



*News From*

# **Cheryl Dinolfo**

## *Monroe County Executive*

**For Immediate Release**  
Tuesday, March 21, 2017

### **DINOLFO ANNOUNCES GUIDE DOGS TRAINED AT AIRPORT TO BETTER SERVE TRAVELERS**

*Monroe Region of Guiding Eyes for the Blind and the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Host Training at the Passenger Security Checkpoint*

Monroe County Executive **Cheryl Dinolfo** and the Greater Rochester International Airport (ROC) yesterday welcomed representatives and volunteers from the Monroe Puppy Raising Region of Guiding Eyes for the Blind to host a training session for nearly a dozen puppies. The training session was aimed at acclimating future guide dogs with the air travel process and screening procedures that take place in the passenger checkpoint.

*“Our priority at the Greater Rochester International Airport is to provide a great passenger experience by accommodating each traveler who walks through our door,”* said **Dinolfo**. *“As an airport constantly looking to improve traveler satisfaction, we are proud to partner with Guiding Eyes for the Blind and TSA to help train service dogs and ensure a convenient experience for everyone who flies through ROC.”*

The Monroe Puppy Raising Region of Guiding Eyes for the Blind has hosted five trainings at the ROC Airport since 2011, successfully providing valuable air travel orientation to 52 volunteer handlers and their puppies. The dogs navigate through the Airport terminal, ride the escalators/elevators and familiarize themselves with real-life situations they will face with their future handlers.

*“We so appreciate the support of the ROC Airport and TSA. They’re providing the Puppy Raisers of our future guide dogs a tremendous training opportunity.”* said **Kerry Lemerise**, Puppy Program Manager of Guiding Eyes for the Blind.

Guiding Eyes is a non-profit organization that provides superbly bred and trained guide dogs to men and women who are blind and visually impaired as well as service dogs to children with autism. For more information about this program or Guiding Eyes for the Blind visit them online at [www.guidingeyes.org](http://www.guidingeyes.org).

###

**Media Inquiries, contact:**

Department of Communications at 753-1080