

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Water and Power Community Credit Union Sponsors Guide Dogs of America Puppy**

-----**LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA** – Water and Power Community Credit Union (WPCCU) is excited to announce its partnership with the Guide Dogs of America to sponsor a guide dog puppy.

From March 1 through May 31, 2017, WPCCU held its fundraising campaign by accepting donations through a dedicated Gofundme.com web page and by offering special car loan incentives. Donations received through the Gofundme.com web page were matched by WPCCU. And, for each car loan financed during the campaign period, WPCCU donated \$10. By the end of the campaign, \$5,000 was raised – the sponsorship amount required for a guide dog puppy.

Guide Dogs of America was selected due to its ongoing partnership with and support by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (WPCCU's core sponsor). As a non-profit organization, Guide Dogs of America relies exclusively on the generosity of its donors and does not receive any government or state funding.

"I love dogs! Guide Dogs of America is a great organization and I'm excited that our members have embraced this cause to help support the blind community." said Celeste Zibelli, Vice President of Marketing and Financial Services. "Perhaps we could even sponsor a second puppy in the future!" Zibelli added.

As part of the puppy sponsorship, funds help cover the cost of breeding, inoculations, spay/neuter, vaccinations & veterinarian visits, medication, dog food, obedience classes, and more. It's important to note that not all pups go on to be guide dogs. Of those pups bred each year, approximately 40% are removed from the program due to health or temperament issues. While it may be disappointing to remove a pup from the program, it's understandably for the safety of the dog and its eventual blind/visually impaired owner.

### **About Water and Power Community Credit Union**

Water and Power Community Credit Union was formed in 1936 by a group of employees of the Department of Water and Power in downtown Los Angeles. To better reflect its evolving membership, the credit union expanded its field of membership in 2001 to include specific Los Angeles communities. Water and Power Community Credit Union currently has assets of \$625 million and serves over 35,000 members. For specific membership eligibility and more information, visit [wpcu.org](http://wpcu.org) or call 800-300-9728.

For more information about Guide Dogs of America, visit [www.guidedogsofamerica.org](http://www.guidedogsofamerica.org) or call 818-362-5834.

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