Testimonial

“It was clear from the beginning that Structures Unlimited checked all the boxes. They were looking for a product that was not only going to provide them the best daylighting, but that was aesthetically pleasing.”

Steve Del Guercio, sales representative
DAYLIGHTING GOES TO THE DOGS

When you’re building for people, daylighting is essential for promoting the health and well-being of the occupants. Studies show that natural daylight has an abundance of benefits, including improving mood and alertness. But what if you’re building for man’s best friend? Daylighting is crucial for them, as well.

The Seeing Eye, a world-renowned non-profit that breeds and trains guide dogs for the blind, sought to create a cost-effective facility that would foster a more nurturing environment for its four-legged students. Rauhaus Freedenfeld & Associates, an architecture firm specializing in veterinary hospitals and animal shelters, partnered with Structures Unlimited, Inc. on this $7.6 million project.

“We [know] a lot about the needs of the important Seeing Eye dogs,” said the blueprint for the facility, which acknowledged that the philanthropic organization has graduated over 17,000 dogs since its founding in 1929. “We also know a lot about the needs of the important [people] who care for and train those amazing [dogs]. This new structure will not only enhance the experience for our dogs, it will also make greater efficiency for our veterinarians, kennel assistants, trainers and volunteers.”

Structures Unlimited provided design control, fabrication and installation for an impressive canopy over the facility’s outdoor training area. Clad with Kalwall®, Structures Unlimited’s strategic partner, the canopy’s translucent sandwich panels offer a glare-free setting that prevents excessive solar heat gain. Kalwall delivers an opulence of natural daylight while protecting the dogs from the elements.

A cost-effective, single-source solution, Structures Unlimited’s canopy is virtually maintenance-free and able to withstand the weather. The aluminum structure is not only able to combat the elements, but the Kalwall panels are man-safe and kept clean by simple rainfall.

“It was clear from the beginning that Structures Unlimited checked all the boxes,” said sales representative Steve Del Guercio. “They were looking for a product that was not only going to provide them the best daylighting, but that was aesthetically pleasing.”

The trainers and dogs provide so much for the community, so it’s only fitting that they have a stunning facility that increases their welfare. Structures Unlimited and Kalwall are simple, effective solutions for healthier and happier occupants.