

THE heart



OF
HOMEWARD
BOUND

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HOMEWARD BOUND GOLDEN RETRIEVER RESCUE AND SANCTUARY, INC.

What's Inside

February is the month of love. Carla's letter to Humphrey, our cover story, is a testament to the power of love and a reminder to greet every day at full speed.

We also know that love is ageless. On page 5, you will find tips for welcoming a senior dog into your home and heart.

Fosters are the bridge to dogs on their journeys home. Young, recently blind Louie needed a guide human to help him prepare. In the process, our foster learned how simple it is to accommodate a dog without sight. Read his story on page 9.

On page 2, our new president, Judy Kent, writes about walking in the path of her good friend and our founder, Jody Jones. Each step of the way, there is a voice that guides her.

And our Fund of Love kicks off this month! This fund provides the match to our Double The Gold Challenge later in the spring. The funds raised through both campaigns are dedicated to meeting the medical needs of the hundreds of dogs we will support this year. On page 4, read about our first featured dog, Skye, and the vital difference your gifts make!

PLEASE PASS ALONG!

You can help us to expand our reach by sharing our newsletter with friends, family and co-workers! Thank you!



Carla and
Humphrey

A Letter to Humphrey

BY: Carla McCreary

From your young dog mother who stepped on you, a diagnosis of Hydrocephalus (water on the brain) with limited vision, to a final verdict of euthanasia, your life start was far from easy. Then an angel swooped in and you were on your way to Homeward Bound and toward the better life you deserved. At Homeward Bound, you joined two other special needs puppies, and were greeted by volunteers determined to give you all the best life possible, as short as that may be. Sadly, within a few months, your two-roomies passed, and you were left alone. This was the start of you beating the odds.

Jody called and asked me to write a story to see if we could find you a permanent foster. I had recently retired, finished an aggressive cancer treatment, and although I knew I could not make a long-term commitment, I knew I could make a difference for you. With the support of my granddaughter, Nikki, we decided that you were coming home. Nikki

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Our 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 Golden Retrievers that cannot be adopted.

Homeward Bound also provides education on proper animal care and on 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 by the disaster.

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.

DOGS RESCUED IN 2020
326

VET EXPENSES IN 2020
\$267,885



A Message From Our New President

I stepped into this role - reluctantly, at first – when Jody first became ill. As Homeward Bound's Treasurer and Jody's friend, I had done so several times before when she required rest and restoration. Rescue is hard on the body and soul. As we worked as a Board to find a path forward, two things became clear: We wanted to honor the vision of Homeward Bound remaining an all-volunteer organization, and - someone had to lead. We have incredible, dedicated team leads overseeing our program and operational areas. But the role of President was in no way a part-time job.

In November, the Board nominated me as president, and I accepted. Carefully. When volunteers are at the heart of your organization, moving forward through such a dramatic shift requires time and patience to bring others along. We are finding our way. We don't always agree; rescue is built on passionate people. But we are putting fresh processes in place to guide our decisions where, before, it was a decision of one.

Jody and I had worked in a tiny office together for years. We formed a deep friendship, and I learned about rescue from her through her good days and bad. Taking over for a founder and 20-year president while mourning the loss of my friend is hard. As I walk forward in this role, there is a voice in my ear that guides and helps me. It is hers.

- There are gut-wrenching calls and emails requesting that we take a dog whose needs go beyond our skills to help. The voice in my ear says: "We can't save them all."
- When I am presented with a dog that has multiple debilitating injuries after being hit by a car and left in a ditch and I am told: "If we can save his leg, we will save his life - but if we can't, then we will lose him" – the voice says: "We have to try."
- When someone wants to surrender a Golden who has been mistreated, neglected, or simply discarded and I am tempted to use harsh words with the owners, there is a voice in my ear that tells me: "Just get the dog."
- That same voice tells me every day: "Don't judge." Years ago, during the last recession, a woman surrendered her 15-year-old dog to Jody. I was so sad that she could even consider giving up a dog at that point in its life. Another volunteer commented



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Continued from page 2

that she would live in her car before she gave up her dog. Then we learned that this woman was living in her car. She said it was okay for her; she could manage. But it wasn't good enough for her dog who she felt deserved better. It's an experience I will never forget. Don't judge.

- When passions overflow within our volunteer ranks, a voice whispers to me: "It takes a village. Grow them, nurture them, involve them."

I have moved from reluctance to embracing this opportunity – even on the tough days. We all have too much invested in Homeward Bound to do otherwise. The support I receive from my fellow volunteers makes it possible:

- Dr. Codde, our longtime volunteer vet, is my lifeline. She is always at the other end of the phone coaching me through the medications and healthcare decisions.
- Our area coordinators across the state did not miss a beat through the transition; they just changed email addresses and phone numbers and continued to rescue dogs.
- And all our dedicated volunteers have been flexible and extremely supportive through this time of change – always keeping one thing foremost: It's All About the Dogs.

I am not Jody, and I will never pretend to be. She was a special woman on earth. But there is work to be done and lives to save and I am proud to dedicate myself to this effort with the help of our volunteer team – and yours. Together, we are the heart of Homeward Bound.

With heartfelt appreciation,

Judy Kent
President

Youth Program Leaders Needed

Our Youth Program was dormant for a couple of years for lack of adult leadership. In Fall of 2020, volunteer Paula Ramirez, a 28-year veteran teacher, took charge. The initial "class" of ten students was directly tied to a Senior Project at Inderkum High School. The pilot called for students to volunteer for 30 hours which were briefly interrupted when COVID spiked around the holidays. They will complete their requirements in February.

New applicants will be welcomed in August and September. The number of students we can serve will be predicated on the number of adult volunteers who might be willing to take a small group during the fall and winter.

Working with students and dogs while promoting safety requires some managing but Paula says that it has been a positive and growing experience for all – herself included. "The most rewarding for me is seeing the compassion from the students." This program plays a vital role in teaching the next generation about rescue. If you are interested in becoming a youth program leader, please submit a volunteer application on our website at www.hbgrr.org. Thank you!



Xavier
and Trooper



Help Us Build A Very Special “Fund of Love”



Homeward Bound helps hundreds of dogs on their journeys home each year. Because we are one of the few Golden rescues in the nation with a facility, we can take dogs regardless of their age or health - dogs that might not otherwise be saved. Last year, 326 dogs came to us for help. Our veterinary expenses were over \$267,000, representing nearly half of our total expenses.

Each year, we ask for your support of our **Fund of Love**. This fund, along with its matching campaign, the **Double the Gold Challenge**, helps to ensure that we can meet the dogs' medical needs each year. They also provide the ongoing support to 80 dogs in permanent foster so they can be home - or in Sanctuary with us at Homeward Bound.

This year began with the walking wounded: Two broken pelvises and two fractured; one brachial-plexus avulsion (traumatic nerve damage); one fractured vertebrae; one fractured femur; and a torn ACL. Note: cars and dogs don't mix. That doesn't even count the masses, seizures, laryngeal paralysis, heartworm positives, and more. One extra special pup arrived from China with his own special need: bi-lateral FHO surgery at the age of only ten months. Many of you generously contrib-



Skye



uted to his flight and his surgeries which he began on February 10. His name is Skye.

Skye was diagnosed at a very young age with severe hip dysplasia. He has a significant bunny hop and very weak muscles in his hind legs. Rescued in China as a puppy, he spent months in foster in a high-rise apartment there. He had to be carried down the stairs multiple times each day to do his business. The vets there knew that he needed bi-lateral FHO surgery – and that the best chance of success would be to have that surgery performed in the U.S.

Too young for surgery, and grounded when flights were stopped due to the pandemic – he waited. Now, at ten

months, he has begun the last leg of his long journey: two life-extending surgeries each requiring six weeks or more of recovery. When all is said and done, Skye will easily be an \$8,000 dog. And worth every penny.

Skye is not alone. Over the course of this campaign, we will be sharing the stories of other dogs with significant medical needs. Dogs that most other rescues would turn away.



Our support extends to 80 dogs currently enrolled in our permanent foster program. Through this program, dogs with ongoing medical needs are permanent members of their new families but remain in our program so we can provide their medical care for life. Other dogs, whose extraordinary needs make them unlikely to be

Continued on page 5

adopted, can remain with us in Sanctuary. They can live out their lives in the safety and security of their own private residence and yard, surrounded by love. Truth be told, we have a hard time keeping them in this program because amazing people keep taking them home!

We can say 'yes' to dogs like Skye and those in permanent foster or Sanctuary because of the generous donations and huge hearts of people like you. We can't do it without you.

Will you please join us in our mission to continue providing the best care possible for deserving dogs like Skye by helping us to build our **Fund of Love**?



The minimum donation for this fund is \$250. You can choose to donate a greater amount, or you can endow the entire fund. **Fund of Love**, which runs through February and March, provides the important matching funds for our **Double the Gold Challenge** which is held in April and May. 100% of the proceeds of **Fund of Love and Double the Gold Challenge** are dedicated to providing medical care for the hundreds of dogs we rescue each year, and ongoing support of those in permanent foster or sanctuary. Support like yours makes our mission possible.

To receive a **Fund of Love** packet, or for more information, please contact Audrey Farrington at audrey@homewardbound-goldens.org, or visit our website at www.hbgrr.org. Thank You!



Love is Ageless

The gift of adopting a senior dog is two-sided; both of your lives will be changed for the better. Adopting a senior dog is a little different – and in many ways much easier – than adopting a puppy or young dog. Here are some tips to put your best paw forward:

Go slow and don't overdo it. We recommend this for all adoptions, but especially so for seniors. While most senior dogs are amazingly adaptable, your new dog will appreciate some quiet time to get to know you and other household members

(humans and other pets). At Homeward Bound, you will have introduced any other dog in your household at our facility. Home greetings can be different, however. Re-introduce them outside in neutral territory; go for a quick walk together; then bring them into the yard and house. Reintroducing house training may be necessary, so take your new dog out to the potty spot every few hours. If your new dog is meeting a new kitty, go especially slow. Let them smell each other through a closed door, gradually giving them more access to each other – even over several days - to avoid causing stress to either.

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**HOMeward
BOUND** Golden
Retriever
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likes to say that "you barreled out of the car and into all of our hearts (and the back of our legs, daily)."

When I committed to being your permanent foster (failure), I thought you would be an easy puppy, but that all changed when I researched your condition. Oh my gosh...what had I done! I knew you did not have a long life expectancy but did not know that you could also suffer from aggression, lack of impulse control and cognitive reasoning, seizures, and that only 25% of your kind could ever be housebroken! Too late, my resident dogs had already welcomed you into the fold.

The early days were challenging. We had many early morning showers due to pooping in your crate followed by your overwhelming joy to see me - ending with you covered in said poop! Lucky for you we have an outside sink with hot water, and you love bath time. Then came your



LOVE for plastic. Water bottles kicked this off, later moving on to remote control devices and cell phones. Lack of impulse control, indeed!

After a few months you moved from your baby crate to a big boy bed in the laundry room with a dog door - and potty "outside" became a thing! You learned that ice cubes are the best treat EVER and to this day search for something of value and run to the refrigerator to trade. This may have been reinforced but is the only way to get anything back! You learned to walk on a leash and to "sit" on command. At year two you had a short bout of aggression, but it was more reaction than personality...lack of cognitive reasoning.

Today, as you begin your fifth year, you continue living life to the fullest. You still run through the dog doors with no thought

to what or who could be on the other side. You still plow into people, but you have learned the joy of cuddling and being snuggled. You conquered house breaking with only a few wet accidents now and then. Sadly, the seizures have started, and your vision is getting worse but slow you down...not in the least!

I have no idea what the future holds for either of us, but you have taught me not to look at statistics and just enjoy every day at full speed. As I watch you play with toys and chew bones, romp with your dog friends, or sleep by the fire, I feel so blessed that we took that chance on each other and that you are living the life statistics said was not possible.

In 2019 we made it official and you were adopted, although you already knew that you were home.



Turn KIBBLE INTO CASH for the pups at Homeward Bound!

For every large bag of Nature's Select Premium Pet Food purchased, Nature's Select will donate \$3.00 back to Homeward Bound. Nature's Select provides FREE HOME DELIVERY in the greater Northern California area. It's all-natural, holistic pet food from a local, family-owned and operated company.

"We love the convenience of having this quality food delivered to us, as well as the generous donations the "Kibble Into Cash" program provides."

- Judy Kent, President, Homeward Bound Golden Retriever Rescue & Sanctuary



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Getting Some Rest

After the introductions and a tour of the yard and house, settle down for some rest. After all the “excitement,” chances are your new family member is exhausted. Allow a few days of adjustment time before tackling any bathing, manicures, or large gatherings. Definitely avoid dog parks.

Provide a safe spot for your dog. If he is already crate trained, this safe place with soft bedding will be welcomed. If not, don't start this process in the first few days. Try a gated room where your new dog can see out but will be safe and secure while still a part of the family as he learns your household and routine. Even after dogs get comfortable in a new home, many appreciate an open crate or special hiding spot that is “theirs.” Some dogs may find their own safe spot, behind a chair or in a corner of the house, if possible, allow this spot for your new companion.

As your new companion becomes more relaxed, you'll find he wants to join you during your activities and may readily follow the lead of any other dogs in the household. Until you're sure he's settling in, keeping him leashed outside (even in a fenced yard) is a good safety measure. Most dogs want to be with you, so don't leave him out too long alone to investigate his new environment.

A Change in Diet

For any dog, a quick change in diet can wreak havoc on the digestive system. At Homeward Bound, we send you home with the food your new dog has been eating. If you move to another, gradually transition one quarter cup at a time over the course of a week. And be sure it is a high-quality food. Just like people, a good diet aids in better health, and the cheap foods have fillers and are especially tough on the digestive system of seniors. A senior needs a balanced diet that has less protein than a younger dog's food.



Change can be hard for a dog of any age. If your new dog initially refuses to eat, resist the urge to add in “enticements.” A little fat- and salt-free chicken broth poured on the food can help. If the hunger strike goes on for more than a couple of days, give us a call, or consult your veterinarian.

Behavior and Training

The adoption “rule of threes” is especially relevant for a senior dog. For the first three days, your new dog may sleep a lot – or push boundaries. Its personality may seem dull or even fearful. These initial days require patience and persistence. Get your new dog into your routine. Conduct frequent potty trips; put valuables out of harm's way; and remain calm and neutral. Reassure, but don't coddle too much to avoid jealousies with other pets or creating unrealistic expectations. Let your dog seek you out for attention and don't try to force interactions.

After three weeks, your dog will start to blossom. He will feel more comfortable and begin to trust. More of his true personality will emerge - as might behaviors that may require training attention. Too much babying during this time can reinforce undesirable behavior. It might even create bad behaviors. Dogs are smart, and repeat behaviors that work for them. Reinforcing these behaviors creates a

habit they become comfortable with as some dogs will learn to “work it” to their own advantage.

At three months, you will notice a marked change. Your dog knows that it is “home” and a whole new level of your relationship will evolve. He is yours and you are his.

Having Fun and Bonding

The best way to spoil your dog is to do what means the most to him: spend time together. Seniors may not have the stamina that younger dogs do, but they still love their walks, playing games, and training. These are the activities that create a lasting bond.

Adopting a senior dog may be one of the most rewarding things you've ever done. You've saved a life and provided a warm, safe retirement home for an older dog in need. Your reward will be his love and devotion for the rest of his days. Have questions? Need help? Contact Kathryn Baines, Certified Trainer and Behavior Consultant at grdogtraining@gmail.com.

Dealing With Pet Loss and Grief

BY: Judy Andrews

For anyone who has ever grieved the death of a beloved pet, the pain can be overwhelming. And, for many of us, experiencing loss of a canine companion can be just as heartbreaking as the deepest loss ever felt in our lives. After all, we regard our dogs as more than animals. They are members of our family and our best friends who love us unconditionally. We love them in return and they depend on us. When that bond is broken, it can leave behind a profound sense of emptiness and loss. As any dog owner knows, loss is inevitable and a natural part of life. But that doesn't make it any easier to accept.

There is no shortage of books, websites, and reference material on grief and bereavement. When I asked a therapist friend to recommend a couple of books on the topic, it's no surprise she listed three on grief in general with no specific mention of pet loss. By definition, grief is a natural extension of love. It's a healthy and sane response to loss. Mourning the loss of a pet, or any loved one for that matter, can last for weeks, months, even longer. The important thing to remember is you are not alone. Grief is personal. Everyone deals with it differently and in their own timeframe.

When is it time to seek outside support and counseling following the loss of a pet? I reached out to David Deerfeeder, Bereavement Team Manager at Yolo Hospice Inc. in Davis, Calif. for some answers to this question and more.

Q: How can we comfort pet owners following loss? How do you respond to those that say, "it's only a dog?"

DD: Having a pet means different things to different people. For some people, that pet represents companionship and they



grieve the loss of their companion. Caring for a pet may be a lifeline, providing a reason for someone to get up and be active. Some pets are also service animals who play a vital role in sustaining wellbeing. Perhaps it's only a dog to some, but it may be so much more to others. Sometimes people downplay their reaction to the loss saying, "I shouldn't feel this way because it was only a dog." You are entitled to your feelings, because it wasn't "only a dog," it was your dog.

Q: When someone reaches out to you for grief support, what is the first thing you might say to them?

DD: I ask them to tell me about their pet. They will teach me what this loss means to them, and then we can begin making meaning of their feelings.

Q: At what point is it important or even critical for pet owners to seek one-on-one or group counseling support following the loss of a pet?

DD: With any emotionally traumatic event, the impact can only be measured in individual terms. What is their experience of loss? How have they learned to cope? Do they have supportive friends or family? If someone feels despondent and/or they have limited emotional support available, call a professional counselor with experience and knowledge on the topic who can

help. If someone wonders if their feelings are normal, call the counselor. The rule of paw is this, if you aren't sure if you should call a counselor... call a counselor!

Q: What self-care advice do you have for pet owners following loss?

DD: Breathe. Rest. Journal your feelings. Talk about your loss. If possible, walk or exercise. Hydrate. Keep up nutrition. Grieving takes energy and it takes time. Stay in contact with nature as much as possible; it renews us. We notice the value of self-care at times of stress, but it is actually important at any time.

David also stresses the importance of not holding back tears. "Do not try to bury or hide your grief," he says. "Attend a pet bereavement group, memorialize your friend and distract yourself with volunteer work and physical exercise."

What may feel intolerable now, will ease with time. But, know that you will survive. The day will come when the softness of sweet memories will bring warm smiles of recollection.

Guiding a Blind Dog

BY: Audrey Farrington

My husband and I specialize in fostering puppies. We have nursed our share of sick and healing puppies back to health. But bringing home a blind one-year-old recently was a first. We quickly learned that caring for a blind dog isn't all that different from caring for a sighted dog - with just a few adjustments.

Louie was born without sight in one eye. He lost the other to trauma. I cannot imagine how distressing it was for Louie, an outside dog, to be suddenly sightless. To add to it, he was left in a shelter soon after. Homeward Bound welcomed him and made him our official "office dog" while he awaited and recovered from surgery to remove both eyes, ensuring a healthy future.

He came to our home to learn how to be an inside blind dog. There was a learning curve for all of us. Louie needed to learn how to navigate an indoor space and to tell us when he had to go potty. We had to remember to be his eyes for him, set him up for success, and teach him the commands that would help guide him through life with his hoped-for future family.

To make our home easier to navigate, we cleared out unnecessary furnishings, creating clear pathways from room-to-room. An easy floor plan encourages confidence and exploration. We placed a low mat in front of the door to help him feel and identify the location. His bed and bowl remained consistently in place as did our furnishings. There was nothing we could do to remove the obstacle of a step down into the family and living room. For these, we used "step up" and "step down." He learned the space surprisingly quickly and within a few days was racing through the house without issue.

Bells aided our walks, initially. They say that blind dogs' other senses become



more attuned with the loss of sight. Louie listened to our footsteps, the jangle of the other dogs' leashes, and he used his nose to keep confident pace on walks – bells, or no bells.

A critical command was "Careful!" After a few bumps, Louie figured out that this was our way of telling him that an obstacle was in his path...like trees. All yards should be dog-proofed, but it is especially important for a blind dog.

Blind dogs enjoy play and respond to training just like their sighted counterparts. Investing in enrichment activities is especially important for a blind dog whose world can become small and isolating if not engaged.

Part of a foster's responsibility is to learn about the dog's comfort level with other dogs, cats, kids, and environments to help determine what a good adoption match would be. I was a little anxious; how could Louie read dog or cat body language? With other animals, I saw that both relied on a sixth sense; it was as if the other dog or cat understood that Louie was different and gave him a little grace. Louie is a kid magnet; he looks like a cuddly teddy bear. Here, it was more important to make slow introductions to avoid overwhelming him. He passed with flying colors. In the home, a blind dog will quickly pick up on the scent of each family member – two- or four-legged.

I thought Louie might be with us for awhile as we searched for the right family, so we made sure he was integrated into ours. The wait turned out to be surprisingly short. Previous adopters have a young daughter named Regan who, each year, raises funds for her birthday to donate to the dogs. Last Christmas, when she came out to deliver her gift, she fell in love with a 12-year-old Golden with terminal cancer who had been abandoned at the vet. Regan convinced her family that Monk needed to be home with them. She lovingly cared for Monk through his last five and a half months of life.



This Christmas, Regan's parents surprised her and her siblings by bringing home Louie – now Murphy. It is clear from reports and photos that adopting a blind dog has been a truly rewarding experience for Regan and her family. Fostering one was for us, as well.

To learn more about fostering, visit our website for information and an application under the heading "Foster" at www.hbgr.org.

A Golden-Hearted Success!

You Covered Our Homeward Bound Giving Tree in Gold!

Every Thanksgiving we launch our bare, virtual Giving Tree and ask for your help to light and decorate it. As one of our three major fundraising efforts of the year, its success is vital to our mission.

Each star, snowflake, toy, package, decoration, and light represents a gift made in honor or in memory of a special someone—two-legged, or four. Each gift makes a life-changing difference to dogs in need.

This year, we added a special golden heart for **Jody's Heart Fund** - supporting extraordinary rescues. You covered our tree in gold in her memory and brought our tree to twinkling, sparkling life, exceeding our wildest hopes in such a challenging year for many. Your gifts raised over \$150,000 to support the dogs of Homeward Bound and **Jody's Heart Fund**.

Thanks to your generosity, we know that we can help hundreds of dogs on their journeys home this year, while those in need of sanctuary will find a place of comfort and care with us. And when we get the call - as we have repeatedly recently - requesting support for dogs with extraordinary needs...we can say 'yes' as Jody would hope. Homeward Bound supporters are the very best! Thank You!!



Planned Giving: A Golden Legacy

You know that sharing your life with any dog is a blessing. Sharing your life with a rescued dog is doubly so. Our mission of rescue, adoption and sanctuary changes Golden *and* human lives.

By including Homeward Bound Golden Retriever Rescue and Sanctuary in your estate or planned giving, you create a legacy ensuring that more Golden lives are saved. And don't forget your own pets. Providing for them in your estate plan is an important consideration for all of us.

Examples of estate and planned giving instruments include wills and living trusts, life insurance or retirement beneficiary designations, or gifts of appreciated stock. There are many options from which to choose. Naming us in your will or trust, for example, is one of the easiest ways to ensure that future generations of Golden retrievers in need will find a second chance at life.

You can download our **Guide to Giving** to help you determine the right approach for you—providing current or future benefits to yourself, your heirs, and to the Golden retrievers in our care. You can also download our **Pet Guardianship** form, entrusting your dogs' care to Homeward Bound in the event that you or your family members can no longer be there for them. You will find both on our website under "How to Help."

Cherry Creek Veterinary Hospital

7955 Watt Avenue, Antelope, CA 95843
Phone: 916-349-2755 | www.cherrycreekvet.com
Justina Codde, DVM, MS

A full-service veterinary medical facility, providing excellent medical, surgical and dental care to our patients while promoting responsible pet ownership, preventative health care and health-related educational opportunities for our clients.





International Rescue Update

For years, Homeward Bound has worked with trusted partners to bring at-risk Golden Retrievers to our shores a few at a time. In 2019, thanks to the generous contributions of two big-hearted donors, Homeward Bound brought 53 China dogs to our care and forever homes. In 2020, only 12 arrived before flights were closed by the pandemic.

Dedicated rescuers there have held 17 dogs for us in foster - some with 4-5 dogs to an apartment. In early 2021, we began working with select groups to bring dogs in through special cargo transports. We were apprehensive at first; previously the dogs traveled with a human escort. But we have found that this method can be

safely used by relying on rescue partners at critical junctions along their journey.

Early this year, we welcomed 10 dogs through this partner network. Then, two others, including our **Fund of Love** dog, Skye. We hope to be able to bring our waiting 17 soon - and as many more as we can safely and financially manage throughout the year.

It is an endeavor over-and-above our work to save local lives, giving dogs from foreign lands safety and permanence while humans on the ground strive to do important work to change a culture from within. And it would not be possible without your support.

Shop & Donate At No Cost With AmazonSmile

Consider designating Homeward Bound as your charity as you do all your shopping on AmazonSmile.



You get the same great Amazon experience and prices - and the doggies earn 0.5% on each purchase! What a simple way to give at no cost to you! You will find all the details on our website under "How To Help."

How to Reach Us

Your help and ideas are always welcome! Contact team leaders below if you are interested in helping in any of these areas:

Adoptions and Surrenders & Sanctuary Development

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Dates To Remember

The Fund of Love Campaign launches this month!

Help Wanted

Volunteer Positions Currently in High Demand:

- **Feeders:** A dog's best friend and so rewarding!
- **Walkers:** Build bonds of trust through walking, playing, training, and grooming. Help prepare the dogs for their forever homes.
- **Youth Program Leaders:** Help inspire the next generation of rescue!

Our Golden Wish List

You can also shop our **Amazon Wish List**. You'll find the link on our website!

For Our Goldens:

Nature's Select Dog Food (donate with your online purchase)
Dog Cookies
Rubber-backed Rugs
Petco & PetSmart Gift Cards

Office Supplies

Postage Stamps
Professional Printing Services

General Maintenance & Laundry

Paper Towels
Garbage Bags (heavy duty & extra heavy duty)
Pooper Scoopers

Facilities Supplies

Lowes or Home Depot Gift Cards

For Landscaping & Our Memorial Garden

Green Acres Nursery Gift Certificates
Shredded Cedar Bark/Mulch