

On July 9th, 2010, four lucky dogs graduated from the Pups and Ward's program at the Southern Youth Correctional Reception Center and Clinic in Norwalk, CA

These dogs were trained by four wards that spent the last 10 weeks with these dogs that were rescued from euthanasia. Along with teaching the dogs basic obedience, they also learned a couple of tricks. The new adoptive families were able to attend the graduation and spend some time getting to know the trainers of their new furry friends. One of the wards shared some of his experiences in the program, "I'm a lifer" he said, "so when I came here I was planning to be a tough guy, but then I met Hope and everything changed". He went on to explain how being in this program has helped him to become a better person and want to "do good" in his life. Needless to say there wasn't a dry eye in the house!

This program and others like it make a profound difference in the lives of the inmates, wards and juveniles involved as well as the staff and volunteers. And the dogs, well they are the biggest winners of all, not only did they help change lives but they get a wonderful "forever home", what more could anyone ask...

Pictures will be posted soon so please check back!