

ACVO
NATIONAL SERVICE ANIMAL
Eye Exam Event
Sponsored by Epicur Pharma

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Over 5,250 Free Eye Exams Provided During the 14th Annual National Service Animal Eye Exam Event

Sight-saving eye exams were provided to animals in more than 200 cities across the U.S., Canada, Puerto Rico, and Hong Kong

MERIDIAN, Idaho – JULY 10, 2023 – With the National Service Animal Eye Exam Event operating at full capacity for the first time since COVID-19, [The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists®](#) (ACVO) is proud to announce that more than 5,250 free eye exams were provided during the 14th anniversary of the National Service Animal Eye Exam Event, sponsored by Epicur Pharma®. Over 270 ACVO Diplomates in approximately 200 cities in the U.S., Canada, Puerto Rico, and Hong Kong donated their time and resources this year to conduct eye exams for Service and Working Animals that provide the following services: guide, hearing assistance, drug detection, police/military, search and rescue, therapy, and those assisting people with disabilities other than blindness.

Each May, the ACVO holds the National Service Animal Eye Exam Event. Since the event's creation in 2008, ACVO Diplomates have provided over 80,000 free eye exams in hopes of catching any health issues early.



Board certified veterinary ophthalmologist, Dr. Cassandra Bliss, provides eye exam to Service Dog at 2023 National Service Animal Eye Exam Event

"We are thrilled to have served over 5,250 Service and Working Animals with free, potentially life-saving eye exams," said ACVO Executive Director Stacee Daniel. "This event would not be possible without our Diplomates and their amazing staff, who we cannot thank enough for their donated time and dedication to helping Service and Working Animals that work so hard for us."

Search and Rescue dogs Zip and Ry were two of the Service Animals who received free eye exams at this year's National Service Animal Eye Exam event. Ophthalmologists at the Purdue University Veterinary Hospital had previously treated service dog Ry after discovering an iris mass that involved more of the eye than just the iris, raising concerns about potential cancer. Ry had one of his eyes removed as part of his treatment. At this year's event, Ry was found to be cancer free and has not missed a beat as a one-eyed search and rescue dog. The Purdue University Veterinary Hospital Ophthalmologists also provided free eye exams for therapy dogs, guide dogs, mobility and retrieval dogs, and more.

The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists is an approved veterinary specialty organization of the American Board of Veterinary Specialties that board certifies veterinarians as ophthalmologists. The 2023 ACVO National Service Animal Eye Exam Event was sponsored by Epicur Pharma®.

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About the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists®

The American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists® (ACVO®) is an approved veterinary specialty organization of the American Board of Veterinary Specialties and is recognized by the American Veterinary Medical Association. Its mission is "to advance the quality of veterinary medicine through certification of veterinarians who demonstrate excellence as specialists in veterinary ophthalmology." To become board certified, a candidate must successfully complete a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree, a one-year internship, a three-year ACVO® approved residency and pass a series of credentials and examinations. For more information, please visit www.ACVO.org.

About Epicur Pharma®

Epicur Pharma is a division of Stokes Healthcare™ (founded in 1975), sister division to [Stokes Pharmacy®](#), and a dedicated ACVO supporter for many years. Adding a unique offering to the veterinary industry, Epicur Pharma is an FDA Registered 503B Outsourcing Facility that follows Current Good Manufacturing Practices (cGMP) which are FDA enforced regulations. Every drug is 100% manufactured to FDA standards so you can be confident in the quality of your pet's prescription. As a loving pet owner, you are in charge of your pet's safety and wellbeing. With medications from Epicur, you'll be fulfilling that promise. Epicur Pharma is proud to be a pioneer in animal drug standards, offering the largest selection of manufactured drugs that are traditionally compounded. For more information, go to epicurpharma.com