



Taking the Initiative

VITA (Visually Impaired Total Access)

- Lead campaign to spread awareness about the Americans with Disabilities Act, which allows service dogs to enter areas where the public is normally admitted
- Established a club at Northern Valley Demarest HS to spread awareness about blindness/service dogs and fundraise for Guiding Eyes for the Blind, a nonprofit that provides free guide dogs

It's the Law:
Guide Dogs
are Permitted in
All Public Places.

What Exactly is a Guide Dog?

- Guide dogs are **NOT** pets.
- Guide dogs are service animals.
- Guide dogs are important mobility tools that assist visually impaired people travel independently.
- Guide dogs are trained by a qualified person.

Allowed Questions

The visually impaired people can be asked to remove their guide dogs if they are out of control and the handler does not take effective action to control it.

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

- Guide dogs **MUST** be permitted to accompany a visually impaired person to any public place such as restaurants, taxicabs, doctor's offices, theaters, airplanes, etc.
- Some restaurant/store owners fear that they are violating their restaurant/store policies by allowing a dog to enter... but **ADA** comes first!
- The visually impaired people and their guide dogs **SHOULDN'T** be separated/integrated from the rest of the people in public places.

VITA
Visually Impaired Total Accessibility
www.vitausa.org

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VITA (Visually Impaired Total Access)

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