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10,000 Service Dogs to Receive the Gift of Preserved Sight

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animallover

Post subject: 10,000 Service Dogs to Receive the Gift of Preserved Sight **Posted:** Tue Apr 15, 2008 1:57 pm

online

EnviroLink Volunteer



Joined: Wed Jul 11, 2007 8:38 am
Posts: 11657
Location: Florida

The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists® (ACVO®), Pet Health Systems (PHS) and Merial are launching the ACVO® National Service Dog Eye Exam event the week of May 12, 2008. This unprecedented event will provide free sight-saving eye exams and preventative health reports to 5,000-10,000 Service Dogs.

Over 140 board certified veterinary ophthalmologists and 1,300 general veterinarians across the U.S. will work together to provide these services at no cost to Service Dog groups including: guide dogs, handicapped assistance dogs, detection dogs and search and rescue dogs. With this event, ACVO® and PHS hope to give back to these animals who selflessly serve the public for no compensation. They will accomplish this goal while donating nearly \$1 million in services to the 5,000-10,000 Service Dogs anticipated to participate. Merial, makers of HEARTGARD® Plus (ivermectin/pyrantel) and FRONTLINE®, is the official event sponsor.

An ACVO® Diplomate recently hosted a local test event in Memphis, TN, and examined 87 Service Dogs. The local event was so successful that ACVO® decided to offer this program on a national scale. One seeing-eye dog, "Quest", was diagnosed with a possible sight-robbing tumor, which would be devastating to both him and his owner, Mr. Ron McKenney. We are hopeful that through the partnership of a veterinary oncologist and veterinary ophthalmologist Quest may be able to retain his sight.

<http://www.prweb.com/releases/2008/04/prweb859284.htm>

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