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Free Eye Exams for Service Animals Returns for its 10th Year



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The National Service Animal Eye Exam Event is sponsored by American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists and Stokes Pharmacy.

BY JESSICA PINEDA

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Dr. Terah Webb, a board-certified veterinary ophthalmologist from Columbus, Ohio participates in the 2015 National Service Animal Eye Exam Event. ACVO

Now in its 10th year, the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists (ACVO) and Stokes Pharmacy of Laurel, N.J. will once again offer free eye exams to service animals. The National Service Animal Eye Exam Event will take place in May, but registration will be held April 1 to 30, 2017.

Since 2008, ACVO has performed more than 52,000 eye exams to service dogs around the U.S., Canada and Puerto Rico. This year, the ACVO has also invited internal members to join in as well.

The types of service dogs that qualify include: guide, disability assistance, detection, military, search and rescue, and also certified-current, registered therapy animals.



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One example is a black lab named Giza, owned by Nancy Moore. Giza helped navigate for Moore, but one day, when she pulled her into the street, Moore knew it was time for an eye exam. However, since she had limited income, the exam proved too costly ... Until she realized she qualified for ACVO's free service.

"Nancy and Giza's story showcases just how important healthy eyesight is to Service Animals and their owners," said Stacee Daniel, executive director of ACVO. "These animals selflessly serve the public. In 2017 we will celebrate our amazing partners with the 10th anniversary of this event, and we are truly grateful that so many Service Animals have been seen and helped by our veterinary ophthalmologists."

For more information, go to www.ACVOeyeexam.org.

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