



Patterson Foundation grant helps Austin Dog Alliance build new facility
Foundation awards \$134,000 to nine grant recipients in June

July 18, 2016 (ST. PAUL, Minn.) – In May, Austin Dog Alliance, a Texas-based organization that places therapy dogs with veterans and individuals suffering from post-traumatic stress (PTS), opened the doors to a brand new kennel and education facility that will help the organization double the number of placements it can make in a year. A \$13,740 grant from the Patterson Foundation was used for the installation of tile in the new facility.

“Our goal is to improve lives through therapeutic programs based on the bond between dogs and humans. Our primary focus is on serving veterans suffering from PTS, but we try to accommodate the needs of others who suffer from PTS for non-military purposes, such as domestic violence,” said Debi Kraker, executive director of Austin Dog Alliance. The organization, which trains and places 10 dogs per year in the central Texas region, anticipates being able to train and place 20 dogs per year as a result of the new facility. “We receive roughly 200 placement applications a year and this new kennel and education center is going to help us place more dogs with people who really need them,” Kraker added.

“One of the areas of focus for the Patterson Foundation is on supporting organizations that provide assistance dogs to veterans and others with disabilities. We’re thrilled to be supporting Austin Dog Alliance and their efforts to expand their services to the central Texas region,” said Michelle Mennicke, manager of the Patterson Foundation.

Austin Dog Alliance is one of nine organizations that received a grant from the Patterson Foundation in June. The Foundation awarded a total of \$134,654 in grants to nonprofit organizations across the U.S.

Q2 grant recipients and the communities where each is located:

- Amaus Health Services – Syracuse, NY
- America’s VetDogs – Smithtown, NY
- Austin Dog Alliance – Cedar Park, TX
- Community Free Dental Clinic – Huntsville, AL
- Genesis World Mission – Garden City, ID
- GiGi’s Playhouse – Hoffman Estates, IL
- Heart and Soul Free Clinic – Westfield, IN
- Mission Outpost Dental Clinic – Burnsville, MN
- Trinity Free Clinic – Carmel, IN

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About the Patterson Foundation

Patterson Foundation is a private grant-making foundation that awards higher education scholarships to the children of Patterson Companies employees and provides grant funding to nonprofit organizations in the oral health and animal health fields. The Foundation focuses its grants on programs that provide dental care to disadvantaged communities, assistance dogs to people with disabilities and leadership opportunities to youth in agriculture. The Patterson Foundation is funded primarily by current and former employees of Patterson Companies, Inc. Visit pattersonfoundation.net for more information.

About Patterson Companies, Inc.

Patterson Companies, Inc. (Nasdaq: PDCO) is a value-added distributor serving the dental and animal health markets.

Dental Market

Patterson's Dental segment provides a virtually complete range of consumable dental products, equipment and software, turnkey digital solutions and value-added services to dentists and dental laboratories throughout North America.

Animal Health Market

Patterson's Animal Health segment is a leading distributor of products, services and technologies to both the production and companion animal health markets in North America and the U.K.

About Austin Dog Alliance

Located in Cedar Park, Texas, Austin Dog Alliance, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, provides Therapy Dog teams to local hospitals, rehabilitation centers and nursing homes and offers assistance to at-risk readers at schools and libraries through its Bow Wow Reading Dog program. The Alliance's S+CORE! program provides vocational training and job placement in canine-related fields for adults with learning challenges. Its Hounds for Heroes program trains and provides service dogs to deserving U.S veterans. The Austin Dog Alliance also provides human-dog training classes for beginner and advanced dog owners. The organization depends on donations to sustain and grow its programs. For more information, visit <http://austindogalliance.org>.

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