When you have limited mobility in your extremities, losing a service dog is like being isolated on an island with no bridges and no way to connect to the outside world. That’s how Chris Blanchard felt when Ben, his first Summit Assistance Dog, died suddenly in February of 2012 from a pancreatic tumor.

Chris beat himself up for a while, wondering “how could I let this happen to him? He stood by and did everything for me, always, and I was supposed to be there for him!” We know Chris would have done anything to help Ben, if possible. That did not change the fact that Chris was now alone again, trapped in his own world, limited to what he could achieve from his chair. Summit worked quickly to find the right dog for Chris, one that could take the place of such a devoted companion and help Chris to regain his independence.

Then Chris met Griffin. After spending a little time with Griffin, Chris knew that this was the dog for him. Chris visited the Summit facility several times and worked with Griffin and the trainers on special tasks Griffin would need to perform for him. Even before attending team training and officially taking Griffin home, Chris said it felt like the “bridges are under construction, and I can see that I will soon have a way off of this deserted island.”

Chris and Griffin - 2012 Graduates

Jeremiah Gibbs-Jones is a light-hearted, exceptional 3-year-old boy who was born with Thrombocytopenia-Absent Radius (TAR) syndrome, so he is missing all long bones of both arms. He also has bilateral deformities of both knees and ankles, so he is unable to walk on his feet. Jeremiah is waiting for a service dog to help him better access his environment (including helping him into his new power wheelchair) and to help calm him during his many doctors’ visits. Jeremiah’s family knows him to be a differently-abled boy who will accomplish big things in his life. He is eager to take on new challenges and desires his independence.
Sue’s Message

Relationships are the heart of any charitable organization, and as 2012 comes to an end, I find myself reflecting on the myriad of wonderful relationships I’ve been blessed with since founding Summit. Our clients who receive our dogs have inspired me time and time again.

Each has an incredible story to share about their journey through life. Some were born facing low odds of survival. Some were injured, and in an instant, life was no longer as they knew it. Some faced a slow decline through illness. All of them have experienced loss at some level, and each has a compelling need for the companionship and independence that a dog can provide.

Relationships with our clients at Summit form the foundation for all that we do and are. When we hear from them that their new service dog has opened doors for them and expanded their world, we experience great joy in knowing we’ve helped change a life.

Many other relationships are at the heart of our work. Without our generous donors and volunteers, there would be no lives changed. It takes a community of caring and giving people to raise and place a service dog. One of the best parts of my job is getting to know the people who support us. I’ve found people who give to organizations like ours to be truly great people to spend time with. If I haven’t met you yet, I hope 2013 will be the year.

Then there are the relationships we’ve built with other community organizations. Who would have thought our work could be so much more effective using inmates in a prison to train our dogs, or that homeless dogs found in animal shelters could make superb service animals? I love the win-win relationships we’ve created with other organizations over the years.

Last but not least, there are the relationships we share with our dogs. I’ve shared my home with at least 200 Summit dogs. Some have stayed for a night, some for many months. Each one confirms its individuality for me and makes me realize why the client matching process is so exciting. In a world where much has become mechanized, a service dog can never be replaced by modern technology.

As we enter 2013, I look forward to forging more relationships. These will sustain our organization into the future and assure that our many waiting clients will receive a dog. Most of you reading our annual report are accustomed to being asked for your money, your time, your talents. We continue to need all these things, but this time I’d like to encourage your support in a way you may never have thought about. Please introduce us to people you know—friends, family, co-workers—for out of these relationships, wonderful things happen in the lives of the people and animals we serve.

2012 Financial Results
(FY 1/1/12-12/31/12)

Income
- Corporate Donations and Grants: $64,000
- Employee Giving Campaigns: $82,500
- Event Income: $74,000
- Foundation Grants: $29,000
- Individual Donors: $101,000
- In Kind Donation: $4,500
- Investment Income: $23,500
- Organization Donations: $2,500
- Program Service Revenue: $10,000
- Sale of Merchandise: $4,000
- Temporarily Restricted Activity: $91,000
- Total Income: $486,000

Expense
- Dues & Subscriptions: $1,500
- Employee Expenses: $250,500
- Fundraising Events: $19,500
- Insurance - Liability: $2,500
- Meals & Entertainment: $3,500
- Occupancy: $32,000
- Outreach Events: $6,500
- Postage & Delivery: $5,500
- Printing & Copying: $5,500
- Professional Services: $44,000
- Supplies: $33,000
- Telephone/Communication: $5,000
- Training: $1000
- Travel: $5,500
- Vehicle: $5,000
- Total Expense: $422,500

2012 Accomplishments
- Placed nine new service dog teams
- Launched Veterans’ Program
- Provided follow-up support to 45 graduate teams
- Rescued 18 homeless dogs
- Monroe Service Dog Partnership featured on KOMO 4, KING 5 and KCPQ 13 News

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Tribute Donors | Tribute Type | Tributized Pet or Person
--- | --- | ---
Anonymous | In Honor of | Chris Blanchard
Jeffrey Belgrade | In Honor of | Emma Smiddy
Mona Leila Belgrade | In Honor of | Emma Smiddy
Onwu & Sandy Berg | In Honor of | Rachel Newhouse
Terri Breckenridge | In Honor of | Emma Smiddy
Sharna Brener | In Honor of | Emma Smiddy
Jennifer Brown | In Honor of | All U.S. military veterans
Kathie Campbell | In Honor of | Emma Smiddy
Victoria Cobbs & Clifford Tingley | In Honor of | Wendy Hardman
Kent & Gail Derkog | In Honor of | Taylor Langstrag
Eileen Doolittle | In Honor of | Coke Cameron
Donna & Doug Erlandson | In Honor of | Emma Smiddy
Debbie Feis | In Honor of | Chillie
David Feke | In Honor of | Melissa Barran
Travis Follitt | In Honor of | Mary Ballantine
Tish Frank | In Honor of | Alex Leavitt
Herb Goodman & Mel Lee | In Honor of | Alex Leavitt
Melissa Green | In Honor of | Emma Smiddy
Mary Louise Haarn | In Honor of | Emma Smiddy
Juliie Haney | In Honor of | Frank & Freddy Paone
Margaret Hausman | In Honor of | Nina Mann
Louise Craig Hayes | In Honor of | Linda Fleming
Julie Jung Herson | In Honor of | Randy
Allison Howard | In Honor of | Mary
Shela Howard | In Honor of | Sandie & Steve Pigott
Gina Johnson | In Honor of | Glenn Edward Johnson
Tish Johnson | In Honor of | Alice Collingwood
John & Nancy Kilguswong | In Honor of | My Angel Charlotte
Ethel & Ali Knavch | In Honor of | J.R. Recker
Loral Kruisanger | In Honor of | Emma Smiddy
Ashley Lambert | In Honor of | Scott Mitchell
Robert & Terry Friedlander | In Honor of | Emma Smiddy
Lindsey Lee | In Honor of | Scott Mitchell
Kacy Fitch & Kristine Lindberg | In Honor of | Emma Smiddy
Kacy Fitch & Kristine Lindberg | In Honor of | Lindy, a Lab mix
Deborah Lindberg | In Honor of | Emma Smiddy
Renee Marcus-Davisine | In Honor of | Ben & Chris
Robert & Holiday Matchett | In Honor of | Matthew & Alisa Rodman & new lab mix
Ashley Mant | In Honor of | Inmate Handler
Robert & Holiday Matchett | In Honor of | Lutheran Schutz Family & Deenie
Robert & Holiday Matchett | In Honor of | Eudora & Sandy Newton
Cathy Melby | In Honor of | Robin Greiensch
Denise & Can Motta | In Honor of | Debbie & Sandy Chambers
Kelly Phillips | In Honor of | Emma Smiddy
Myrna & Robert Pickens | In Honor of | Sheila Howard
Sandra & Steve Pigott | In Honor of | Sheila Howard
Tribute Donors | Tribute Type | Tributized Pet or Person
--- | --- | ---
Teresa Pineda | In Honor of | Emma Smiddy
Kasley Ryker | In Honor of | Emma Smiddy
Los Sampson | In Honor of | Coke Cameron
Paul Sheehan | In Honor of | Coke Cameron
JULY SLAVIN | In Honor of | Coke Cameron
Barbara Sleeter | In Honor of | Coke Cameron
William, Sarah & Emma Smiddy | In Honor of | Coke Cameron
Diana Jolinne Butler | In Honor of | Coke Cameron
Susan Sprague | In Honor of | Coke Cameron
Katie & Brandon Stullman | In Honor of | Coke Cameron
Frank & Linda Stullman | In Honor of | Coke Cameron
Arlene Vukvich | In Honor of | Coke Cameron
Nancy Wicks | In Honor of | Coke Cameron
Andrew Wolflam | In Honor of | Coke Cameron
Beverly Wood | In Honor of | Coke Cameron
Diane Zurcher | In Honor of | Coke Cameron
Rosemary E. Albertson | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Eric Aspin | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Jaime Axson | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Philip & Shelley Bailey | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Delphina Banez | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Clay Bemich | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Linda & Victor Bertucci | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Bobby & Grace Blanchard | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Susan Bradley | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Rose Marie & Fred Branson | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Alice Collingwood | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Rita Dierse | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Anne Ekron | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Michael & Lesley Fitch | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Joy Foss | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Rebecca Stomhouse | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Patty Homer | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Timothy Krasia | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Kari & Victor Lundquist | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Tanya McNally | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Al & Diana Miller | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Cora & Warren Odarg | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Luther Schutz Family & Deenie | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Sandra Redick | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Sandra Redick | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Sandra Redick | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Halle E. Roberts | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Kim & Albert Weinberg | In Memory of | Chris Verenon
Cheslial Younas | In Memory of | Ben Blanchard
Julie & Stephen Zweck-Bronner | In Memory of | Ben Blanchard
Over 2012 Foster Families
Chris Abbott | Brenda Crispin | Michelle McDermont
Britt Bodin | Deb Dari | Alexandre Moura
Peg Bodin | Dick From | Ginger Norca
Ioanna Bubio | Jan Hemme | Denny Quirk
Anni Campbell | Nancy Johnson | Laurie Quirk
Diana Canafax | Jenn Kapinos | Pat Rock
Josh Caplan | Jill Krisher | Mikayla Rolf
Shivani Caplan | Scottie Kuper | Tanya Rolf
Linda Chapman | Christy Lyon | Diana Smith
Andrea Crispin | Nina Mann | Greg Spooner
2012 Foster Families
Tina Starks | Deirdre Staudt
Jack Staudt | Dave Thompson
Joy Thompson | Donna Vaquer
Brenda Walker | Albert Weinberg
Adinah Wyle | Marc Zimmerman
Christy Lyon | Diana Smith
Nina Mann | Greg Spooner
Michelle McDermont | Alexandre Moura
Ginger Norca | Denny Quirk
Laurie Quirk | Pat Rock
Mikayla Rolf | Tanya Rolf
Diana Smith | Greg Spooner
Tina Starks | Deirdre Staudt
Jack Staudt | Dave Thompson
Joy Thompson | Donna Vaquer
Brenda Walker | Albert Weinberg
Adinah Wyle | Marc Zimmerman
"We want you to know how extremely proud of you we are and you should also be proud of the progress you’ve made in your training. Working with you has given Bryce and me an opportunity to communicate in an open and constructive way and to express concerns on challenges or needs that most people in this environment don’t get an opportunity to excel in. Doing so has provided us both an unexpected benefit in personal growth, so thank you, Campbell. Working as a team of three has required constant thought to your needs, how we could do right by you, your exercise and training and ultimately, how you can be most successful in your long-term endeavors of being someone’s valued service dog."
Therapy dogs soothe, support and motivate

Freddie

Summit’s therapy dogs graduate are special for many people, not just for those they graduate with. Freddie, a professional therapy dog who graduated from Summit in 2011, is a prime example.

“He just seems to know when someone needs to be comforted. That’s just Freddie’s way,” said Gail Petri, who shares Freddie in her work with grieving mothers who have lost their children, as she did 16 years ago. But don’t just take Gail’s word for it. Here’s what two of those moms have said about Freddie.

Donna: “I really do appreciate that Gail has this ability to work with grieving mothers like me and that Freddie is part of that process. What a blessing they have both been to my life since I lost my beloved son, Scott. Freddie seems to sense the emptiness that is breaking inside me from the loss of my beloved son, Scott. What a gem of an animal.”

Dianne: “Freddie is a wonderful dog! He loves to play, but he can put all the playfulness and silliness aside when he is needed. Freddie seems to sense the emptiness that is breaking inside me from the loss of my beloved son, Alex. Freddie is gracious, loving and very kind to my heart. He lies at my feet and seems to know just when I need a little nudge. What a gem of an animal!”

Gail agrees that Freddie is a wonderful part of therapy for her moms, but he is also a beloved companion for her.

“He is a blessing in my life,” she said.

Seamus

Summit’s newest therapy dog graduate is Seamus, who was paired with Laurie and Denny Quirk in 2012. Summit works on Dogs on Call, based in Anacortes, to visit schools and facilities. He helps motivate children in a reading program and works with special-education students at a middle school.

“He’s kind of a motivational tool for the special-education students,” Laurie said. “He engages with them and helps them focus, and they get to do things like take him for walks as rewards for completing assignments. The teacher is very enthusiastic about what he does with them.”

Seamus also helps students with Down Syndrome and autism learn to articulate their words clearly.

“They give him a command and repeat it until they say it clearly enough so he understands and responds. Then they get to give him a treat, and they’re all smiles,” she said.

He also visits an adult day care for people with dementia and brings them smiles just by wagging his tail and sharing his sunny disposition.
Dilly is all ears for Barb

“Dilly and I talk about things. Well, I talk, and he either listens—or doesn’t. I ask him if he realizes what poor life he might have had if he had not been rescued, but he never answers.”

Smiles all around!

Summit is excited to announce our new partnership with Edmonds-based Smiley Dog, a great business providing home delivery of top-quality pet food and supplies. Smiley Dog’s owner, Craig Weindling, is generously donating 5 percent of all sales made to supporters of Summit Assistance Dogs. Supporters include our donors, volunteers, graduates, and even folks who have adopted a career-change dog from us.

Smiley Dog provides free delivery of dog food to homes in the greater Seattle area, including Everett and other parts of south Snohomish County. An added benefit to becoming a Smiley Dog customer is the introductions you’ll receive to the most innovative toys, treats, and training supplies on the market.

To learn more or to sign up for delivery, contact Smiley Dog at 206-903-9631 or smilydog.com or www.smileydog.com. Please consider supporting both a wonderful local business and Summit Assistance Dogs by placing your order today and letting Summit know you are one of our supporters.

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“Dilly is a dilly of a dog,” says Barb, who was paired with Dylan, a hearing dog she affectionately calls Dilly. “I so appreciate him alerting me when I need it.”

Barb, who waited many years for her appropriate dog, was thrilled when Dilly was formally handed to her at Summit’s 2012 graduation ceremony last December. Dilly was a rescue dog adopted by Summit from Barks R Us Animal Rescue in Yakima and trained by volunteer John Hemme of Anaconda.

“Often I think of what kind of a life Dilly might have had if he had not been rescued, trained and given a good home,” Barb said.

“We want to provide the best home we can for him, making sure his needs are met, along with some of his wants.”

There were some adjustments for her and husband, Jim, bringing Dilly into their home and learning to work with him so he can best assist her, but they are all happily adjusting. Dilly not only alerts Barb to sounds, but provides a special kind of companionship.

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We love our donors!

For our Summit in 2011, we are pleased to recognize our donors on these pages. If we inadvertently missed you, please let us know so we can acknowledge you in our next newsletter.

We welcome donations of any size. You might consider a memorial or tribute donation for a beloved pet, family member or friend.

Don’t forget that your donation is tax-deductible.

We welcome your support in 2012 and are pleased to acknowledge them on these pages. If we inadvertently missed you, please let us know so we can acknowledge you in our next newsletter.

We are grateful for the generosity of our donors to do our work of changing lives four paws at a time. We are so grateful for their support in 2012 and are pleased to honor them on these pages. If we inadvertently missed you, please let us know so we can acknowledge you in our next newsletter.

Changing lives four paws at a time!
Summit Assistance Dogs
Empowering people with disabilities to heights greater heights.

Changing lives one paw at a time.

Dilly is all ears for Barb

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Excerpt with a wag of his tail and his perked-up ears.

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www.summitdogs.org

Changing lives four paws at a time!

www.summitdogs.org

Changing lives four paws at a time!
**Therapy dogs soothe, support and motivate**

**Freddie**

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Donna: “I really do appreciate that Gail has this ability to work with grieving mothers like me and that Freddie is part of that process. What a blessing they have both been since I lost my son, Scott. Freddie is gracious, loving and very kind to my heart. He lies at my feet and seems to know just when I need a little nudge. What a gem of an animal!”

Dianne: “Freddie is a wonderful dog! He loves to play, but he can put all the playfulness and silliness aside when he is needed. Freddie seems to sense the emptiness that is breaking inside me from the loss of my beloved son, Scott. What a gem of an animal!”

Gail agrees that Freddie is a wonderful part of therapy for her moms, but he is also a beloved companion for her. “He is a blessing in my life, ” she said.
**2012 Foster Families**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tribute Donors</th>
<th>Tribute Type</th>
<th>Tributized Pet or Person</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anonymous</td>
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<td>In Honor of</td>
<td>Emma Smiddy</td>
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<td>In Honor of</td>
<td>Rachel Newsome</td>
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<td>Terri Brekenridge</td>
<td>In Honor of</td>
<td>Emma Smiddy</td>
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<td>Sherma Senderer</td>
<td>In Honor of</td>
<td>Emma Smiddy</td>
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<td>Jennifer Brown</td>
<td>In Honor of</td>
<td>All U.S. military veterans</td>
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<td>Kalla Smiddy</td>
<td>In Honor of</td>
<td>Wendy Hardman</td>
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<td>Lily Jung Henson</td>
<td>In Honor of</td>
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<td>Alison Howard</td>
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<td>Mary Mangin</td>
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<td>Sheila Howard</td>
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<td>Sandra &amp; Steve Piggot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gina Johnson</td>
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<td>Glen Edward Johnson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trish Johnson</td>
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<td>John &amp; Nancy Killingsworth</td>
<td>In Honor of</td>
<td>My Angel Charlotte</td>
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<td>Ethel &amp; Ali Kavatch</td>
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<td>J. R. Retor</td>
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<td>Loral Kruisanger</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ashley Lambert</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robin Lawntt &amp; Terry Friedlander</td>
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<td>Scott Mickelson</td>
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<td>Lindsy Lee</td>
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<td>Emma Smiddy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kacy Fitch &amp; Kristine Lindberg</td>
<td>In Honor of</td>
<td>Eric &amp; Janet Fitch</td>
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<td>Kacy Fitch &amp; Kristine Lindberg</td>
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<td>Linda Fitch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kacy Fitch &amp; Kristine Lindberg</td>
<td>In Honor of</td>
<td>The Fitch Family</td>
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<tr>
<td>Debbie Lindon</td>
<td>In Honor of</td>
<td>Emma Smiddy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Renee Marcus-Davine</td>
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<td>Ben &amp; Chris</td>
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<td>Robert &amp; Holiday Matchett</td>
<td>In Honor of</td>
<td>Matthew &amp; Allia Rodman &amp; new canine adoptee</td>
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<td>Corrine &amp; Warren Odegard</td>
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<td>Dr. Barbara Fry</td>
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<td>Mark &amp; Sandy Newton</td>
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<td>Dennis &amp; Cesor Motta</td>
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<td>Kim &amp; Albertean Weinberg</td>
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<td>Cheetah Yosins</td>
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<td>Myrna &amp; Robert Pickens</td>
<td>In Memory of</td>
<td>Julie &amp; Stephen Zweck-Brunner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sander &amp; Steve Piggot</td>
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<td>Sheila Howard</td>
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<tr>
<th>Tribute Donors</th>
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<tr>
<td>Brenda Crispin</td>
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<td>Michelle McDermont</td>
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<td>Deb Darie</td>
<td>In Honor of</td>
<td>Ginger Nocera</td>
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<td>Dick From</td>
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<td>Denny Quirk</td>
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<td>Jan Emmene</td>
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<td>Laurie Quirk</td>
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<td>Nancy Johnson</td>
<td>In Honor of</td>
<td>Pat Rock</td>
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<td>Jenn Kapinos</td>
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<td>Mikaoy Rolf</td>
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<td>Mill King</td>
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<td>Christy Lyon</td>
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<td>Greg Sponer</td>
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<td>Tina Starks</td>
<td>Deirdre Staudt</td>
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<td>Donna Vaquer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brenda Walker</td>
<td>Albertea Weinberg</td>
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**Prison training program changes lives behind bars too**

There’s no doubt service dogs change lives for their partners, but they also change lives behind bars. Seven of the nine dogs Summit graduated in 2012 spent time behind bars, being trained by carefully screened and trained inmates at the Monroe Correctional Complex.

“We were thrilled that seven graduates came through our program,” said Susan Biller, Administrative Assistant. “It was my proudest moment, and for the offenders too, to know that we have touched so many lives.”

She said Summit’s trainers, who work with the inmates twice a week, are wonderful role models, helping them learn social skills, communication, responsibility and job skills.

The inmates are not paid and do the training on top of other responsibilities, because it means so much to them.

“It’s wonderful when Summit’s graduates come and share their stories,” Susan said. “It’s a source of pride and accomplishment for the inmates to hear directly how people’s lives have changed.”

The program, started in May 2010, has been so successful that they are considering expanding the program to give more inmates the chance to learn and give back to the community.

“This has been a huge benefit for us too,” said Summit Executive Director Sue Meinzinger. “Having inmates do initial training frees up countless hours of time our trainers can spend on advanced training after the dogs come to us. That lets us graduate more dogs to pair with awaitingly patients.”

“We want you to know how extremely proud of you we are and you should also be proud of the progress you’ve made in your training. Working with you has given Bryce and me an opportunity to communicate in an open and constructive way and to express concerns on challenges or needs that most people in this environment don’t get an opportunity to excel in. Doing so has provided us both an unexpected benefit in personal growth, so thank you, Campbell. Working as a team of three has required constant thought to your needs, how we could do right by you, your exercise and training and ultimately, how you can be most successful in your long-term endeavors of being someone’s valued service dog.”

*Excerpt from a letter from Inmate Handler Michael to Campbell, his dog in training*
Sue’s Message

Relationships are the heart of any charitable organization, and as 2012 comes to an end, I find myself reflecting on the myriad of wonderful relationships I’ve been blessed with since founding Summit. Our clients who receive our dogs have inspired me time and time again.

Each has an incredible story to share about their journey through life. Some were born facing low odds of survival. Some were injured, and in an instant, life was no longer as they knew it. Some faced a slow decline through illness. All of them have experienced loss at some level, and each has a compelling need for the companionship and independence that a dog can provide.

Relationships with our clients at Summit form the foundation for all that we do and are. When we hear from them that their new service dog has opened doors for them and expanded their world, we experience great joy in knowing we’ve helped change a life.

Many other relationships are at the heart of our work. Without our generous donors and volunteers, there would be no lives changed. It takes a community of caring and giving people to raise and place a service dog. One of the best parts of my job is getting to know the people who support us. I’ve found people who give to organizations like ours to be truly great people to spend time with. If I haven’t met you yet, I hope 2013 will be the year.

Then there are the relationships we’ve built with other community organizations. Who would have thought our work could be so much more effective using inmates in a prison to train our dogs, or that homeless dogs found in animal shelters could make superb service animals? I love the win-win relationships we’ve created with other organizations over the years.

Last but not least, there are the relationships we share with our dogs. I’ve shared my home with at least 200 Summit dogs. Some have stayed for a night, some for many months. Each one confirms its individuality for me and makes me realize why the client matching process is so exciting. In a world where much has become mechanized, a service dog can never be replaced by modern technology. Mechanical devices can pick up dropped items, open doors, or turn on lights, but they can’t provide the companionship and independence that a dog can provide.

As we enter 2013, I look forward to forging more relationships. These will sustain our organization into the future and assure that our many waiting clients will receive a dog. Most of you reading our annual report are accustomed to being asked for your money, your time, your talents. We continue to need all these things, but this time I’d like to encourage your support in a way you may never have thought about. Please introduce us to people you know—friends, family, co-workers—for out of these relationships, wonderful things happen in the lives of the people and animals we serve.

2012 Financial Results
(FY 1/1/12-12/31/12)

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<tr>
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<td>Dues &amp; Subscriptions</td>
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<td>Employee Expenses</td>
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<td>Total Expense</td>
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2012 Accomplishments
- Placed nine new service dog teams
- Launched Veterans’ Program
- Provided follow-up support to 45 graduate teams
- Rescued 18 homeless dogs
- Monroe Service Dog Partnership featured on KOMO 4, KING 5 and KCPQ 13 News

As 2013 comes to a close, I look forward to forging more relationships with the world and the clients that have been affected by the work we do.
When you have limited mobility in your extremities, losing a service dog is like being isolated on an island with no bridges and no way to connect to the outside world. That's how Chris Blanchard felt when Ben, his first Summit Assistance Dog, died suddenly in February of 2012 from a pancreatic tumor.

Chris beat himself up for a while, wondering "how could I let this happen to him? He stood by and did everything for me, always, and I was supposed to be there for him!" We know Chris would have done anything to help Ben, if possible. That did not change the fact that Chris was now alone again, trapped in his own world, limited to what he could achieve from his chair. Summit worked quickly to find the right dog for Chris, one that could take the place of such a devoted companion and help Chris to regain his independence.

Then Chris met Griffin. After spending a little time with Griffin, Chris knew that this was the dog for him. Chris visited the Summit facility several times and worked with Griffin and the trainers on special tasks Griffin would need to perform for him. Even before attending team training and officially taking Griffin home, Chris said it felt like the "bridges are under construction, and I can see that I will soon have a way off of this deserted island."

Empower Me!

Applicant: Jeremiah

Jeremiah Gibbs-Jones is a light-hearted, exceptional 3-year-old boy who was born with Thrombocytopenia-Absent Radius (TAR) syndrome, so he is missing all long bones of both arms. He also has bilateral deformities of both knees and ankles, so he is unable to walk on his feet. Jeremiah is waiting for a service dog to help him better access his environment (including helping him into his new power wheelchair) and to help calm him during his many doctors' visits. Jeremiah’s family knows him to be a differently-abled boy who will accomplish big things in his life. He is eager to take on new challenges and desires his independence.