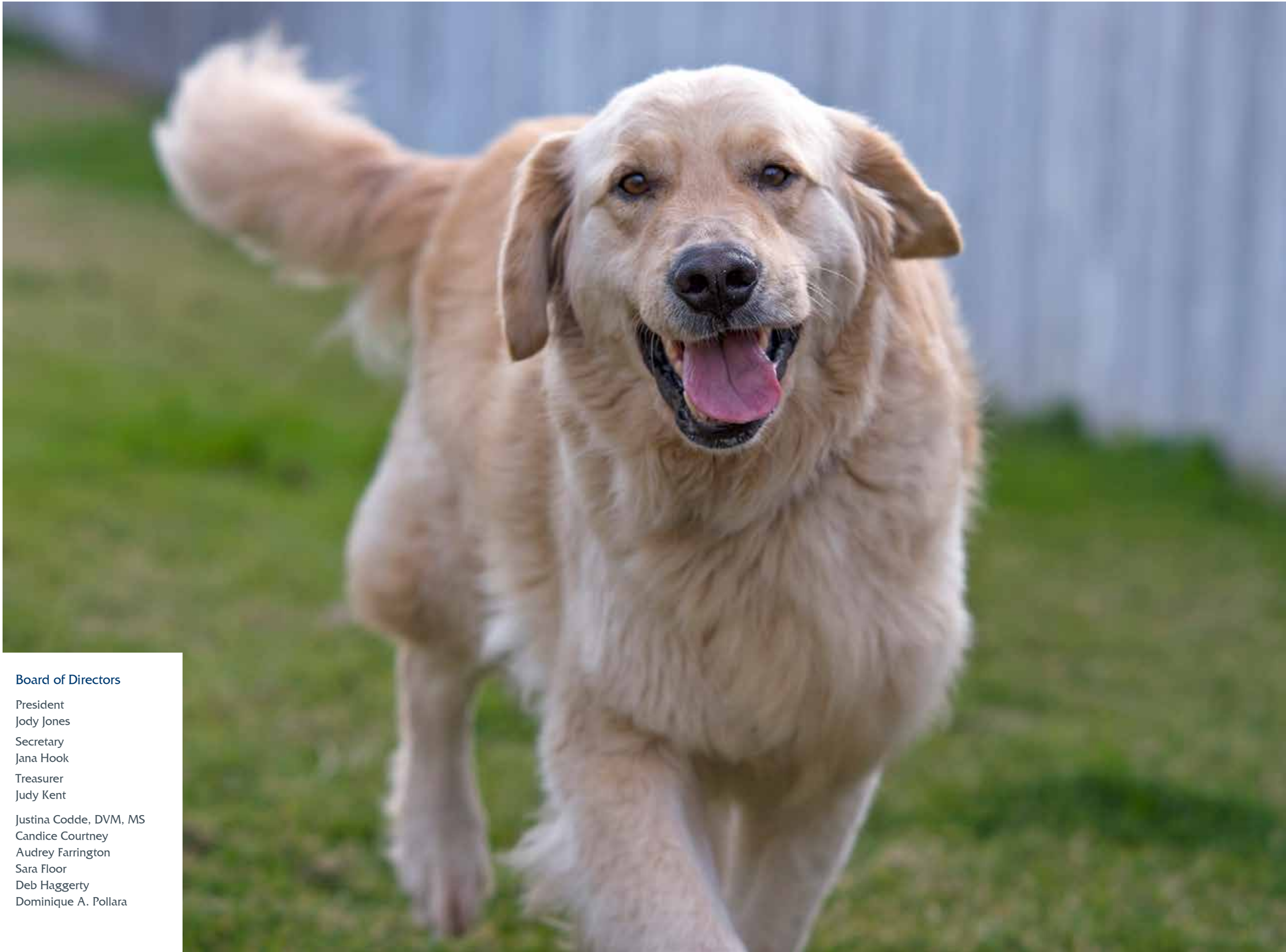


2015

ANNUAL REPORT

HOMeward BOUND GOLDEN RETRIEVER
RESCUE AND SANCTUARY



mission

Homeward Bound Golden Retriever Rescue & Sanctuary, Inc. is an all-volunteer organization which rescues and heals displaced, abandoned, and homeless Golden Retrievers and Golden mixes, regardless of their age or health. Homeward Bound secures safe, loving homes through a comprehensive adoption program, and also provides lifetime sanctuary for Goldens that cannot be adopted.

Homeward Bound also provides education on proper animal care and the benefits of, and need for, rescue and sanctuary. In the event of a disaster, Homeward Bound will provide assistance to other rescue groups and the families of dogs impacted.

Homeward Bound will continue to serve as a model rescue organization, addressing animal welfare needs throughout California and neighboring states, and strives to be a national leader in rescue, sanctuary and education.

Board of Directors

President
Jody Jones
Secretary
Jana Hook
Treasurer
Judy Kent
Justina Codde, DVM, MS
Candice Courtney
Audrey Farrington
Sara Floor
Deb Haggerty
Dominique A. Pollara



from the president

TO OLD AND NEW FRIENDS OF HOMEWARD BOUND,

This year, we celebrated our fifteenth year of saving and enhancing lives through the act of rescue. It has been wonderful to look back at all we have accomplished including more than 8,000 canine lives saved. But with so much more to do – our focus is firmly on the future.

Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we completed the primary phase of our kennel renovation project this year. This complex project required the talents and patience of many – as it was completed while sheltering dogs in place. The final portion will be completed in 2016, along with a makeover of our senior sanctuary affectionately known as Sugar Shack Acres.

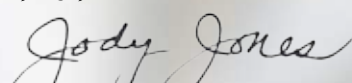
Life happens – and in 2015, we had some key changes in the ranks of our volunteer team leads. Not surprisingly, others stepped up. The shift was not without its challenges, but change also creates the opportunity for fresh perspectives. We learned that constant communication is vital to succession training and a cohesive team. To that end, we instituted a new operations team and weekly communications to all.

With the passing of some longtime friends and supporters, we were reminded that our mission can extend to future generations. Generous benefactors included us in their last wishes, and we began putting plans in place to ensure that Homeward Bound can always offer permanent sanctuary and services to those in need.

In a world full of challenges, some might be tempted to underestimate the significance of what a single rescue can do. But for those of us involved in the effort, we know that rescue is hope, and hope is transformative. We speak and act for those who cannot speak and act for themselves.

Everything experienced at Homeward Bound is the result of this shared commitment. From the bottom of my heart, I thank you.

Jody Jones, President



Homeward Bound Golden Retriever Rescue and Sanctuary, Inc.



a look back

We celebrated our fifteenth year and marked it – as always – by continuing to enhance our programs and facilities while strengthening our network and teams. Through these initiatives and a continued focus on education and outreach, we hope to further our impact.

2015 key accomplishments



Rescue. Rehabilitation. Rehome.

In 2015, we supported the intake, adoption, or permanent sanctuary of 283 dogs. Each dog coming into our program receives a thorough assessment, medical care, and behavioral support as necessary while being housed and cared for before being matched to a loving home.

Homeward Bound also provided sustaining medical care to 100 more dogs through our Golden Touch and other programs. Our commitment to these dogs with extraordinary medical needs makes it possible for an adopter to say "yes" and for the dogs who might not otherwise be saved to be home.



PUPPIES. PUPPIES. PUPPIES.

While puppies are generally rare at Homeward Bound, we raised three litters in 2015. Putting our dedicated Puppy Palace to good use, each litter remained with us for at least eight weeks. A dedicated human "mom" is appointed who ensures their care and proper socialization. Needless to say, this represents an extraordinary effort in time and attention. The rewards are paid in puppy kisses.



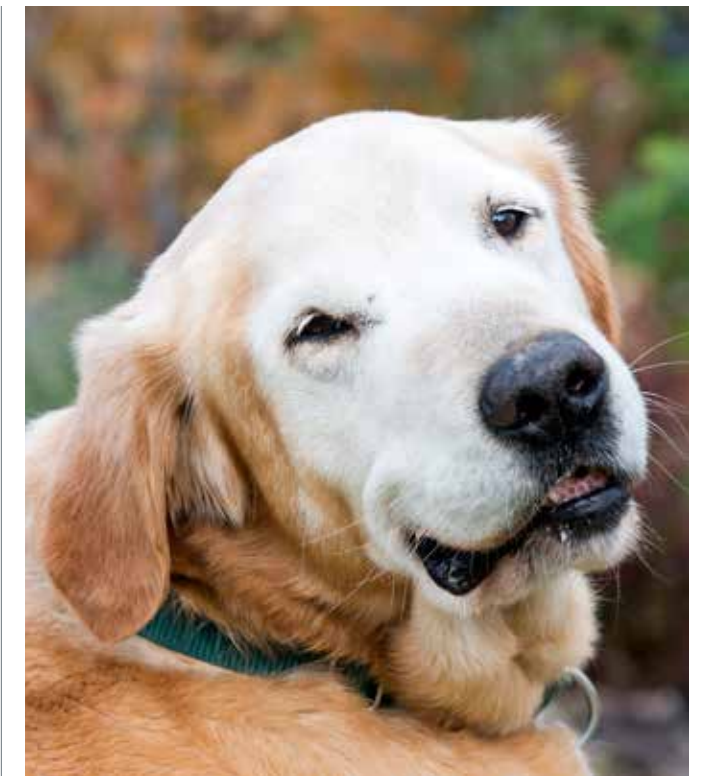
KENNEL RENOVATION

In 2015, we undertook a major kennel renovation, installing more spacious accommodations with updated finishes for improved hygiene, additional natural and unit lighting, rewiring, and resurfacing of walls and floors. A final bank of new kennels will be installed this year, completing the project. All of this was accomplished while sheltering dogs in place. It was quite a juggling act!



New Team Leads

Due to relocation and life changes, we experienced some key changes in our volunteer team leads during 2015. True to form, others stepped up and assumed their responsibilities. Change can be hard, but it also provides an opportunity for fresh perspectives, encourages growth, and makes us stronger in the end. It also underscores the importance of developing bench strength by perpetually grooming future leaders.



Guidestar®

We take our responsibility to our supporters seriously. Our commitment to transparency, good governance, and program impact is evidenced by our attaining Guidestar® Gold status.

Taiwan Dog Rescue

We work with a national network of Golden rescues to ensure that Golden retrievers in shelters get to rescues in their areas. We also take in Golden retrievers from areas far and wide that cannot be accommodated as we accept dogs regardless of their age or health. Homeward Bound extends its mission to Golden mixes, as well as what we affectionately refer to as "Fool's Gold" as we have the capacity. And we continue to extend our rescue efforts through a long-standing relationship with a Taiwan rescue. They ensure a dog's health certificates and transport while we match them to loving and waiting homes.



our facilities

Homeward Bound's short-term visitors are housed in a large barn which has been converted into a climate-controlled kennel, kitchen, grooming station, and laundry area. Here, dogs can be safely housed as they undergo assessments and await their forever homes. They are visited daily by feeders and walkers who ensure that they get ample exercise, clean facilities, and love.

Some dogs with extraordinary needs remain in our care. Our sanctuary dogs are housed in separate lodging affectionately known as "Sugar Shack Acres." Their home-like accommodations include a large, attached yard so the dogs can come and go at will. In 2016, we will remodel their interior accommodations, regrade the well-worn yard, and build a large gazebo for covered and raised outdoor lounging.

A separate, on-site veterinary clinic is fully outfitted for blood testing, minor emergencies, basic care, and weekly house calls by our devoted volunteer veterinarian, Dr. Justina Codde. Our ability to blood test and transmit results to her nearby veterinary hospital saves time and expense and aids tremendously in managing medications for dogs with diabetes, thyroid, seizures, and other on-going chronic care needs.

Our secured, eight-acre property includes ten large yards, a training pavilion, and a one-acre park for daily exercise, socialization, and meeting prospective adopters. Last year, we completed an upgrade to the half-mile walking path around the facility perimeter where the dogs and the walkers get their exercise. For those with mobility or weight issues, a donated heated swimming pool provides on-site water therapy – and a choice cooling off spot on those hot summer days.

Finally, our Memorial Garden offers a refuge for volunteers and dogs to spend quiet time together. It is the perfect place to celebrate adoptions with "going home" pictures shared with families and friends over social media.



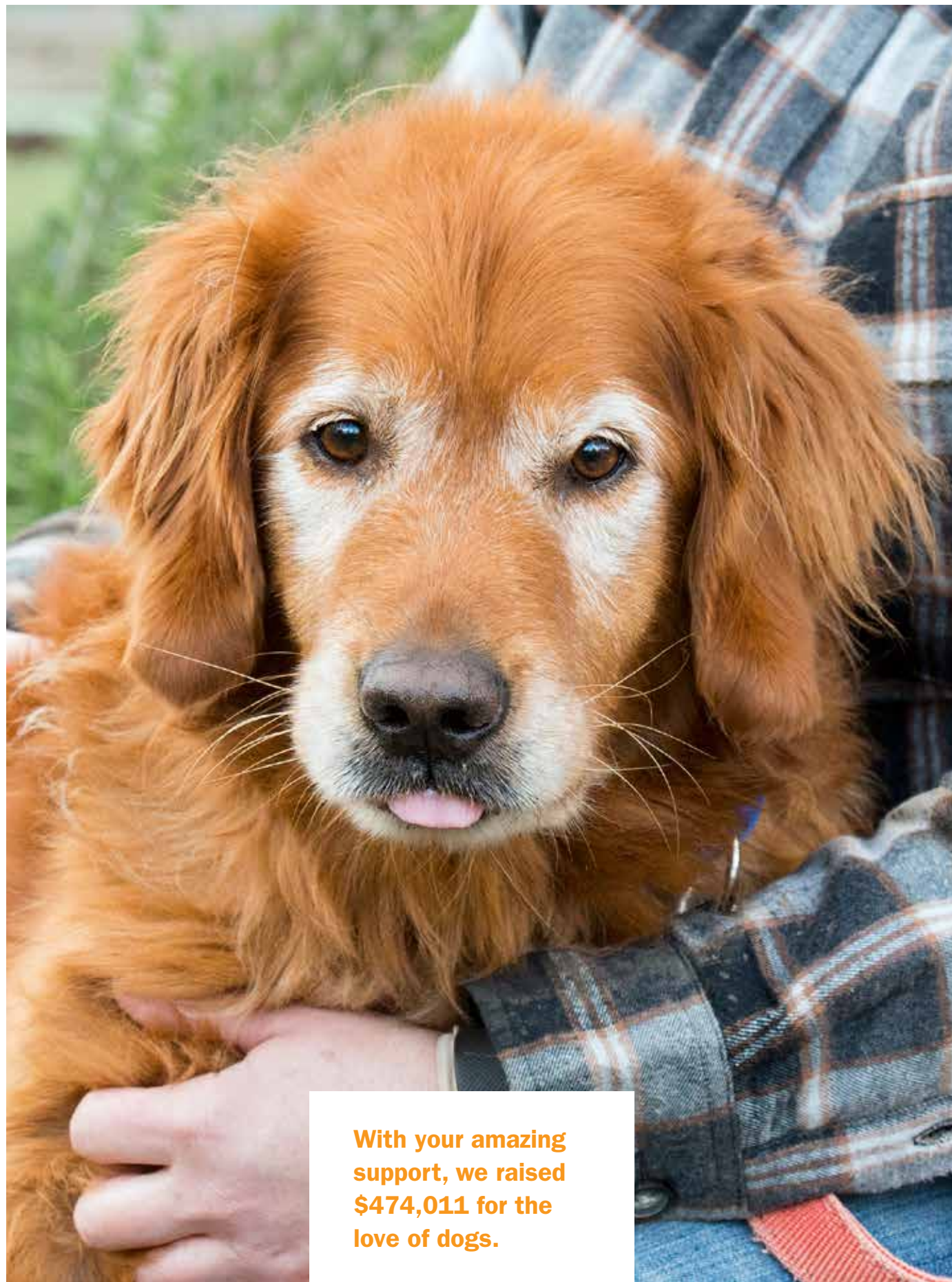
our team

all volunteer-powered

As an all-volunteer organization, we can devote almost all of our resources to the direct support of the dogs. It takes many hands and talents to sustain our operation. More than 200 volunteers across the state contribute their talents, time, and passion. People from all walks of life come together with a shared love of dogs and a desire to help them on their journeys home.

Last year, more than 30,100 volunteer hours were recorded – the equivalent of 14 or more paid employees. Guided by our team leads, volunteers are involved in every aspect of our operation – on-site and off. The list is endless: transport and intake, feeding, cleaning, grooming, walking and socialization, veterinary transport, fostering, training, home visits, adoption counseling, undertaking facilities projects and maintaining our grounds, fundraising, events, marketing, office administration, and more. Much more.

Volunteers are truly the heart of Homeward Bound Golden Retriever Rescue, continually demonstrating their dedication to the dogs and our mission. Our gratitude is boundless.



With your amazing support, we raised \$474,011 for the love of dogs.

our supporters

Gifts today or in the future – gifts large and small – all make a difference as Homeward Bound relies primarily on the generosity of its individual and corporate donors. However you choose to give, we thank you.

You Matched Hearts

A big-hearted few came together to build a sizeable Fund of Love which stood ready to match the donations of many through our Double the Gold Challenge. This critical, annual campaign supports a large portion of the medical needs of the dogs whose care exceeded \$175,000 in 2015.

You Raised Your Paddles

Party and Golden lovers sampled spirits and then raised their paddles at our special 15th Anniversary Kibble & Bids™ event. Supporters gave generously at our largest and most visible fundraising event including contributions toward 2016's special project: enhancing Sugar Shack Acres.

You Lit Our Tree And Decked Our Kennels

Each Thanksgiving, we launch a bare virtual tree – and hope. By Christmas, you have brought it to twinkling life, loading it with presents, stars, and snowflakes - each representing a donation made in honor or memory of your special someone. In just five years, this has grown into one of our primary fundraising efforts ensuring support for hundreds of dogs each year.

Amazon Smiled...

You shopped. Amazon gave. Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice (we're hoping that is us!). It is such a simple way to give that costs you absolutely nothing!

And Wishes Were Fulfilled

In our newsletter, on our website, and through Amazon, we maintain our Wish List of most needed items. Boxes and boxes arrived full of leashes, toys and treats – and pill pockets too! The dogs enjoyed comfy beds, blankets, towels, rugs, and sheets thanks to our overflowing linen closets. Keep 'em coming!

You Turned Kibble Into Cash

Thanks to our partnership with Nature's Select, for every large bag of Nature's Select Premium Pet Food purchased, Nature's Select donated \$3.00 back to Homeward Bound. While you were shopping, many of you also told them to add an extra bag of kibble, a box of cookies, or treats to be delivered directly to Homeward Bound. What a simple and thoughtful way to give.

You Sent A Christmas Jar

A heavy box and anonymous note arrived around Christmas this year. Inside was a mason jar full of change and small bills, and a book entitled, 'Christmas Jars.' You introduced us to this special tradition and told us that one of our former youth volunteers deemed us worthy of this touching gift. Thank you for sharing this special holiday joy. You can expect that Christmas Jars will be multiplying next year.

Gifts Large And Small

Some people remembered Homeward Bound in their final wishes. Naming us in your will or trust is one of the easiest ways to ensure that future generations of Golden retrievers in need will find a second chance at life.



golden touch

Many retired persons are on fixed incomes which can make it financially difficult to care for an older dog. By the same token, they have lots of time and love to devote.

Recognizing the opportunity, Homeward Bound established our very successful "Golden Touch Program" many years ago, creating senior-to-senior connections. We match our "Golden Oldies" with retired persons and couples who are at least 60 years of age, not working, and on a limited income. Homeward Bound provides life-long medical care for the dog, including needed medications and vaccinations.

Program participants must live in our area and be able to see our volunteer vet at Homeward Bound. They are simply asked to provide quality food, flea control and monthly heartworm medicine, an indoor sleeping area – and lots of love and tennis balls.



future generations

Through Homeward Bound's Youth Program, we hope to encourage today's youth to become tomorrow's champions of animals in need.

Youths ages 15-18 unplug for a few hours each week and prepare to appreciate the difference they can make in a dog's life by sharing just a bit of themselves. Youths earn community service hours while working with an adult lead, learning all aspects of our operation and caring for the dogs.

Separate full-immersion opportunities are available for high school seniors in hopes that they will return as adult volunteers.



education and outreach

Education is a vital component of our mission. Armed with knowledge, people can make decisions and take actions that reduce the number of abandoned animals.

Successful beginnings and strong bonds are created with our four-legged companions through proper training. Homeward Bound offers a free training resource library on our website as well as classes at our facility provided by Golden Rule Training to ensure that dogs remain in their homes.

For individuals who very much want the puppy experience, we offer resources on how to select a responsible breeder. By sharing this information with others, people can still contribute to our mission even if they choose purchasing over adoption.

Finally, we continue to strengthen our network of connected rescue resources throughout the state and the country. Social media can be a powerful tool. But teaching people how to get the right information into the right hands makes all the difference when time is of the essence.



rescue trends

In our fifteen years of operation, more than 8,000 dogs have been helped on their journeys home. We started small and built. During the height of the recession, our numbers soared to more than 800 dogs in a single year.

The improved economy and, more importantly, education, has led to a gradual decline in dogs abandoned or euthanized in shelters. While there is still more work to be done, this great success has led to fewer homeless Golden Retrievers – and longer waits for families who strongly support adoption.

Homeward Bound has always included Golden mixes in our mission. As we have room, we have also extended our support to what we affectionately refer to as "Fool's Gold" dogs that may not be Golden Retrievers, but have golden hearts and are otherwise at risk.

We see a growing trend in the attempt to meet the demand for breed-specific dogs: the importation of dogs from foreign countries. Unfortunately, there have also been a few cases of false vaccination records resulting in dogs entering the United States with rabies, prompting a Center for Disease Control (CDC) advisory. Sadly, con artists are also using the opportunity to prey upon people's emotions and empty their wallets – taking much-needed funds from legitimate rescue efforts.

Homeward Bound has a long-established relationship with a vetted rescue group in Taiwan. We remain open to partnerships where we can ensure the health and safety of our current dogs, volunteers, and adopters. In all cases, Homeward Bound's proven adoption process of vetting homes, ensuring a dog's medical needs are met, and matching dogs and families for lasting bonds remains in place.

etched in our hearts

Every dog that comes to us is special and loved. Still, some stand out for their exceptional needs and the care they required. Here are just a few who were able to complete their journeys because they found their way to Homeward Bound.



Weezer

This adorable "Goldendoodle" arrived as a puppy with canine megaesophagus. Often the result of poor breeding, the muscles of the esophagus fail and it cannot propel food or water into the stomach. The digestive fluid or food can pool in the esophagus which can result in aspiration and pneumonia. For the rest of his life, Weezer must be fed a slurry from a vertical position multiple times each day. It is a big commitment, still – he found caring people who understand that the effort bestowed is returned – tenfold – in joy. Today, he is a happy, healthy one-year-old boy who loves his smoothies and visits us often!



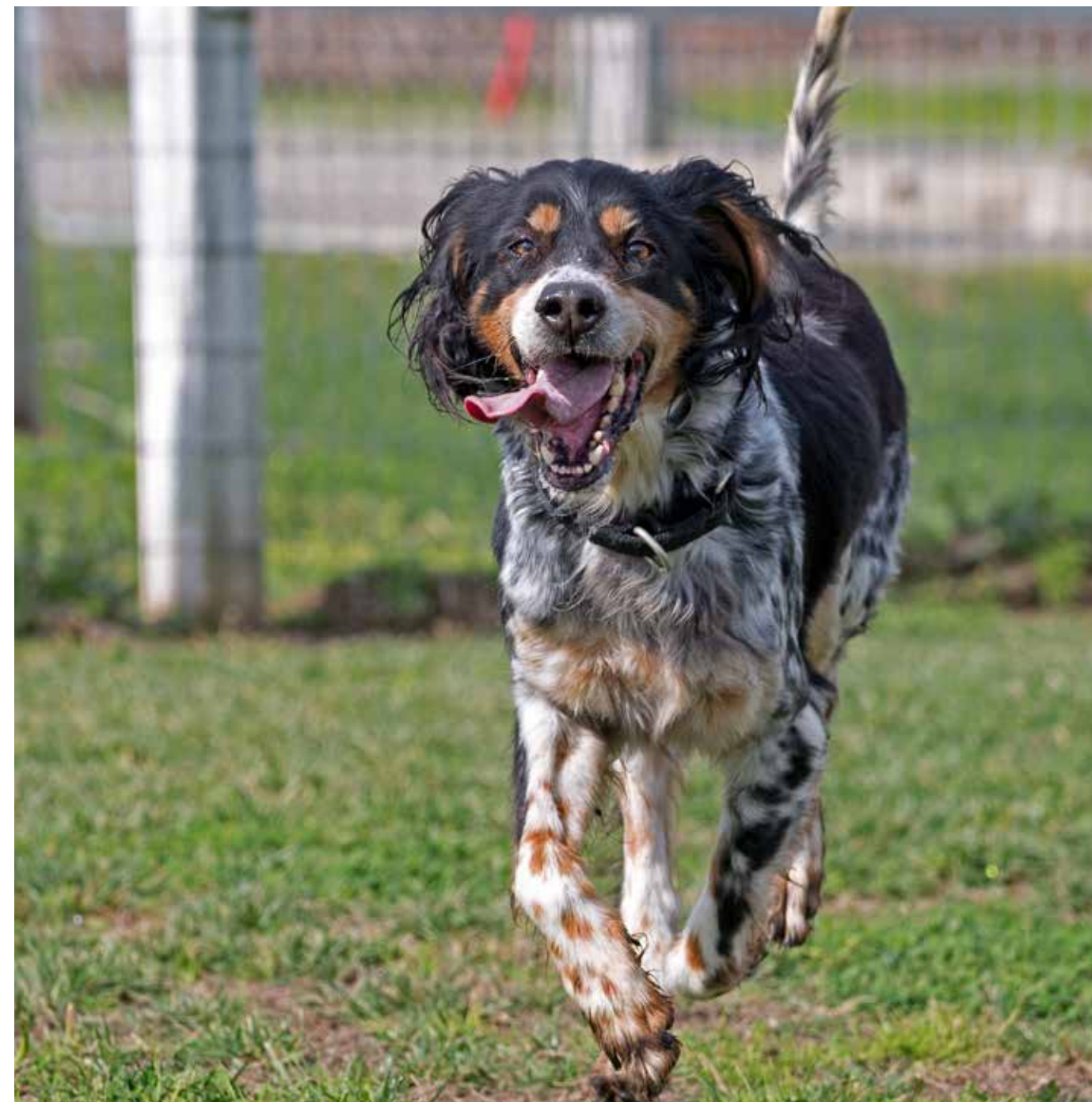
Abigale

Abigale was picked up as a stray and brought to a shelter on the 4th of July. No one ever claimed her, which may have been just as well. Overweight, covered in mats with a brewing infection on her underside, she was likely a neglected outdoor dog. So frightened was she by her ordeal, we couldn't even go near her to put on a collar. For her first week, she stayed outside in a covered yard refusing all contact. Gradually, our volunteers made their way to her side, and gradually, she came to trust them, which is how we learned that she loved balls, and water, and kids, and other dogs. Within a few weeks, Abigale found her way to her forever home – a family that could always be counted on to come looking for her if she ever got lost.



Ginger

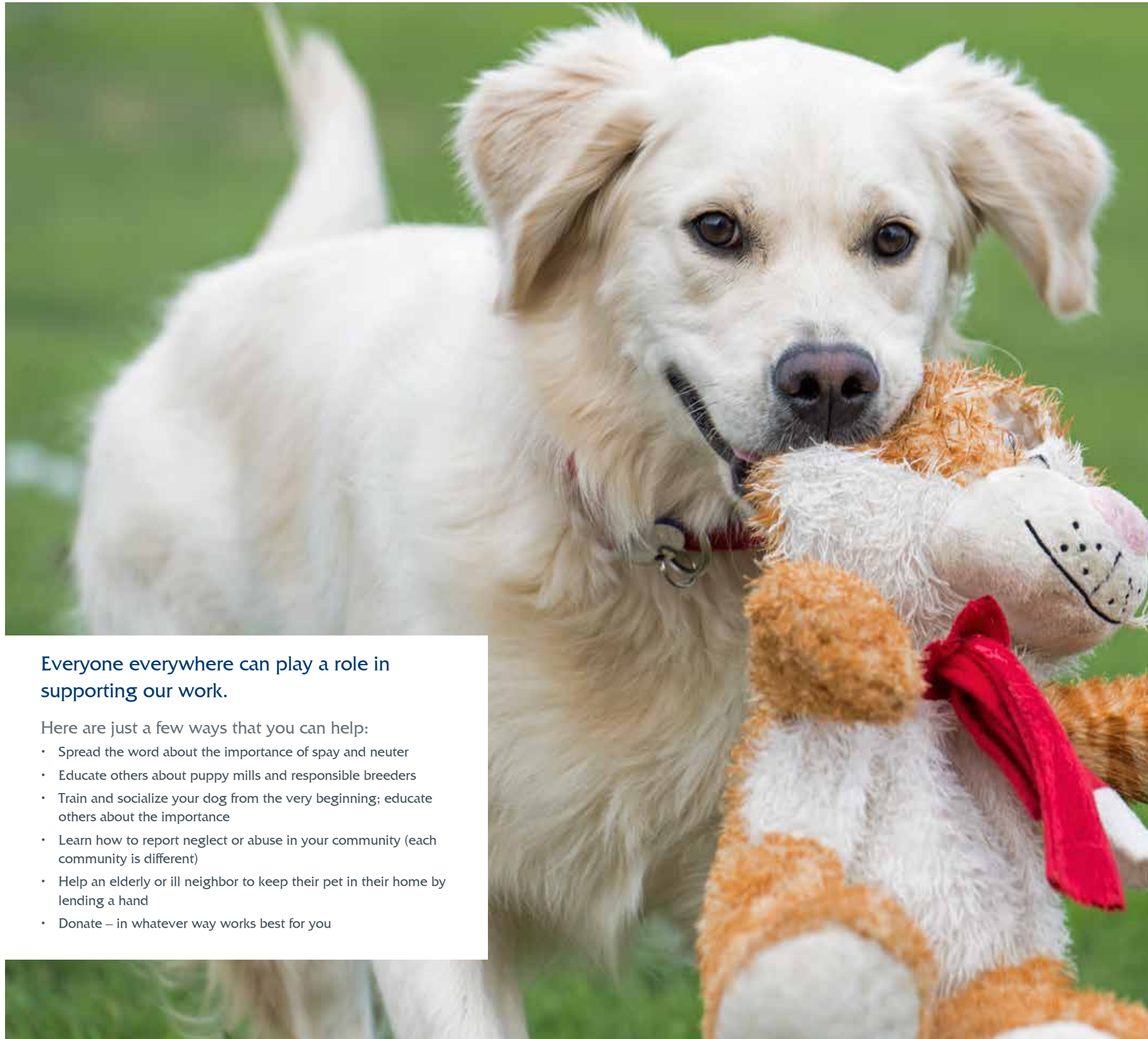
For eight years, Ginger was an only-dog-child. When a tiny human child came along, she was displaced. She lost her family and at the same time, her hips gave way to severe hip dysplasia. Surrendered to us, she had costly and complicated bilateral FHO hip surgery to restore her mobility and relieve her pain. She spent a long, difficult summer of recovery with us, but by fall, she was ready and anxious for a new season to begin. And it did – when she found her grateful forever home.



SECOND CHANCES: AFTER THE HUNT

What becomes of a retired hunting dog? The luckiest are already part of a family where hunting is the exception, not the rule. But for dogs bred and trained to do only one thing, retiring to the sofa is usually not their fate.

The lucky ones find their way to rescues or new homes. The transition can take patience and lots of love. In early 2015, seven beautiful hunting dogs – including one that was deaf – made their way to us. Not a Golden among them, of course. Everyone knows that Golden retrievers are too busy being spoiled to go out and work! But we happily extend our help when we have the capacity. It took time and patience, but our lucky friends soon discovered that they could have a different, and decidedly Golden purpose: best friend and loved companion.



Everyone everywhere can play a role in supporting our work.

Here are just a few ways that you can help:

- Spread the word about the importance of spay and neuter
- Educate others about puppy mills and responsible breeders
- Train and socialize your dog from the very beginning; educate others about the importance
- Learn how to report neglect or abuse in your community (each community is different)
- Help an elderly or ill neighbor to keep their pet in their home by lending a hand
- Donate – in whatever way works best for you

how you can help

Homeward Bound relies almost solely on generous contributions from individuals and corporate donations. Whether financial, material or gifts of time and talent – there are many ways to contribute to our effort.

Financial Support

Homeward Bound conducts three major fundraising events annually: Fund of Love and the matching Double the Gold campaigns raise targeted funds specifically for the dogs' medical expenses; Kibble & Bids™ provides for general funds and support for yearly projects; the Giving Tree is a wonderful way to remember someone you love at the holidays. Please visit our "How to Help" section on the website and check back regularly for seasonal offerings.

Planned Gifts

Leave a lasting legacy that may also offers benefits to you or your heirs. You will find information on our website under "How To Help." Talk with your tax or financial advisors can advise you on the best approach for your unique situation.

In-Kind Support

Big dogs have big needs, and the everyday things add up quickly. On our website, you will find a list of supplies of which we are in constant need. Look for "Wish List" under "How to Help" as well.

Volunteer

Have a particular skill? Or just want to spend time working with the dogs? We need you! Complete an application on our website and we'll find the perfect spot for you and your talents.

Foster

There is no greater gift than providing a dog in need with a caring home and the support it needs to become adoptable.

financials 2015

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
Year ended December 31, 2015

REVENUES, GAINS, AND OTHER SUPPORT:

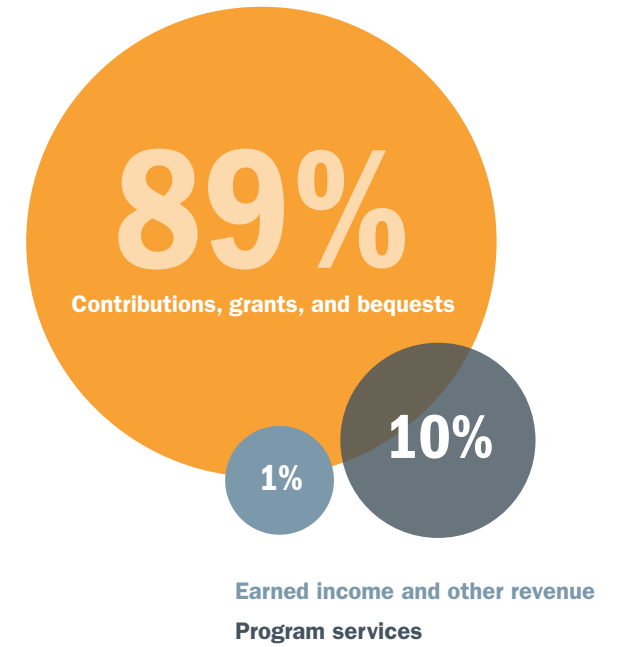
| | |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Contributions, grants, and bequests | \$474,011 |
| Program services | \$ 55,454 |
| Earned income and other revenue | \$ 3,579 |
| Cost of good sold | \$ 3,080 |
| TOTAL REVENUES, GAINS, AND OTHER SUPPORT | \$529,963 |

EXPENSES:

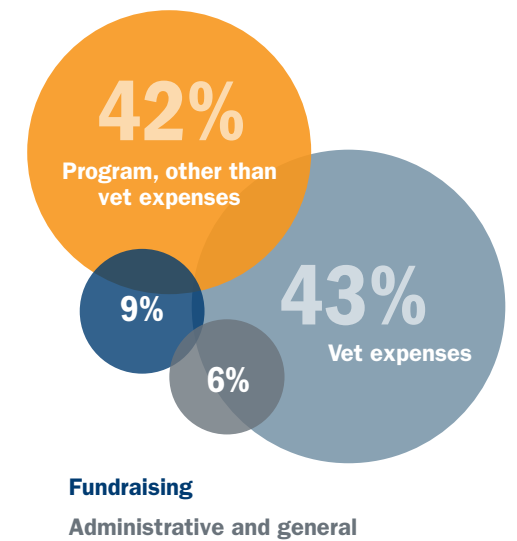
| | |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Program | \$345,311 |
| Fundraising | \$ 36,495 |
| Administrative and general | \$ 23,716 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | \$414,522 |
| NET ORDINARY INCOME & NET INCOME | \$113,277 |



2015 revenue



2015 expenses





**HOMeward
BOUND** Golden
Retriever
Rescue

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www.homewardboundgoldens.org