

September Hearing Dog Herald



ADI Conference

Assistance Dogs International (ADI) is a worldwide coalition of nonprofit organizations that train and place Assistance Dogs with individuals with disabilities to improve their quality of life through great independence.

IHDI was accepted as a Candidate Program to ADI and is currently working toward full accreditation. IHDI believes that meeting the ADI standards will allow us to continue to grow in all aspects of the

organization; meeting the needs of clients, dogs and community members while being an active advocate and participant in the assistance dog industry.

Formed in 1986, ADI works to:

- Establish & promote standards of excellence in all areas of Assistance Dog acquisition, training and partnership.
- Facilitate communication and learning among member programs
- Educate the public on the benefits of Assistance Dogs & ADI membership

Last week, IHDI trainers were able to attend the 2022 Assistance Dogs International Conference - Moving Forward Together, virtually! Our trainers favorite topics from the Conference included the Humane Hierarchy in addition to Puppy Socialization Best Practices, that they look forward to implementing within our programs best practices. We appreciate ADI's commitment to promoting Best Practices and providing this high caliber training opportunity.



September Client Impact Report

Practice makes perfect... so it is critical that clients regularly train with their Service Dogs to keep their skills fresh and make sure the dog is ready to assist them at any moment. In order to ensure our Hearing Dog Teams remain strong and effective, Hearing Dog is committed to providing support and training to our teams for the life of the match!

Each IHDI Active Team has periodic check-ins with IHDI to assess the team and make sure they continue to successfully do the tasks the dog was trained to do, as well as teach new skills to meet the needs of the client. We also provide re-certification testing annually to ensure the teams are continuing to be at the top of their game both in their homes and in public.

In the month of September, IHDI's trainers provided 61 hours of support to 9 Hearing Dog teams through recertification, in-person training, virtual touch bases, client calls & much more!

Deaf Awareness Month

September is Deaf Awareness Month! This is a time to celebrate the rich history of the d/Deaf community and to continue the work of advocating for the rights of d/Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals everywhere. Wondering how you can honor d/Deaf awareness month?

Here are some ideas:

1. Learn about d/Deaf culture and history
2. Add Closed Captioning
2. Learn the basics of American Sign Language (ASL)
3. Ask questions to those in the community!
4. Advocate for accessibility at work, in your community, at school, etc!
5. Attend a local d/Deaf community gathering
6. Volunteer at organizations/schools that serve individuals who are d/Deaf
8. Support d/Deaf and hard of hearing businesses, creators & artists



Keep a lookout every Sunday on our Facebook page for #SignLanguageSunday as a great first step to learning the basics of ASL!



Shop & Support

Did you know that you can support your favorite non-profit by grocery shopping? Through the Community Rewards Program at King Soopers and City Market, you can support IHDI with every grocery run! Thus far in 2022, 31 families generated over \$1,000 in donated funds to

IHDI simply by scanning their loyalty card at checkout! Can you imagine the impact of 50 families shopping & supporting the Hearing Dog program with every grocery run?

To enroll in the Community Rewards Program, visit the appropriate link below:

- King Soopers: <http://www.kingsoopers.com>
- City Market: <http://www.citymarket.com>

Once logged in, use the toolbar on the left-hand side to select "Community Rewards." Next, search for International Hearing Dog, Inc by name or our assigned Non-Profit Organization number (#TM346). Click enroll! Once enrolled, a portion of your purchases will be supporting IHDI!

Kroger Community Rewards

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