. Additionally, he has learned to ski and is a professional ski instructor helping severely wounded veterans learn to ski and experience the thrill of sports post injury, just as they did before their injuries.

Service seems to be the commonality in these major life changes for Jeffrey. He lost his leg in service for our country. He volunteers to serve other disabled veterans by showing them they can still learn and enjoy new sports. And now he has a Service Dog, Sharif, from Canine Companions for Independence.

“Having a CCI assistance dog has really changed my life,” shared First Lieutenant Jeffrey Adams as he graduated from CCI Team Training in February 2008 with his new service dog Sharif.

Independence is a part of who Jeffrey is. Katie, his wife, explains, “He’s as independent as his stubborn brain will let him be.” Now, Sharif can help Jeffrey express his independence.

“When I first heard about CCI, I thought I don’t need a canine companion. Now I know how wonderful it will be and there are new possibilities for me that I didn’t expect,” shares Jeffrey.

“When I would go to the mall, people used to stare at my leg. Now they stare at my dog. Kids feel free to come up to Sharif. It makes me more approachable when I’m out in public,” Jeffrey explains.

CCI is actively looking to place assistance dogs to serve veterans who so amazingly and honorably serve us.

About Canine Companions for Independence

Canine Companions for Independence is the largest non-profit provider of trained assistance dogs with five regional training centers across the country. Established in 1975, Canine Companions provides highly trained assistance dogs to children and adults with disabilities and

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is recognized worldwide for the excellence of its dogs, and quality and longevity of the matches it makes between dogs and people. There is no charge for the dog, its training and on-going follow-up services. For more information, visit cci.org or call 1-800-572-BARK.

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