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Nearly 7,500 Service Animals Received Free, Sight-Saving Eye Screenings during 10th Anniversary of Annual ACVO®/StokesRx National Service Animal Eye Exam Event

Jun 29, 2017, 7:30am EDT

MERIDIAN, Idaho, June 29, 2017 /PRNewswire/ -- Service Animals including guide, disability assistance, detection, military, search and rescue, and registered therapy animals, selflessly serve the public. To honor these animals and their work, the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists® (ACVO®) hosts the Annual ACVO/StokesRx National Service Animal Eye Exam Event each May. Last month, a record 300 board certified veterinary ophthalmologists throughout the U.S., Canada and Puerto Rico donated their time and resources to provide free eye exam screenings to thousands of eligible Service Animals.

The 10th Annual ACVO/StokesRx National Service Animal Eye Exam Event took place in veterinary clinics from May 1-31, 2017. Since the event's inception in 2008, nearly 60,000 Service Animals have received free screening eye exams – including approximately 7,450 Service Animals this year. In addition to dogs, other service and working animals including horses, mini-horses, donkeys, alpacas and cats have received free sight-saving exams.

Tricia G. has participated in ACVO's annual event for ten years; this year, with her mobility Service Dog, Indiana, a four-year-old black lab. "I believe it is so important to know what is going on with your animal's eyes," explains Tricia. "Dr. Eric Smith and the staff at the Animal Eye Care Center are excellent with Indy and conduct a thorough eye examination, which is helpful as Indy's eyesight is so critical to the selfless work he does on my behalf, including bringing in groceries and pulling the wheelchair into the car."

"The 2017 event was a great success for all involved."

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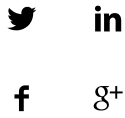
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