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Calling All Service Dogs-What's Your 20?

ACVO's National Service Dog Eye Exam Day brings together veterinary ophthalmologists and thousands of service dogs for free exams May 3-9

Meridian, ID—Guide dogs, handicapped assistance dogs, detection dogs and search and rescue dogs selflessly serve the public with no compensation. The week of May 3, the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists® (ACVO®) is launching the 2nd ACVO® National Service Dog Eye Exam Day sponsored by Hill's Pet Nutrition, OPTIGEN, and Kong Veterinary Products to help serve these dogs who dedicate their lives to serving us. More than 150 board certified veterinary ophthalmologists will provide free sight-saving eye exams to thousands of service dogs.

To qualify, dogs must be "working dogs" certified through a formal training program or organization. The mission of ACVO's National Service Dog Eye Exam Day is to preserve the sight and health of these animals whose partners depend upon them.

"Many of ACVO's ophthalmologists generously provide similar services to their service dog clients throughout the year," says Stacey Daniel, executive director of the organization. "Our hope is that by checking these animals' vision on the national day of service, we will be able to help a large number of dogs better assist their human friends."

How to Register

Dogs must be active "working dogs" that were certified by a formal training program or organization or currently enrolled in a formal training program to qualify. The certifying organization could be



national, regional or local in nature. Specific service groups are listed on the website. Owners/agents for the dog(s) will register the animal via an online registration form beginning April 1. Once registered, the owner/agent can locate a participating ophthalmologist in their area to schedule an appointment.

To learn more about and register for ACVO's National Service Dog Eye Exam Day, please visit www.ACVOeyeexam.org.

For more information, photos and interviews with participating veterinary ophthalmologists, service dogs (and their owners) and ACVO representatives, please contact: Julie Robbins, Fetching Communications, 813.412.3354, Julie@fetchingcommunications.com.

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