



## MEDIA ADVISORY

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: April 1, 2014

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### Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation

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### “SHARE THE VISION®” AT FIDELCO GUIDE DOG FOUNDATION’S OPEN HOUSE ON SATURDAY MAY 3<sup>rd</sup>

**BLOOMFIELD, Conn.** – Connecticut’s own Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation will open its doors to the public for a free Open House on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at its headquarters in Bloomfield from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This free, fun-filled event features an array of family-friendly activities including behind-the-scenes tours of the Fidelco campus; puppy playtime; and police K9 and guide dog demonstrations. Experience what it means to “trust the dog” by taking a blindfold walk with professional Fidelco Certified Trainers and Guide Dogs. Area Lions Club members will also conduct vision screenings on-site.

Fidelco breeds and trains its elite German Shepherd Guide Dogs for people who are blind across North America. It takes two years, 15,000 hands-on hours and \$45,000 to produce each Fidelco Guide Dog, and they are given to clients at no cost. Since its founding in 1960, Fidelco remains the only Connecticut-headquartered guide dog school. The non-profit organization relies solely on the gifts and the generosity of individuals, foundations, corporations and civic organizations to help it Share The Vision®.

Fidelco’s Open House is held rain or shine at its headquarters, conveniently located off Interstate 91 via exit 37 in Bloomfield. For more information and directions visit [www.fidelco.org](http://www.fidelco.org) or call 860-243-5200.

#### **About Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation**

*The Fidelco Guide Dog Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit based in Bloomfield, CT. Fidelco is an internationally accredited organization and an admired expert throughout the world for its highly valued German Shepherd Guide Dogs.*

*Each Fidelco Guide Dog takes two years, 15,000 hands-on hours and \$45,000 to produce. They are given to clients at no cost. Fidelco provides 24/7 client support for the entire working life of its guide dogs – typically 10 years. Fidelco relies solely on the generosity and financial support of individuals, foundations, corporations and civic organizations to help Share the Vision®.*

*Fidelco has trained and placed over 1,350 German Shepherd Guide Dogs throughout North America – in 41 states and five Canadian provinces. Fidelco pioneered In-Community Placement in the United States – a process that allows all guide dog users to be trained in the communities where they live and work.*

*Fidelco also has placed hundreds of its German Shepherd Dogs with law enforcement agencies, first responders, search and rescue, and missing child recovery organizations to help protect our fellow citizens and keep our communities safe. For more information visit [www.fidelco.org](http://www.fidelco.org).*

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