

## **Webcast 10- Can We Welcome Spot, the Service Animal Dog, into our American Job Center?**

### **First Slide:**

David: Good Morning Laura.

Laura: Good Morning David.

David: It is often said that “A Dog is a Man’s Best Friend”. And, I believe service animals even have a closer bond with their owners in how they navigate their environments together. So, I wanted to surface this question during our chat – “Can We Welcome Spot, the Service Animal Dog, into our American Job Center?”

### **Second Slide:**

Laura: Ahhhh, Yes, a dog is truly a man’s best friend. That’s a very thoughtful and pertinent question, David, because more and more research has shown service dogs are improving the quality of life of people with disabilities.

David: I agree. So often, people think of a service animal as only seeing-eye dogs for individuals with blindness. Today, there are service dogs to support people with many different kinds of disabilities. And, we know there are other service animals besides dogs that can provide this service to help increase independence in daily life.

### **Third Slide:** [WorkforceGPS Service Animals to Support Workplace Accommodations](#)

David: WorkforceGPS has developed a resource page titled *Service Animals to Support Workplace Accommodations* to help increase awareness. On this page, we highlight curated resources from the Job Accommodation Network and ADA National Network. As one of the new trends emerging also noted on this page is how the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs is assessing in a more formal study how service dogs support our veterans with PTSD.

Laura: That’s really cool to hear David. I’m glad to learn more research is being done in this area.

### **Fourth Slide:**

David: So to answer your question Laura – Yes, we can welcome Spot, the Service Animal Dog, into our American Job Center. And, Spot sez Woof Woof to approve this message!

### **Fifth Slide:**

David: This slide lists the resources referenced earlier. Please check them out when you have a moment today.

### **Sixth Slide:**

Laura: And for those listening in, thanks for joining our coffee chat. On behalf of the Employment and Training Administration, we hope these resources help people with disabilities rise and shine in the labor market.