

# ATTENTION DOG LOVERS AND HUMANITARIANS



The **Croatian Association for Guide Dog Training and Mobility** ([www.psvodici.hr](http://www.psvodici.hr)) is a charity seeking individuals / families / retirees to become **Socialisers** to three Labrador Retriever puppies in March.

The **Socialiser** teaches the puppy to live in the world of humans. As a service dog in training, the puppy lives the daily life of its human socialiser: going to work by public transport or car; attending meetings at the office; being comfortable walking along noisy streets and in busy shopping centers, banks, and grocery stores; enjoying dinner in a restaurant on a Friday evening; people watching at a coffee shop on a Sunday morning; and learning polite behaviour when meeting other people and dogs.



Since Jan. 2021, Paul and Oona have socialised four Labrador puppies, and we just welcomed puppy no.5 (see photos below). Like school teachers, we socialise our puppy student for about a year, when she graduates to the second phase of life—formal training to become an **Assistance Dog** for a child or adult with a mental or physical disability. (Picture: Psi Vodici trainer & 5 eager students.)



Being a **Socialiser** brings us great joy through the fun of raising a lovely puppy and seeing what a difference we are making in the lives of others. Every time we speak to a family that has received an



**Assistance Dog**, we hear a heart-warming story about how this special dog-companion has worked wonders and greatly improved the mental and physical well-being of the user and the entire family. Puppies are also trained to be Therapy Dogs that work in hospitals for sick children and play a vital role in the rehabilitation and development of patients.



## Become a Socialiser. Charity “Psi Vodici” truly needs you.

First puppy Nukka



Ruby helps with R.E.A.D. [psivodici.hr/read-program](http://psivodici.hr/read-program)



Bella in training



Kaya enjoying her first snow



Puppy no. 5: 3-month old Lumi



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