

#### A NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In 2023, we needed to take a breath and slow down. The last few years have been a dust up of change with a lot of adoptions. But now, adoptions have slowed down, which can be felt on every level across the entire nation. Unfortunately, the slowdown has not carried over into the numbers of pups who need help.

As a rescue, we still step up for every dog we can, and we still keep our promise for a new and better tomorrow. No matter the cost, we will find a way to make sure we hold true to our mission and our promise.

We also strive to continue to make a difference in our community. We have done more visits to schools, assisted living facilities, and local companies than ever. We provided stress-relieving visits and educational visits to help heal and make a difference.

Our team amazes me every day.

Their resilience and perseverance are unmatched. We have a team made up of top-notch caring people who stick together and keep going and follow our mission.

I cannot wait to see what we can do in 2024. I have a feeling it may be our best year yet. The next 10 years will mean more working together to make a difference in this crazy world.

And together, we will change things for the better, one pup and one day at a time.



Thank you to ALL of our volunteers, supporters, donors, and adopters! We cannot do what we do without ALL of YOU!

Tracy Long Executive Director





# 6,000<sup>th</sup> ADOPTION RONNIE

#### **OUR MISSION**

Our mission is to rescue and find permanent homes for abandoned, stray and surrendered dogs in order to minimize the needless euthanizing of animals.

Our vision is to make the right connections between our rescued dogs and families in order to give our dogs their final, happy, loving homes.



501(c)(3) Nonprofit EIN: 46-2618710 PA KENNEL LICENSE #9602





#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Celebrated 10 years of rescue in June
- Saved 759 dogs in 2023 and 6,865 since our inception
- Named Top-Rated Nonprofit by GreatNonProfits for 8th consecutive year
- Achieved platinum level of transparency from Guide Star
- \$104k+ earned in fundraising & donations
- 46.8k followers on social media
- 4.4 million in organic reach on social media
- 122 School Visits
- 120 Mini Paws participants
- 63 Meet & Greets
- 62 Transports
- 8 Community Events

# A Decade for the Dogs

The last ten years have truly been a **decade for the dogs.** The time has been dedicated to rescuing, fostering, and adopting dogs. TLC Rescue is committed to educating youth, bringing awareness to the power of dog rescue, and connecting families with their forever dogs. With over 6,200 adoptions, we have saved more than 1 dog a day and changed the lives of many people throughout the area over the last ten years.

TLC was started by 9 women with a dream. We have since become a volunteer network of 345 people supported by community partners and local businesses. We added a youth education group which we lovingly call Mini Paws. In ten years, it has included over 200 children who are interested in animal welfare and making the world a better place. We've connected with thousands of community members and cared for just as many dogs through fundraising initiatives like Raffles for Ruffs and Miles for Mutts. We've brought joy to assisted living centers and stress relief to local schools. We've held hundreds of meet & greets and community events at dozens of local businesses and event venues across 5 counties.

Why is ten years such a big deal? Many nonprofits do not make it to ten years. The nonprofit world is one of the first to take a hit during recessions and pandemics. With small budgets and even smaller payrolls, many nonprofits struggle to make ends meet. TLC has found success by building a strong team of volunteers and prioritizing initiatives that empower the community.

And you know what? **We owe it all to you!** Your support, both as volunteers and financially, is the reason we have been able to save those 6,200+ dogs. Whether you donated to a fundraiser, dropped off supplies, won a raffle basket, ran in our 5k, volunteered on our team, or adopted a dog, you are part of a community of TLC supporters, without whom we would not be able to do what we do.

Thank you for helping us make this world happier by saving these amazing pups and for helping us change the lives of thousands of dogs and even more people. Thank you for believing in our mission. Thank you for joining our cause. Thank YOU for being a part of ten years of truly transformative work at TLC!









# A Ride to Freedom

"Freedom rides" are crucial for our rescue. They transport dogs from overcrowded shelters to safety. These rides represent hope for dogs facing euthanasia or uncertain futures in areas with limited resources. Through our partnerships with other rescue organizations, we can expand our reach and offer these dogs a chance at adoption in loving homes.

From the moment they embark on their journey to their arrival at our rescue, each ride symbolizes a new beginning for these dogs, supported by the dedication of volunteers and their loving fosters. Once here, they receive the care they need to thrive and find their forever families through our adoption programs.

In 2023, we welcomed 62 freedom rides full of dogs that would later find their loving, forever homes.

















# A Growing Impact

Sponsors are a catalyst for our non-profit dog rescue, providing vital financial support, participating in fundraising events, and fostering long-term partnerships for success.

Their contributions cover essential expenses and amplify our outreach efforts, ensuring we can rescue, rehabilitate, and rehome dogs in need. Whether through financial donations, in-kind support, or sharing their expertise, sponsors play a crucial role in our mission.

Sponsors are integral partners in our journey, driving us forward in our commitment to making a difference in the lives of dogs and communities we serve. Their generosity, dedication, and collaborative spirit empower us to overcome challenges, achieve our goals, and create lasting positive change for animals in need.

This year we expanded our sponsor and partnership offerings by creating opportunities like those within our TLC Rescue calendar, in larger sponsorship packages for Miles for Mutts, and other options to partner within our social networks. This allows our community to give back in a way that suits their team and highlights their unique contributions to our community.

We are immensely grateful for their support and deeply committed to cultivating strong, mutually beneficial relationships that enable us to continue our life-saving work.

If you're interested in joining our team of sponsors in 2024, email us at info@tlcrescuepa.com!













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## A Fiber of Our Community

Our nonprofit dog rescue is deeply committed to our community, reciprocating the support we receive with impactful initiatives throughout the year.

Our 2023 Secret Santa campaign partnered with CASA of Chester and Delaware County, where TLC Volunteers provided gifts to over 40 children and 25 families during the holiday season. We brought joy to patients at Bryn Mawr Hospital Cancer Center with visits from our adoptable dogs and regularly visited assisted living homes to spread companionship and love.

We visited local businesses, industry conferences, and supporting partners to bring the joy of dogs to the workplace and provide a moment of pause (and paws) from a hectic workday to smile, laugh, and relieve stress.

Our most impactful interactions took place in local schools, where our visits helped students manage stress and forge connections through their shared love of puppies. These sessions also provided valuable lessons in responsible pet ownership and animal welfare through mini training sessions. In 2023, we had 122 school visits; a growth of 230% over 2022. This came in response to a growing need from schools for the social and mental health benefits, and the overall joy that our visits brought to students.

In all our efforts, we aim to uplift our community and strengthen our bonds through compassion, companionship, and the power of puppies.















## The True Cost of Rescue

Our adoption fees reflect the extensive care provided to our dogs before they find their forever homes. These fees cover vital services such as vaccinations, spaying/neutering, medical treatments, and behavioral support, ensuring that each dog is ready for a happy and healthy new beginning.

In 2023, we spent nearly \$275,000 on animal care. This covered veterinary attention, transport fees, training, supplies, insurance, and other costs associated with foster care.

## The Cost of a Rescue Dog

How much does it truly cost for a rescue to rescue a dog?



At our organization, we are deeply committed to dogs in need and provide them with the love, attention, and support they require to thrive. We ensure that each dog receives the necessary care to improve their overall health and well-being.

Once under our care, dogs are placed in loving foster homes where they receive personalized attention and support. Whether they stay for a few days or several months, our dedicated foster families provide a nurturing environment where dogs can heal both physically and emotionally.

We prioritize not only their physical health but also their emotional and behavioral needs by offering training and guidance to help them overcome any challenges they may face. Through our comprehensive approach to care, we give every dog the opportunity to flourish and find a loving forever home.

Our adoption fees only marginally cover the expenses, making donations from supporters and sponsors crucial for our long-term success. These contributions ensure we can provide necessary care and support to the animals in our care beyond what adoption fees can cover.

## **Extra TLC**

Our motto is "Until they all have a home..." and our dedication to that mission has never wavered. Over the last ten years, we have solidified our commitment to helping dogs in need, no matter what it costs. This group of pups in need is lovingly referred to as our "Extra TLC" pups.

Our "Extra TLC" pups of 2023 included dogs who were blind, deaf, Heartworm positive, faced behavioral challenges, battled skin infections, and several were in need of surgeries. This label is not meant to discourage their adoption, rather, it is a badge of honor. These dogs have fought steep challenges and seemingly unfavorable odds.

By their side through it all is our devoted team of fosters and volunteers.

Many of these dogs have found their loving, forever homes where they never have to worry about their previous situations again. We are proud to be their loving bridge to forever.









**MICKEY & BUZZ** Deaf

**TIMBER** Leg deformity (birth defect) and shattered hip



JANE FONDA Fractured Leg

**TOUCHDOWN** 

Nonunion Fracture





**RUSSELL & HEIDI** Additional training and support



**JOLENE & HER PUPS** Medical attention to battle Adenovirus









**EMERSON** Dislocated Knee

+ FHO Surgery

MIA Severe mange

### A Better Future, No Matter the Cost

If there's one thing to know about TLC, it's that what we say, we're actually going to do. We're fully committed to saving dogs, educating our community, and giving dogs in need a second chance at a better life, no matter the cost.

In some cases, we agree to take in a dog that is known to have a medical issue. We may not know anything other than the dog is limping. We have to wait and see to best understand what the situation might entail.

In other cases, we may agree to take in a dog not knowing there are any underlying issues. These are the ones where we need the most help from our community because of the unexpected costs.

In either case, we agreed to give that dog a better tomorrow. We agreed to give that dog a better life than they were handed. We agree to give that dog a loving, pain-free life that every dog should have. There is never a question in the minds of TLC about whether or not we should take the dog to the vet or a consultation to learn more. Once a dog officially becomes a TLC dog, we will do whatever it takes to give that dog the life they deserve...

# No Matter the Cost. No Matter the Time. No Matter What.

This is exemplified by the stories of two of our beloved rescue dogs: Chelsea & Frankie. These two came to us with bleak outlooks and hopeful hearts.













how it's going

## A Better Future, No Matter the Cost













## CHELSEA

Chelsea, a sweet Great Pyrenees pup, was found shoved under a wire fence at a Mississippi shelter and was ultimately transported north to TLC. When she arrived, it was clear that she was in more pain than we realized. After countless vet visits, MRIs, CT scans, and procedures over the course of 5+ months, she was ultimately diagnosed with a malformation on her spine and shoulder as a result of trauma, all in addition to a congenital eye defect.

That's where our commitment kicks in. We knew that this happy, playful, sweet puppy deserved a better life and that the quality of her life could be significantly improved with procedures and attention from our veterinary partners.

We promised that we would give dogs a second chance at a better life, no matter the cost. We're committed to paying for the medical care, treatment, and overall costs associated with fostering Chelsea for months to ensure that she never experiences pain like this again.

#### To date, Chelsea's cost totals over \$20,000.

Luckily, we have the best vet partners around who quickly organized a dream team of experts for a first-of-its-kind surgery at VRC Malvern. This team, including a veterinary neurologist, an equine veterinarian, and a human orthopedic surgeon, used revolutionary technology to rebuild and correct her malformations in a never done before procedure. This surgery alleviated Chelsea's pain and ultimately changed her life.

Chelsea is a very special dog for so many reasons. When we agreed to take Chelsea, we did not anticipate anything other than an adorable puppy who needed a home. As we uncovered the layers of Chelsea's story, her resilience and bravery were revealed. Now, we wait until her forever family is revealed to give her the happily ever after she's been waiting for.

Chelsea is now ready to find her forever family!

## A Better Future, No Matter the Cost

## FRANKIE

Frankie, the gentle giant, was found in an emaciated state with two broken front legs. His life consisted of abuse and hardship. He battled infections all while needing surgeries, daily bandage changes, and constant supervision. He also needed to gain weight along the way.

We knew that Frankie's light was there, but he needed help to rediscover it. He was matched with an incredible foster home down south where he received all the love, care, and attention he needed.

Back up north, our community rallied, held fundraisers, and made impactful donations to help support the vet bills that were piling in.. and it was well worth it!

After \$12,000+ in vet bills and many months of hands-on care, Frankie was finally healthy enough and ready to find his forever home. He found that forever with a family who never left his side.

What we saw in Frankie was a broken dog with a heart of gold. Frankie took his second chance and made the most of it. He lives his dream life of toys, love, and a forever family; one that he smothers in affection every day.

"...[They] are the ones that we owe it ALL to in saving his life. They paid for all of his medical costs, which was VERY VERY EXPENSIVE!!! They stopped at no cost at all to make sure this beautiful creature was completely healed!!! It was a great, great day in rescue. The kind of day that we live for. All of our hard work paid off, and we can actually see it, touch it, and feel it!!! Frankie is living his BEST LIFE, and his new parents love him sooooo much!!! These are the days that we live for!"

-Frankie's rescuers speaking about TLC







# Fun & Fundraising

As a non-profit organization, our life-saving mission hinges on the kindness of our community's support. Each fundraiser directly enhances our capacity to rescue dogs facing euthanasia and provide vital veterinary care for rescued dogs with medical needs.

In 2023, our fundraising events & campaigns totaled over

\$104,000!

When we ask, you answer. And for that, we will be forever grateful! Every penny counts in a year with some of our steepest medical costs.

















9th Annual Miles for Mutts Total Event Profit: \$40,664

Additional Fundraisers: 2023 TLC Calendar T-Shirt Sales Giving Tuesday Summer Sendoff 5k Photos with Santa Subaru Loves Pets Partnership & MORE!







## **Our Mini Volunteers**

We believe in fostering the future of our community and its impact on the rescue world. Nearly a decade ago, our founders recognized the importance of educating youth on responsible pet ownership, leading to the creation of our hands-on educational program known as Mini Paws.

This group is open to children aged 5 to 17, regardless of whether they own a pet. Mini Paws delves into various aspects of dog care and rescue, from transport logistics to fostering, grooming, adoption processes, canine behavior, and more!

Through engaging events like Decoding Body Language, K9 Officer Demos, and Basic Training, our Mini Paws members gain invaluable insights and knowledge, shaping them into responsible future pet owners and dedicated rescue advocates.



Active Mini Paws: 120 Events Held: 9

Sunrise Senior Living Visit
Decoding Dog Body Language
Limerick K9 Officer Demo
Basic Commands & Training
Group Walk & Walking Manners
Service & Working Dogs
Miles for Mutts Info & Help
Adoption & Responsible Pet Parenting
Dog Health & Vaccination Info











# **Our Pack**

Our volunteers are the backbone of our organization, driving our mission forward with their dedication and passion. Without them, our work would not be possible.

We could not be more proud that we are 100% foster-based, meaning every single one of our dogs lives within someone's home from the moment they arrive at our door to the moment they're adopted. This would not be possible without our incredible foster community. All of the 6,000+ adopted dogs have been nurtured under the care of a loving foster.

We know that fostering may not always be feasible for everyone in our community, which is why we offer a range of alternative ways to contribute. From behind-the-scenes responsibilities like application processing and dog transportation, to front-facing roles such as Event Lead and Adoption Counselor, our dedicated team of volunteers handles it all.

We are so grateful for every person (& dog) in this growing community and all that they do to support our life-saving mission.



























## Thank You to Our Corporate Sponsors























\*BALD BIRD BREWING COMPANY

**\*\***BARTLETT BLINDS & SHUTTERS

**\*\***BLACKDOG BEHAVIOR & TRAINING

★DOGTOPIA OF VALLEY FORGE ★CONCORDVILLE SUBARU

**\*\***EDGE FITNESS

LUDWIGS CORNER VET MADDIE'S CASTLE

MORTON PAINTING PINCROSSING PODIATRY CARE SPECIALISTS

S&T BANK

STATE FARM INSURANCE - BRITTANY LOVIO

## **Financial Summary**



Revenue: \$593,817 Expenses: \$583,631 Net Profit: \$11,386

#### **INCOME**

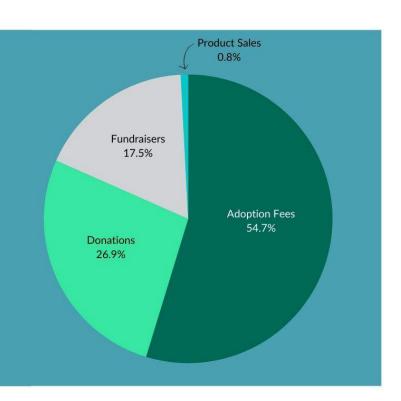
**Adoption Fees** ----- \$324,939

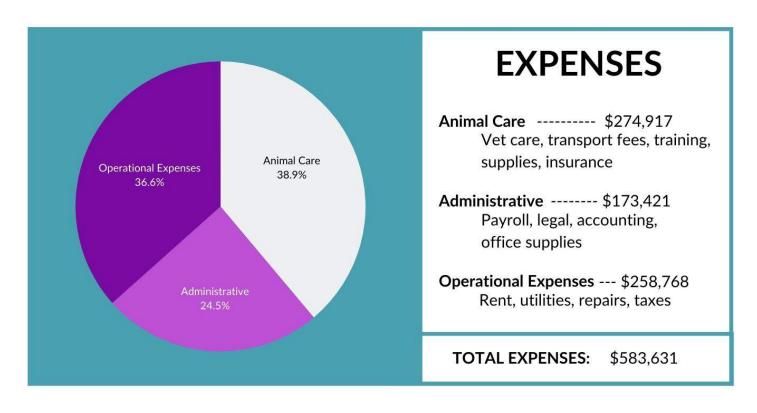
**Donations** ----- \$159,777

Fundraisers ----- \$104,199

**Product Sales** ----- \$4,902

**TOTAL REVENUE:** \$593,817







#### **TLC LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Tracy Long

**Executive Director** 

Marie Coladonato

Assistant Executive Director

Tricia Gonci

Foster & Volunteer Director

April Robinson

Marketing & Events Director

**Eryn Sibley** 

Marketing & Training Director

Jennifer Catrambone

Mini Paws Jr. Volunteer Program Director

Lisa Casamento

**Business Manager** 

Adopted from TLC?

Share your happy tails update with us!

Email: followup@tlcrescuepa.com

Get in touch with us!

tlcrescuepa.com

info@tlcrescuepa.com

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Tracy Long** 

Executive Director & Founder of To Love a Canine Rescue. Inc.

Marie Coladonato, Secretary

Assistant Executive Director

Shannon Stanek, DVM

Owner, Exton Vet Clinic President, The Ferdy Fund

Brian Novak, DVM

Ludwigs Corner Veterinarian Hospital

M. Bobbie Kalia

**Board Member** 

Tim Jenesky

Senior Project Manger, Licensed **Professional Geologist** 













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