

Your gift will
transform lives.

Guide Dogs.





Your legacy; a future of inclusion and independence

**“Thank you for considering a gift
in your Will to Guide Dogs.”**

There is something very special about seeing a client, who was unsure of their surroundings, embrace their independence. The decision to include a gift in your Will to Guide Dogs can make such an incredibly profound difference to a person living with low vision, blindness or children living with autism and their families.

Every day I’m privileged to see how transformational our work is to our clients, and I want to ensure the future success of Guide Dogs well beyond my

tenure as CEO. That’s why I decided to join ‘Buddy for Life’ and include a gift in my Will to Guide Dogs SA/NT.

Your gift is a wonderful legacy that will support South Australians and Northern Territorians with low vision, blindness or children living with autism and their families achieve their goals and lead independent lives.”



Aaron Chia
Chief Executive Officer
Guide Dogs SA/NT

Guide Dogs SA/NT

For more than 60 years, Guide Dogs SA/NT has used our expertise in dogs and vision to promote independence, participation, inclusion and wellbeing for people with low vision, blindness or children living with autism and their families.

Guide Dogs in South Australia was started by the Adelaide and Unley Apex Groups in 1957. In 1959 South Australia joined with Northern Territory to become Guide Dogs Association of SA and NT Incorporated.

Since our founding days, our services have grown far beyond just Guide Dogs to include a wide range of community initiatives, and training and education programs.

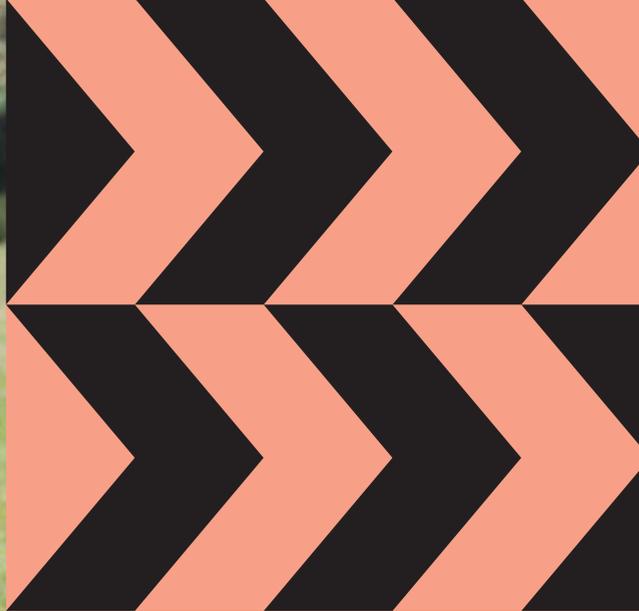
Today we work to ensure people with low vision or blindness are active and involved members of the community.

We do this by teaching practical skills to help children and adults reach their personal potential, regardless of when or how they became affected by low vision or blindness. These skills are developed under our Orientation & Mobility and Occupational Therapy programs. In 2010, we pioneered the provision of Autism Assistance Dogs.

The number of South Australians and Territorians who need our services is growing every year; vision loss will significantly increase over the next decade due to our ageing population and increasing prevalence of diabetes.

At Guide Dogs SA/NT, it is essential that we plan for the future to ensure our sustainability, so that we can continue to support our community for many years to come.





A Buddy for Life

Thank you for considering Guide Dogs as a beneficiary in your Will.

The Buddy for Life program is our way of recognising your kind commitment to our work. 'Buddy' was the name of the first Guide Dog ever trained in SA, and with your generosity, we can continue to uphold Buddy's legacy and carry on with our work to improve the quality of life of people with low vision, blindness or children living with autism and their families.

Buddy for Life membership is free. It is designed to bring together kindred supporters of Guide Dogs SA/NT.

Our members receive invitations to special Guide Dog SA/NT events and are kept up to date with our work and stories.

“To ensure that the dogs can continue to be trained and help people lead more independent lives, I am happy to include a gift in my Will”

Bev
Gift in Will supporter
Guide Dogs SA/NT

A gift in your Will to Guide Dogs will transform lives

Every day nine Australians are told that they will become blind. For a person who is blind or has low vision, being matched with a Guide Dog is a life-changing moment for our clients.

The transformation of a puppy into a Guide Dog is remarkable and the difference they make to their handler is truly amazing. A gift in your Will provides independence and freedom for people with low vision or blindness into the future.

Whilst Guide Dogs receives some Government funding, our puppy training program relies heavily on the support of the community. At a cost of more than \$50,000 to breed, raise and train our working dogs, gifts in Wills have helped thousands of Australians live a life that they choose.

With your generous support we can continue to provide Guide Dogs and Autism Assistance Dogs to help our clients achieve a lifetime of independence, participation, inclusion and wellbeing.



“Guide Dogs has been part of my life as long as I can remember,” says Sacha. “Even when I was little, I wanted to do things on my own. I learnt to use a white cane when I just was four.”

Sacha
Client
Guide Dogs SA/NT

The gift of a Guide Dog

Have you ever wondered how a Guide Dog can transform a life?

Like her Mum Alison, Sacha has Familial Exudative Vitreoretinopathy (FEVR). FEVR is a common condition however, most people do not realise they have it. In rare cases, such as with Sacha and Alison, it comes with manifestations that cause vision loss.

Sacha has worked with Orientation and Mobility specialists at Guide Dogs since she was just three, learning how to move around safely and independently.

The skills Sacha learnt have all been preparing her for the ultimate goal to open up many more opportunities – a Guide Dog.

By including a gift to Guide Dogs SA/NT, you can make a profound change to the life of a person with blindness or low vision. You may never meet the person whose life your kindness changes, but they will never forget your generosity.

The costs are great...

Our puppies are bred for the behaviours and temperament needed to become successful Guide Dogs, but first they need to grow up a bit and experience the big wide world.

So at 8 to 10 weeks, each puppy leaves our Puppy Development Centre to live with a volunteer puppy raiser until they are 12 to 14 months old. During this time,

the puppy raiser teaches basic obedience skills and introduces the puppy to the sights, sounds and smells it is likely to encounter as a working Guide Dog.

It costs more than \$50,000 to breed, raise and train a puppy to become a Guide Dog or Autism Assistance Dog.

The rewards are priceless...

Over five months our puppies work with a specialist Guide Dog Trainer learning to avoid obstacles and hazards, stopping to indicate change of surface such as kerbs and obeying commands. This brings out their natural guiding ability and increases their confidence.

At about 14 months, puppies return to the Puppy Development Centre for their specialised Guide Dog training.

Following graduation, each Guide Dog is carefully matched with their handler by our skilled Guide Dog Mobility Instructors who consider the personality, physical ability, age location and lifestyle of the handler.

Together the handler and Guide Dog will do additional intensive training to complete the transformation from one person and one dog to a very special Guide Dog partnership based on mutual trust and loyalty.





Including a life-changing gift in your Will

A gift in your Will can make a life-long difference to someone who has low vision, blindness or children living with autism and their families.

There are many ways to include us in your Will and it is advisable to seek legal advice when preparing your Will. We also recommend that you discuss your wishes with family and loved ones.

A gift can take many forms:

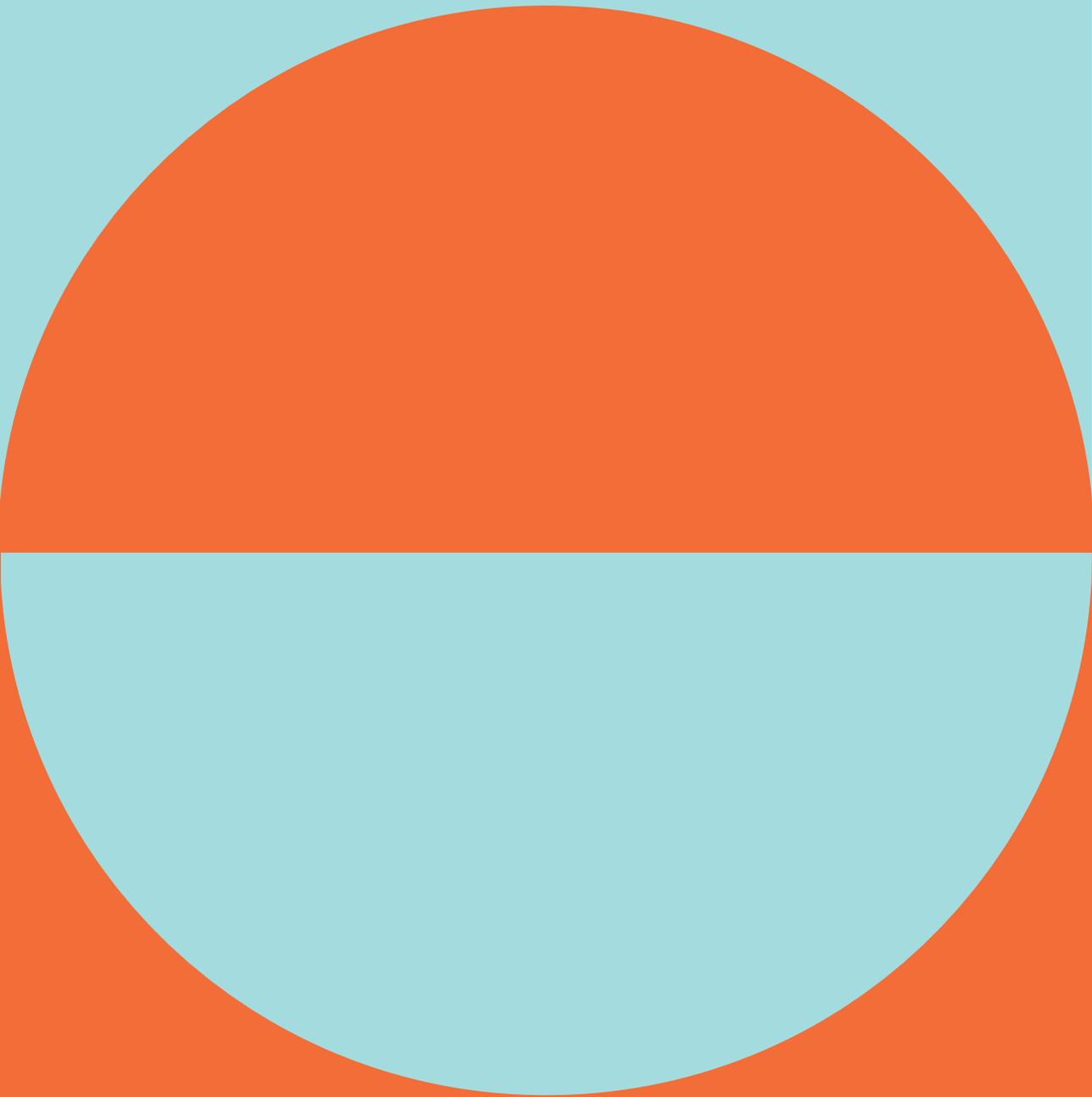
- **Whole or a part of your estate**
You can leave your entire estate or any part of your estate to Guide Dogs SA/NT.
- **Percentage of your estate**
Not sure how much will be in your estate? You can leave us your entire estate or any percentage of your estate you choose. This means that no matter the value of your estate, the percentage you intend for Guide Dogs SA/NT will remain the same.
- **Fixed amount**
This type of gift is sometimes called a 'pecuniary gift'. This is a specific sum which may need to be changed over the years to account for inflation and changes to your circumstances.
- **Residuary gift**
A residuary gift is one where you give a portion of all that is remaining in your estate – after specific gifts and debts are fulfilled. After you have taken care of loved ones and dependants, you can leave us the whole or a percentage of what remains in your estate.
- **A specific asset**
A specific asset includes real estate, shares or other particular items of value.

It is essential that **Guide Dogs Association of SA & NT Inc.** is correctly named in your Will, alongside with the correct **ABN 91 183 168 093.**

The wording for you to consider and take along to your solicitor is provided on page 16.

If you are kindly remembering us in your Will, please tell us as we would love to thank you and invite you to special Guide Dogs events.

If you would like your name inscribed in our Buddy for Life Honour Book, please complete the form on page 22 and return it to us in the supplied reply paid envelope.



“My involvement with Guide Dogs is something that makes me proud every day. I like the idea that in the future, my gift will continue to help people who are blind or have low vision”

Colin Martin
Bequestor
Guide Dogs SA/NT

The correct wording for including Guide Dogs SA/NT as a beneficiary in your Will

We recommend you seek qualified legal advice when making a Will or changing an existing Will.

It is very important to use the correct name - **Guide Dogs Association of SA and NT Inc.** and **ABN 91 183 168 093** – to avoid confusion and subsequent legal costs. Please use the details below when you speak with your solicitor.

Thank you again for your valuable support.

If you, your solicitor or trustee have any questions please contact Deidrei Lennon, Planned Giving Officer at Guide Dogs SA/NT on (08) 8203 8302 or email bequests@guidedogs.org.au

I give to Guide Dogs Association of SA and NT Inc. ABN 91 183 168 093

- The rest and residue of my Estate, or
- ____ percent of my Estate, or
- ____ percent of the residue of my Estate, or
- The sum of \$ _____

for its general purposes free of all duties and taxes payable upon or in consequence of my death and I declare that the receipt of its Chief Executive Officer or other authorised officer shall be sufficient to discharge my executors for this bequest.





Frank and Jo have been supporters of Guide Dogs for over five years. They have seen puppies being raised first hand and have witnessed the work of Guide Dogs in the community. By leaving a gift in their Will, they are helping to ensure this good work continues.

“As animal lovers, we believe the organisation does great work supporting their clients.”

Our gift charter

- We acknowledge the significance of your wish to benefit Guide Dogs as part of your last Will & Testament.
- We understand that loved ones come first, and we encourage you to discuss your intention with them before finalising your Will.
- We would love to know that you have included Guide Dogs in your Will, so that we can discuss any wishes you may have and give you the option of having your name inscribed in our Honour Book. Naturally, if you decide not to tell us, we understand and respect your decision.
- We will always respect your privacy. Any information you give us regarding your Will shall be held in strict confidence and shall not be publicly disclosed during your lifetime without your expressed permission.
- We promise that we will use your gift wisely and cost effectively so that it has the greatest impact for people who have low vision, blindness or children living with autism and their families. We will handle whatever gift you leave us with care and respect.
- We appreciate that this decision needs to be made in your own time.



Including a gift in your Will; frequently asked questions

Who should to make a Will?

Everyone over the age of 18. Without a Will your assets may not reach your loved ones and the causes you care about.

How do I make or change my Will?

We strongly recommend that you obtain expert advice from a solicitor to ensure that the option you choose, changes to an existing Will, or the drafting of a new Will, accurately reflects your intentions. If you are drafting a new Will, you will need to appoint an Executor of your Will, who will be responsible for ensuring that your wishes are carried out.

This person can be a legal professional, trusted family member or friend.

Where do I find a solicitor?

If you do not have a solicitor, you can consult the Law Society of South Australia to find a solicitor in your area who specialises in Wills and Estates.

What are the main types of gifts in Wills?

- Whole or a part of your estate
- Percentage of your estate
- Fixed amount
- Residuary gift
- A specific asset

Details of these types of gifts can be found on page 16.

What type of gift would best support Guide Dogs with its life-changing work?

While this decision is ultimately up to you, a percentage of your entire estate or a percentage of what remains after you have taken care of your family and loved ones, referred to as the a residuary gift, is most helpful because the gift won't lose value over time.

Why should I leave a gift in my Will to a Guide Dogs SA/NT?

By including Guide Dogs SA/NT in your Will, you are helping us to provide vital services to South Australians and Northern Territorians who have low vision, blindness or children living with autism and their families – the raising and training of Guide Dogs is a significant part of this activity. You may never meet the person whose life your kindness has changed, but they will never forget your generosity.

Why should I let you know that I have left you a gift in my Will?

Informing us of your generous decision is important as it allows us to thank you personally and to welcome you into our Buddy for Life program; a group of like-minded supporters of Guide Dogs SA/NT's work. As a Buddy for Life member you will receive invitations to our exclusive events and be kept informed of new developments at Guide Dogs SA/NT.



Buddy for Life

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

Please return to:

Deidrei Lennon

Planned Giving Officer

Guide Dogs SA/NT,

251 Morphett Street,

Adelaide SA 5000

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Guide Dogs.

I wish to advise that a gift to Guide Dogs SA/NT is included in my Will, and as an honorary member of the Buddy for Life Program;

- I would like to have my name inscribed in the Buddy for Life Honour Book.
- I would prefer not to have my name entered in the Buddy for Life Honour Book.

Please ensure that the information below is correct and make appropriate changes if necessary.

Your name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Mobile: _____

Email: _____

Date of birth: _____

Thank you

Thank you for taking the time to consider leaving a gift in your Will to Guide Dogs SA/NT and helping us to continue to raise and train our beautiful dogs.

For any enquiries or more details regarding including Guide Dogs SA/NT as a beneficiary in your Will, please contact:

Deidrei Lennon

Planned Giving Officer

Guide Dogs SA/NT

bequests@guidedogs.org.au

(08) 8203 8302

251 Morphett Street, Adelaide

South Australia 5000



**South Australia's
first Guide Dogs
organisation – and still
leading the way today.**

**Guide
Dogs.**

A lasting legacy to support
people with low vision, blindness
or children living with autism and
their families in South Australia
and the Northern Territory.

Contact Us

T 08 8203 8302

E bequests@guidedogs.org.au

W Gifts in Wills - Guide Dogs SA/NT

ABN: 91 183 168 093.