

[MUSIC PLAYING]

Hey, baby. Go be a good service, OK?

Good boy.

This is a pretty magical place to work. We're around dogs every day, and we believe in the human-canine bond. Canine Companions started in 1975 here in Santa Rosa. We are the nation's largest service dog provider for physical disabilities.

We have a very long wait list, and we need to be able to get more dogs out to help more people. The new Canine Health and Wellness Center is really important to our future. It's going to allow us to produce more puppies, which is critical to get more service dogs to people with disabilities. So for our strategic plan and for our growth, this building became very, very critical, and the time frame was extremely important to us.

I've been in this community since I was young. I grew up here. I went to school here, and now I work here. Growing up in school, you would see the Canine Companion dogs walking with their little logos on the sides, and you could tell that those dogs were a little different than regular ones that you see around, that they helped people instead of just being a companion.

When there's a large building that's coming online, we need to make sure that we can serve their energy demands. So it's really important that we get a clear understanding of what their needs will be so we can serve them reliably throughout the future. Early on, when engineering were doing their calculations, planning did discover that there was capacity limitations on the circuit. So we had to work aggressively with both planning and engineering to make sure that we could meet their energy demands in a way that could also be served by our existing infrastructure.

Without power, the construction just stops at a certain point. If you have to stop for too long, you lose your subs, and everybody pulls off, and then it's very hard to get everybody back and keep the momentum going.

Working with Canine Companions, we were able to go through their loads and use existing facilities to get a better picture of what their true energy needs will be, which happened to be quite a bit lower than what their calculated loads were. So by way of going through and examining their existing energy demand, we were able to get the loading down to a point where our capacity constraints could be overcome.

So that power was-- really, you can't emphasize enough how important it was to us in the moment it came through. Oleks was really such a light in the stress on this project. People love to talk about how a PG&E is hard to work with and bureaucratic, and Oleks just was none of that. He was helpful. He cared, and he really came through for us. And it was a big, uplifting joy to get that power on.

Oh, my gosh.

[LAUGHS]

Oh, my gosh! That's amazing!

See, you have a permanent place here.

Wow. My name's on the building.

Yeah, exactly!

That's phenomenal.

Every day you come here and someone tells you that you've changed their life for the better. What Oleks did for us makes him part of that family who's helping people every day. Because what he did was move things along so we could keep going, so we could help more people. So that's a direct link to changing lives.

It's unbelievable to think that my piece in the role had such a big impact on this project. It's phenomenal to see it turn into a reality, to see this facility be open, to see it filled with puppies, to see it filled with dogs, and to see what it can do for the community as a whole. It's like seeing a dream come true.

What I love about my job is the fact that I get to be a real piece of the community. When I look around my community, I get to see projects that I helped energize. I really see myself as a key player in making sure that my community succeeds.

Legs, push. Good boy.