

OPERATIONFREEDOMPAWS



OPERATION FREEDOM PAWS IN 2019

ANOTHER YEAR BITTERSWEET

Dear Readers,

I want to share another story with you. We never ask our clients to pay, contribute or donate. We do ask them to let us use photos and stories. Our clients especially our veterans, fight to just make ends meet. They survive on somewhere between \$1,200 and \$3,400 a month here in California. FZSf is why we provide everything that we can to help them be successful with the program and their service dog. We work with the families S` V provide the therapist at each class and whenVWV needed. We even supply gas cards so they can get to and from training or to appointments. WE CAN NOT KEEP DOING IT WITHOUT YOUR HELP.

My life is blessed every day, working with an amazing staff, but most of all working with our amazing clients, their families and the dogs we rescue to match with them. Here is S simple story that brought me to tears.

One of our clients, who has changed and gōwn over the years from the OFP program and lives on a very small fixed income came up to me and asked if he could speak with me. I, of course, said yes only if I got my hug. We are space invaders around here, but that's a story for another day. We go sit down and he pulls out an envelope and hands it to me. I asked what it was, his reply, "it's not much, I wish I could do more, I can never repay you for giving me my life back, my family back, my amazing buddy". I opened the envelope to find a \$20 bill. He was crying and I asked what it was for and why. He said "because people don't get it but you and OFP do. I saw kagd&SUTaa] post and wS` f others to have what OFP has given me, a new life hope for tomorrow. I hope it helps". At this point I am crying and remembered why OFP came to be. I said thank you and gave him another hug, and let him know that his \$20 would go with the \$30 in my pocket to buy one more gas card so that a client could get to class next week. He smiled and said "thank you, I wish I could do more.

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