

# ASDW Sets Bold Goal of \$1 Million by Supreme Convention

*By ASDW Secretary Karen Marousis*

The AHEPA Service Dogs for Warriors (ASDW) program is back on track following the pandemic, which slowed down the process of training dogs and raising funds, with an ambitious goal



for AHEPA's centennial. Chairman George Karatzia, PSG, aims to raise \$1 million for the program.

To date, ASDW has raised more than \$875,000 to sponsor 80 service dogs that have helped veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), providing a new lease on life.

We are bound by the veterans who have fought for our freedom. At the upcoming 2022 Centennial Convention in Orlando, attendees will learn firsthand how a service dog, Oscar, helped to save Greek American Manny Koutalides and his family. There will be an opportunity to give Manny a hero's welcome by visiting the ASDW table. ASDW will have a program Wednesday, July 20, Noon, following the Awards Banquet in Coronado Room J. Visitors will also receive an American flag.

In addition, Andrew Marshall, a combat-wounded Army veteran of the Vietnam War, who is currently serving as the National Commander for the more than one million-member Disabled American Veterans (DAV), will be a guest speaker at the convention.

Therefore, it is ASDW's hope to reach the \$1 million mark in fundraising since its inception in 2016. The veterans could not have gotten this far without the love and support of all the sponsors and donations made to the ASDW program and the unconditional love of their families.

