Dear Potential Puppy Raiser,

We appreciate your interest in the Volunteer Puppy Raising Program at Canine Companions for Independence. Our pups have a very special destiny--to assist a person with a disability in leading a more fulfilling and independent life.

For puppies to become Canine Companions, they must grow up in a loving environment and be exposed to a variety of stimulating experiences. That is why we need you!

Volunteer puppy raisers provide the foundation necessary for the development of a future assistance dog. By providing a controlled environment, attending obedience classes and carefully socializing

a CCI puppy you are supporting our mission of providing exceptional dogs for people with disabilities.

The application process consists of the following steps:

1) *Application: print and mail the completed application to the nearest CCI regional center.*
2) *Phone interview: scheduled by CCI upon review of your application.*
3) *Home approval: upon completion of phone interview applicant may be asked to submit photos or agree to in-home visit (depending on location and regional center).*
4) *Approval: if approved, you will be contacted about puppies available and may be asked to attend a puppy raiser orientation.*

This careful application process allows us to select the most suitable homes and individuals who can best fulfill our program requirements. We will contact you at the end of the application process to inform you of your approval status. In the meantime we encourage you to prepare yourself by visiting CCI puppy classes (if available in your area), inquiring about graduation, turn-in or other volunteer opportunities and events. Please keep in mind that in some regions there may be a wait time to receive a puppy. Please contact the regional center nearest you for specific questions.

Thank you for your interest in helping Canine Companions for Independence create a meaningful change in the lives of individuals with disabilities.

Sincerely,

Puppy Program Staff