NOTE: This information is for ICAN volunteers when doing outreach activities either by participating in de-stressors, presentations, Puppy Love Year Round deliveries, business meet and greets or furloughing. We very much appreciate your support volunteering! We hope this information provides you answers to the many questions individuals ask about ICAN, allowing you to share how we are unleashing abilities and changing lives! THANK YOU!

How does ICAN serve children and adults living with physical or developmental disabilities in Indiana?

- The service dogs we train provide independence for people living with a disability.
- Our dogs are trained and matched specifically to people with specific needs. Service dogs serve clients with various developmental and physical disabilities by assisting them in day-to-day activities.
- They also create a loving bridge to connect the non-disabled world with that of the disabled.
- ICAN places dogs for Mobility assistance (walker, wheelchair, balance assist, cane), Facility assistance (courts, special education classes, rehabilitation centers) PTSD for Veterans, Autism assist (autism on the high spectrum), Diabetic alert for low and high blood sugars (age limit to apply is 16 years or older) and In-home skilled companion assist. The minimum requirement age for any applicant (except for diabetic alert dogs) is eight years. For individuals who wish to learn more please direct them to our website to review all of the details prior to contacting ICAN staff. [www.icandog.org](http://www.icandog.org)
- ICAN is the only service dog organization in Indiana that is accredited by Assistance Dogs International (ADI) and must go through accreditation every five years. We must follow strict training guidelines and client placements as directed by ADI.

1. How does ICAN benefit the inmate handlers who train the dog in Indiana correctional facilities?

- The ICAN program prepares offenders to return to their communities better equipped to successfully reintegrate with their families.
- The dog training program is based on positive reinforcement.
- After 3,600 hours of training, the inmate receives from the Indiana Department of Corrections, a Department of Labor Apprenticeship Certificate as a Service Dog Trainer, therefore, provides them a specialize skill which helps them obtain a job more quickly upon release.
- ICAN has training programs in three correctional facilities – Indiana Women’s Prison, Correctional Industrial Facility and Pendleton Correctional Facility.
- ICAN has approximately 52-56 handlers and up to 60 dogs in their training program, and graduates an average of 20 dogs per year. Graduations are held at no charge at Indiana Women’s Prison in June and December. To learn more how to register visit ICAN Graduation @ icandog.org

2. What can ICAN service dogs do?

- ICAN dogs perform the tasks necessary to maintain independence and quality of life from opening and closing doors, to providing unconditional love that only dogs can give, ICAN dogs are a vital part to our clients' everyday lives.
- Some of the ways our dogs serve our clients include:
  - Retrieving dropped items or unreachable items
  - Transporting items from one person to another
  - Opening/ closing doors and cabinets
  - Pulling up covers
  - Turning on/off light switches
  - Tugging off clothes, moving clothes from the dryer to a basket

(over please)
3. **What is the length of time ICAN has been in service?**
   - Since 2002, ICAN has successfully been placing dogs into meaningful relationships with clients who need assistance with daily activities.
   - ICAN’s Executive Director is Jillian Ashton and has a team of seven full-time staff and 13 Board of Directors.

4. **How is ICAN financially supported?**
   - ICAN’s annual budget is $699,500 (2018) and the cost for a dog to become a service dog is $26,000. These costs include training, food, supplies and vet care in addition to servicing the client through annual refresher classes, public access tests, home visits and more for an average of eight years after they receive the dog.
   - The generosity of individual donations, business partnerships and funding from grants help support ICAN’s mission. Approximately 65-70% of ICAN’s revenue comes from individual donations and foundations.
   - The clients pay a one-time fee of $1,600 and receive follow-up and training for the life of the partnership (average of eight years) at no additional cost.
   - Approximately 70 individuals (children and adults) are on a wait list to receive a dog. The average wait time can be anywhere from six months to 2 or more years. It’s imperative that the right dog matches the right person.

5. **How can you help ICAN?**
   - **SPONSOR AN ICAN PUPPY!** As an individual or business you will get to name the pup and learn about his/her training throughout the two years and be part of his/her graduation! To learn more, contact Dino at dino@icandog.org or call 317-313-3754.
   - **HOST A TAILS TO TELL** in your home or business over cocktails, brunch or dinner. We will bring the dogs and the team to do a very informal presentation to your friends and co-workers and share with them some inspiration stories of how ICAN brings hope throughout the community. To learn more, contact Dino at dino@icandog.org or call 317-313-3754.
   - **SEND A PUPPY LOVE YEAR ROUND DELIVERY!** That’s right! Let ICAN’s dogs in training deliver that special gift for you to someone you love for any occasion! In addition, ICAN has a special “Birthday Club” for businesses as well as special Meet & Greet activities. To learn more, contact Annie at annie@icandog.org or visit our website c/o Puppy Love Year Round.
   - **INVITE US** to your school, civic group, business or church! We will provide you some four legged visitors, demonstrate the cues they know, provide a presentation and plenty of time for questions and answers. To learn more, contact Joni at joni@icandog.org or visit our website c/o About ICAN.
   - **MAKE A DONATION!** Your donation can be done on a monthly or one time pledge and can be done online at icandog.org or by phone by contacting Brynne at brynnee@icandog.org or call 317-672-3860.
   - **JOIN US AT ICAN’s ANNUAL WINE & WAGS!** Each October, ICAN hosts Wine & Wags – an after work program which includes complimentary wine and appetizers followed by a one hour program where you will have the opportunity to hear inspirational stories from members of the community, release inmate handlers, ICAN clients on how ICAN has changed their life. There is no fee to attend, however, you will be ask to make a donation at the end of the program. This year, the program takes place on Thursday, October 11th from 5:30-7:30pm and is being held at the Biltwell Event Center. Consider hosting a table of 8-10 guests for us! To register or learn more, visit icandog.org c/o Wine & Wags or contact dino@icandog.org.

**IMPORTANT NOTE TO VOLUNTEERS WORKING EVENTS:** If any follow up is needed from your outreach activity in terms of passing information/feedback/referrals on to ICAN or getting an answer back to someone you may have met, it’s very important to follow this process. Give info directly to Joni (if doing presentations/de-stressors) to Annie (if doing a puppy love year round delivery or meet & greet) or to Dino (if doing furloughs or anything outside of the listed activities). They will take care of contacting the appropriate staff at ICAN to follow up with that company or individual. Thank you again!

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Annie Jansons, ICAN Puppy Love Year Round Volunteer Coordinator - annie@icandog.org – 317-319-9887  
Dino Sierp, ICAN Director of Development & Outreach - dino@icandog.org – 317-313-3754