



MSD-WCP's mobility service dogs wear a specially designed harness that safely distributes the handler's weight while assisting the handler with mobility tasks. A harness is considered Medically Necessary and, as such, is covered under most insurance policies for service dogs. MSD-WCP service dogs are placed with their handlers, prepared to assist and task in the following ways:

- Counterbalance for walking, standing, and being
- Assistance movement forward, backward, and sideways
- Provide balance and support on uneven flooring indoors and outdoors
- Pressing the button on automatic doors such as doors, elevators, etc
- Retrieving dropped items
- Retrieving out-of-reach objects (like a ringing phone, dropped keys, socks, etc)
- Providing support/stability while walking and going up and downstairs
- Support during dressing and undressing
- Opening and closing doors, drawers, and closets
- Turning the lights on and off
- Carrying bags and small objects
- Bracing for people who suffer from balance or strength issues
- Tunnel under an unconscious handler's legs or lying across their body to elevate their blood pressure
- Pawing or nosing their handler over onto their side or into a recovery position
- Bracing to support an unsteady or injured handler as they struggle back to their feet or into their wheelchair
- Standing over a fallen or an unresponsive handler so that the handler does not get stepped on
- Pawing/barking to alert bystanders of the emergency situation and continue to bark at people and attempt to lead them back to the handler until someone accompanies the service dog back to their unconscious, unresponsive or symptomatic handler.
- Retrieving an emergency-only medicine that's stored in the fridge
- Running to wake up another person who resides or works in the home and return with them to the disabled individual, if their handler is unresponsive, or if their medical equipment is alarming. For extreme emergency needs, our service dogs are trained to "call" 911 for an ambulance.
- Please note, this is not a complete list.

Mobility Service Dogs-West Coast Project  
MobilityDog

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