



# 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



**Lucky Dog**  
Animal Rescue





## IN THIS REPORT

*“YOU CANNOT SHARE YOUR LIFE WITH A DOG... OR A CAT, AND NOT KNOW PERFECTLY WELL THAT ANIMALS HAVE PERSONALITIES AND MINDS AND FEELINGS”  
– JANE GOODALL*

<i>MALLEY (AKA MEENIE) MEENIE – DEFYING THE ODDS</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>2022 STATISTICS</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>MIRAH'S STORY</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>YEAR IN REVIEW</i>	<i>8-9</i>
<i>WHO WE ARE</i>	<i>10-11</i>
<i>2022 AT A GLANCE</i>	<i>12-13</i>
<i>OUR PROGRAMS</i>	<i>14-15</i>
<i>COOKIE - IT WAS ALWAYS MEANT TO BE</i>	<i>16</i>
<i>TRICKSIE &amp; THE POWER OF POSITIVE BEHAVIOR</i>	<i>17</i>
<i>2022 EVENTS &amp; FUNDRAISERS</i>	<i>18-19</i>
<i>OUR VOLUNTEERS</i>	<i>20-23</i>
<i>2022 FINANCIALS</i>	<i>24-25</i>
<i>BREAKING GROUND - FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA</i>	<i>26</i>

*PHOTO CREDITS: LUCKY DOG ANIMAL RESCUE*

*ANNUAL REPORT DESIGN: MOMME DESIGN*

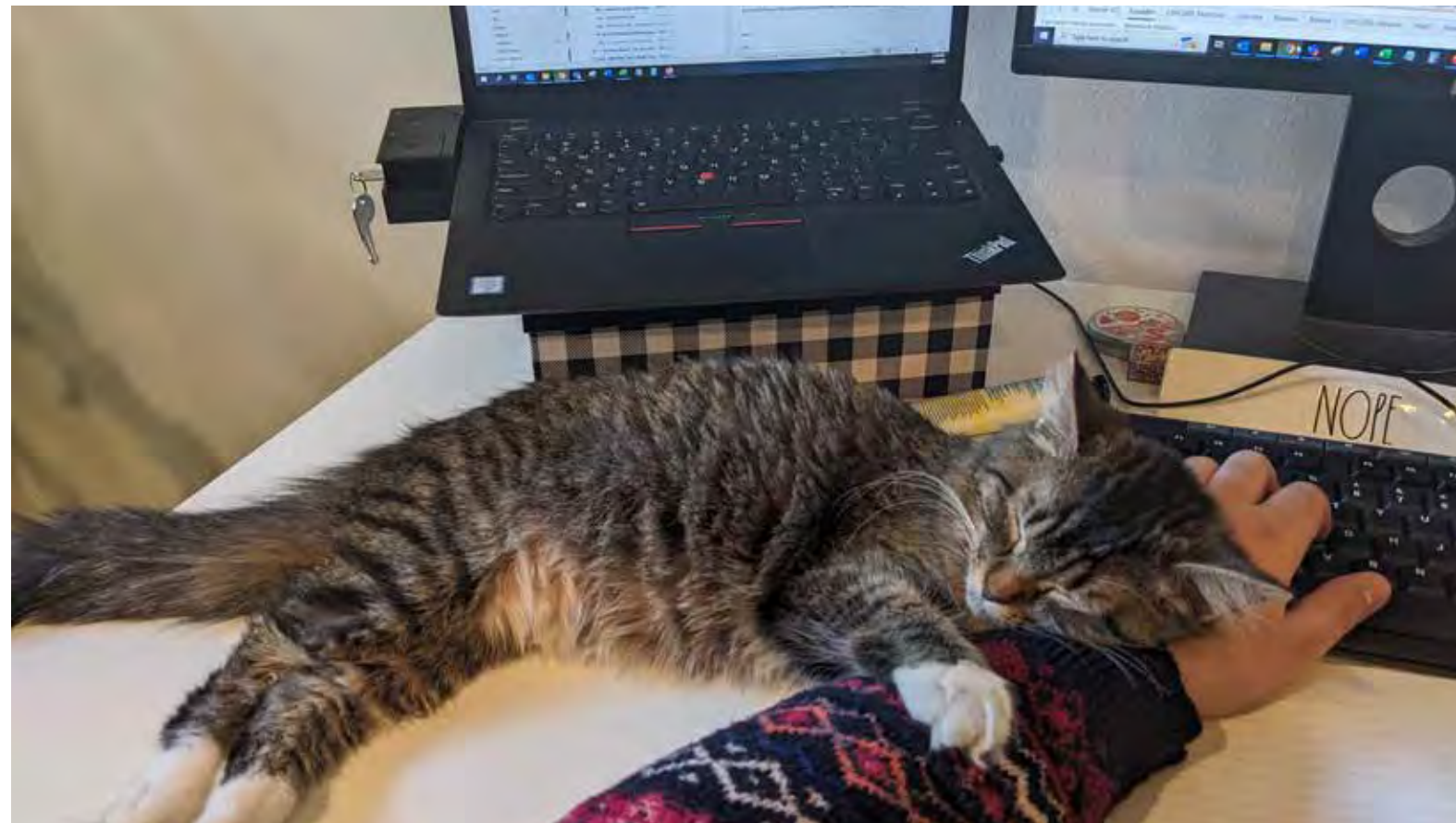
## MALLEY (AKA MEENIE) - DEFYING THE ODDS



running around the house. From there, her behavior only worsened. On numerous occasions, Malley tried to access the kitchen counter tops (which according to the governing charter of her foster mom's apartment, subsection C, paragraph 2, are off limits to all non-humanoid species). Malley then moved on from attempted trespassing to grand larceny – going dumpster diving to fish out her foster mom's used snotty tissues from the dustbin, batting them around the apartment. Her thievery continued, purloining pens from her foster mom's desk (sometimes while they were directly in use by her foster mom taking notes during a work meeting). Various other misdemeanors included barring her foster mom access to her keyboard and distracting her during the workday by napping on her arm. Finally, Miss Malley was the prime suspect in the attempted destruction

The only surviving kitten from her litter, Malley was born a fighter. This sweet little girl was born with a significant heart murmur at birth which made her a difficult candidate for adoption. Malley (who also operates under the moniker "Little Floof") began her time with her forever family as a temporary foster. As we hear it, she displayed an escalating series of poor choices, bad behavior, and criminal activity that made her re-entry into polite society impossible and necessitated that she be formally adopted by her LDAR foster mom.

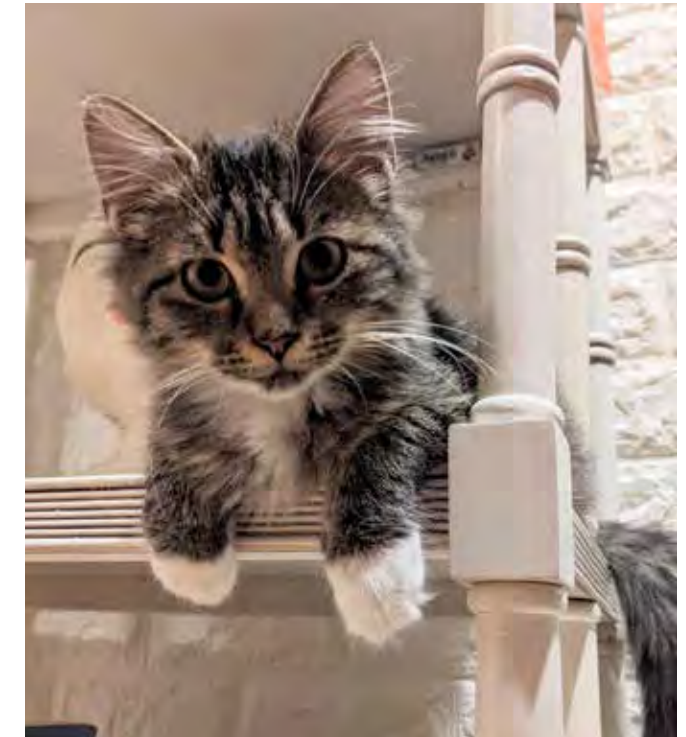
On her first night in her foster home, after being given a bath, Malley showed extremely poor judgment when she decided to stretch out in her litter box while her fur was still damp, resulting in a litter-covered kitten



of personal property in the form of a TV that was knocked down from its stand. The suspect was even photographed standing proudly at the scene of the crime, displaying a truly diabolical lack of remorse or guilt for her actions.

During the course of this escalating criminality, Malley attempted to proclaim her innocence and maintain her eligibility to be released to an adopter in the community. She even tried to persuade her foster mom that she wasn't culpable in these crimes, bribing her with snuggles in order to escape justice for her actions. But the judge and jury of Lucky Dog Staff, after hearing expert testimony from her foster mom, were convinced that if she were to be paroled, she would only wreak havoc on an unsuspecting family for years to come. So Malley was remanded to the care of her foster mom (in the form of a "foster fail adoption"), for life.

Since her adoption, Malley has tried to turn over a new leaf and put her best paw forward each day. As established from her previous behavior, however, Malley's biggest challenge is understanding



boundaries. In the mornings, while her mom is still asleep on her side, it is not uncommon to see Malley perched across her mom's ribcage and shoulders with her little floofy face scant inches from her mom's nose, patiently waiting for her breakfast. Malley also loves to bury her face in the best part of any human - the armpit - while she kneads her mom's tummy. Malley has also persisted in diligently training her mom to play fetch, and a couple weeks ago, Malley landed upon an important realization. Standing guard outside her mom's shower stall and watching her, Malley realized that if she could see her human through the glass doors of her shower...and if her human could see her in return...and if those sliding glass doors open... then there's really no reason why she and her human could not continue playing fetch while her mom was showering. In addition to fetch, Malley loves to ride around on her mom's shoulders like a pirate, surveying her kingdom of criminal enterprises.

You would never know from Malley's antics that she has a serious heart murmur – nor that she might not have survived if it wasn't for Lucky Dog. But, maybe deep down, Malley knows... and that's why she lives every day to its fullest!

– Idra Pavin

## LUCKY DOG 2022 STATISTICS

In 2022, Lucky Dog...

Added **402** new fosters and **950** new volunteers to the Lucky Dog family

Conducted **80** animal transports

Brought in dogs and cats from **33** shelters across **11** states and territories

Successfully treated **52** dogs and cats with extraordinary medical conditions

Hired our very first full-time veterinarian

Broke ground on construction in Florence, SC

Rescued and treated **121** heartworm positive dogs

Treated over **50** cats for ringworm

**Rescued 3,132 animals – of which 951 were Lucky Dogs, 214 were Lucky Cats, 1,137 were Lucky Puppies, and 837 were Lucky Kittens.**

**Adopted out 2,089 Lucky Dogs and 1,066 Lucky Cats – 3,135 adoptions total for the year!**



## FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

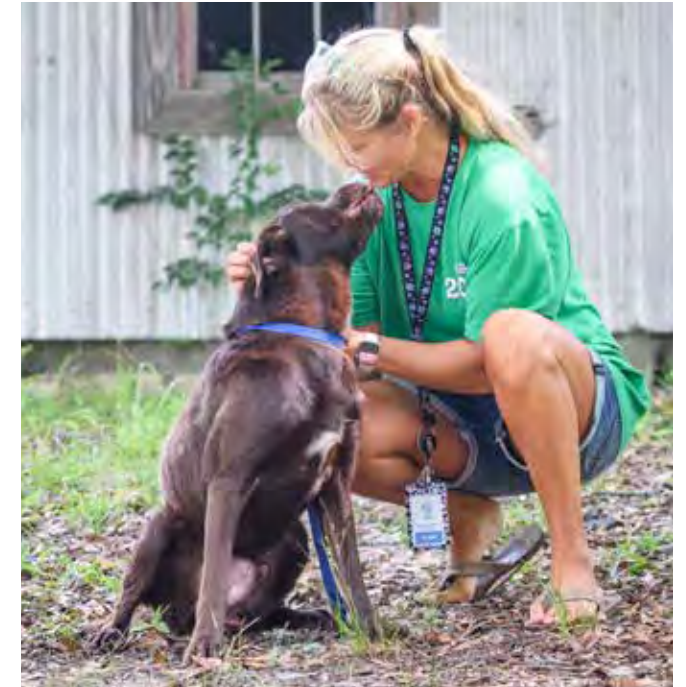
What a year! In 2022, Lucky Dog adopted out 3,135 dogs and cats. That's the second highest adoption rate since our founding in 2009 – and second only to the unprecedented numbers we saw in 2020.

Thirty of the dogs we rescued came from the Envigo breeding facility, shut down by law enforcement after the discovery of horrific abuse and neglect. Lucky Dog volunteers drove to the Envigo facility on 3 different occasions, each time bringing 10 dogs back to Arlington where fosters welcomed them with open arms. Some were terrified, having spent up to 5 years in that facility, never seeing carpet or grass. Never going on walks or squeaking a toy. When they arrived at Lucky Dog, however, they stopped being just the number tattooed on their ear. They became a cherished part of our extended family – each with a name and bright future.

2022 also marked the beginning of our partnership with Dog is My CoPilot, a nonprofit that flies plane loads of animals from particularly overcrowded shelters to areas where intake is possible. With Dog is My CoPilot's help, we were able to start partnering with Palm Valley Animal Society, a shelter that often has more than 1,200 animals in care on any given day.

Perhaps the most exciting milestone of 2022 occurred on April 14th when Lucky Dog officially broke ground on Phase I of our South Carolina construction project. What began as wishful thinking about having a dedicated place to treat parvo puppies, grew when we saw the increasing need for space to get animals ready for transport to the DC area, and crystallized as we struggled to get our animals altered before transport, took its first step towards becoming a reality.

Florence City Mayor Theresa Ervin joined our team as we celebrated this momentous occasion, and throughout the rest of 2022, our incredible construction team worked on transforming the Country Store on our property into a community vet clinic, renovating an old



diesel repair building to create a transfer kennel called Stopover Station, and building a state-of-the-art, infectious disease ICU. None of that work would have been possible without the support of the Verstandig Family Foundation, the Lazin Animal Foundation, and the JR Peterson Foundation. Phase I of the project is slated for completion in early 2023, and Phase II is still in its early planning stages.

We are so proud of Lucky Dog's growth in 2022 – and all the lifesaving we accomplished. And, we are incredibly grateful to all our volunteers, fosters, adopters and supports who make our work possible.

Mirah Horowitz

Founder and Executive Director

## LOOKING BACK ON 2022: A YEAR IN REVIEW

In 2022 we made a huge difference for the animals and people in our community. Here are just a few of our most significant achievements.

**3,132**  
**ANIMALS**

WERE SAVED THANKS TO  
LUCKY DOG ANIMAL RESCUE

**3,135**

LUCKY DOGS & CATS WERE ADOPTED  
INTO LOVING FOREVER HOMES

**837**  
**KITTENS**



WERE GIVEN SECOND CHANCES  
THROUGH LUCKY DOG

**1,137**  
**PUPPIES**



WERE ABLE TO START NEW LIVES  
THANKS TO LUCKY DOG AND YOU

**6,370**

NEW VOLUNTEERS JOINED THE  
LUCKY DOG FAMILY

**392**

NEW FOSTER FAMILIES  
GENEROUSLY HOUSED ANIMALS ON  
THEIR WAY TO ADOPTION

## LIFTING UP OUR PARTNERS AND THE COMMUNITY

Our commitment to saving animals and helping people remains strong. Here is more of what we achieved through local, regional and national collaboration:

**3,132**  
**ANIMALS**

MOVED FROM CRISIS TO CARE &  
ADOPTION THANKS TO LUCKY DOG

**THOUSANDS**  
**OF LBS**

OF PET FOOD WAS DONATED

**121 DOGS**

RECEIVED LIFESAVING HEARTWORM TREATMENT

**75 ANIMALS**

WITH EXTRAORDINARY MEDICAL CONDITIONS WERE SUPPORTED

ANIMALS FROM  
**33 SHELTERS**

ACROSS

**11 STATES &  
TERRITORIES**

WERE ADDED

**80**

GROUND TRANSPORTS &  
FLIGHTS WERE CONDUCTED  
TO SAVE AT-RISK ANIMALS

## WHO WE ARE

Lucky Dog Animal Rescue is a volunteer-powered, foster-based nonprofit operating in the DC Metro Area. We are dedicated to rescuing homeless, neglected, and abandoned animals from certain euthanasia and finding them loving forever homes. We educate the community and all pet parents on responsible pet parenting, including the importance of spay/neuter, obedience training, and good nutrition.



*"UNTIL ONE HAS LOVED AN ANIMAL, A PART OF ONE'S SOUL REMAINS UNAWAKENED."*  
 — ANATOLE FRANCE



### 2022 Board of Directors

Marcia Marsh  
 Maureen Atkins - Vollmer  
 Lauren Horowitz  
 Mirah Horowitz  
 Catherine Phillips Verstandig

### 2022 Advisory Board

Brittany Carter  
 Catherine Philips  
 Joan Mayer  
 Karen Skanderson  
 Meaghan Ropski  
 Nancy Logan  
 Ryan Pratzel  
 Stacey Bradford  
 Sheila Raebal  
 Trevor Johnson  
 Suzy Brown  
 Noreyana Fernando  
 Liz Joyce  
 Karen Whitt



## 2022 AT A GLANCE



2022 was an incredible year of lifesaving for Lucky Dog! Our first full year of in-person events since 2020 resulted in our second most successful year of adoptions ever: 3,135 animals total for the year! And, by the end of 2022, we had saved more than 24,000 lives since our founding.

We broke ground on Phase I of our construction project for our South Carolina Rescue Campus, beginning renovations to buildings that would become our vet clinic and transfer kennels and building the Lazin Foundation Infectious Disease ICU from the ground up.

We strengthened our commitment to our shelter partners in Florence, South Carolina, Franklin, Virginia, Hertford, North Carolina and Puerto Rico, and began working with Dog is My Copilot to bring in regular flights from Palm Valley, Texas. In total, we brought in dogs and cats from 33 shelters across 11 states and territories while welcoming hundreds of new fosters and volunteers, and, through it all, Lucky Dog saved the lives of 3,132 at-risk dogs & cats.



### HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR INCLUDE:

- Celebrated our 12th years of saving lives, totaling 24,000 lives saved since our founding.
- Hosted adoption events throughout the year.
- Featured in over 30 media stories and appearances throughout the DMV and beyond.
- Rescued and treated 121 Heartworm positive dogs.
- Treated over 50 cats for ringworm.
- Treated over 52 critical care cases.
- Conducted 80 transports from as far away as Puerto Rico, Mississippi, Texas, and as close as Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Louisiana and Hawaii.
- Brought in dogs and cats from 22 shelters across 10 states and territories.
- Rescued 3,132 animals in 2022 – of which 951 were Lucky Dogs, 214 were Lucky Cats, 1,137 were Lucky Puppies, and 837 were Lucky Kittens.
- Welcomed 402 new fosters and 950 new volunteers to the Lucky Dog family.
- Participated in the World Bank Community Connections Campaign as well as the Combined Federal Campaign.
- Accepted into the 2022-2023 Catalog for Philanthropy – Greater Washington's only locally-focused guide to giving and volunteering.
- Received Guidestar's Platinum Seal of Transparency for the 4th consecutive year – the highest nonprofit rating offered by Guidestar.
- Received 100 out of a 100 rating for Charity Navigator -- Your Guide to Intelligent Giving.
- Received capital funding from the Verstandig Family Foundation, the Lazin Animal Foundation, and the JR Peterson Foundation.
- Returned to in-person for our Wags and Wine Spring Extravaganza.
- Hosted our 9th annual Casino Night Gala.



## OUR PROGRAMS



### ADOPTION PROGRAM

Lucky Dog's primary purpose is to find qualified adoptive homes for the homeless and abandoned dogs and cats we rescue. We train Adoption Coordinators to carefully screen adoptive applicants to be sure that our dogs and cats do not end up back in shelters – or worse. The adoption process includes the completion of an application, an in-depth interview with an adoption coordinator, a landlord check (if applicable), and a vet check to ensure all current and previous pets were spayed/neutered and well cared for (if applicable). We also provide support to adopters after an adoption takes place.



### ADOPTION MATCHMAKING

Volunteer Adoption Coordinators work with individual adopters to find the right animal for their family, lifestyle and preferences. This provides a more successful outcome for the dog and cat. This innovative program was pioneered by Lucky Dog in 2020.

### FOSTER PROGRAM

Because we do not have a kennel, Lucky Dog is dependent on volunteers in the DC metro area to house and care for our dogs and cats while they await adoption. These foster homes are the backbone of our organization. Fosters are screened by a specially trained foster screening team using a similar process to the adoption screening process. Fosters are required to attend a two-hour training class and two adoption events each month.



### LUCKY DOG YOUTH PROGRAM

Lucky Dog's Youth Program offers opportunities for children and teens to become involved in Lucky Dog's programs and learn about animal nutrition, health and safety. The Youth Program provides meaningful volunteer opportunities for that age group, including internships.

## COOKIE: IT WAS ALWAYS MEANT TO BE



We first met Cookie at a Lucky Dog adoption event in March 2022. She was extremely reserved and visibly uncomfortable, but something about her drew us in. We ended up adopting a different dog at the event named Gracie (f/k/a Vanessa). But every day after, while we loved Gracie, we kept thinking about Cookie. We constantly checked her online profile to see if she was still available. After a month passed and she still hadn't been adopted, we knew we were her family. We contacted Lucky Dog and brought her home the next day.

Cookie was initially very frightened of the world around her and completely shut down. At first, she would spend whole days hiding under furniture, would not go on walks, and held her tail firmly between her legs. With patience and time, though, she became more comfortable and confident. She also gradually started to show her wonderful, loving, and goofy personality.

She began to ask to go on walks, play with Gracie and visit the dog park, which became a daily requirement. Around the house, she stopped hiding and her tail began to creep upward until she couldn't stop wagging it with happiness and excitement.

Cookie's transformation was truly remarkable. We are so proud of her for overcoming her fears! She is a very special girl and we are so grateful that we found her – and that Lucky Dog was there to take care of her until we could.

– Jeremy Sperlazza



## TRICKSIE & THE POWER OF POSITIVE BEHAVIOR



When we first met Tricksie, we knew she was going to be challenging. She danced around us barking and growling, teeth showing and fur standing on end. She barked at the windows and tried to jump out of the van. She might have been trying to intimidate us, but it was not going to work. We knew we could help her so I simply told her no, and she settled in for the 2 hr drive home.

Once we got home, we took her directly into the backyard. She ran around sniffing, chasing birds, and seeking out our older male. When she tired herself out, I gave her a bath, and she happily laid down, asking for a belly to rub. From that moment on, she has been at my side.

With my husband, it's been more of a journey. He worked with her to gain her confidence despite Tricksie barking at him and fleeing from him for close to 3 months. He was committed though, taking her for walks and taking charge of feeding her. Slowly, they too became friends.

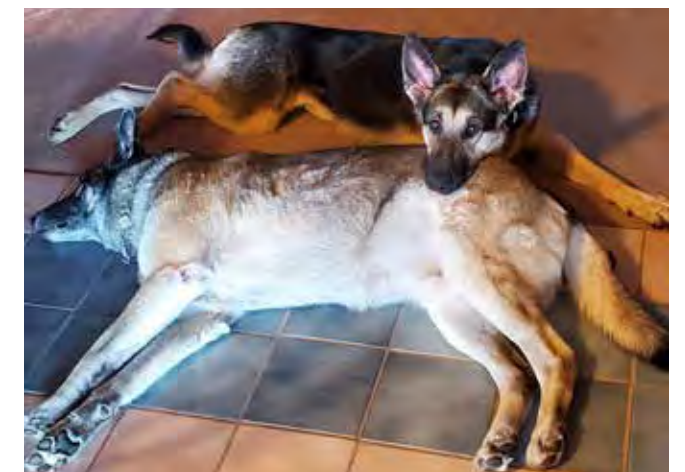
Nothing with Tricksie was straight forward. She was reactive on walks, counter-surfed like a champion, and often refused to go outside unless I was there. She also really hated going in her crate. But, we knew there was a great dog in her.

Fast forward to today. She knows all her basic obedience, "Sit", "Stay", "Come", "Down", "Heel" and "No." She no longer jumps on counters; she seeks out my husband and eagerly goes out with him, myself, our other dog or, by herself. When passing other people and dogs on our walks, she heels nicely, looking to my husband for guidance. If we stop, she sits or lays at his side. She is still flighty when in a group of people; we are working hard at overcoming this last hurdle and know we'll get there.

Tricksie is learning some pretty cool tricks as well as common commands. She loves playing with the ball using a jump or a tunnel. On the hot days, she enjoys playing in a kiddie pool. We are enjoying and loving our girl. She still needs to be worked with and we will continue to do so. We are never going to give up on Tricksie.

We can't thank Lucky Dog enough for giving us the opportunity to have Tricksie as a part of our family.

– Charles, Jeannette, Tricksie and Chief Hamlett



# 2022 EVENTS AND FUNDRAISERS

## 2022 EVENTS

We celebrated our 13th year of saving lives with great success! We work tirelessly in a way that allows us to continue to save lives and engage our community.

In 2022, Lucky Dog hosted multiple adoption, fundraising, and campaign events (both virtually and in-person), all while partnering with local businesses, national organizations, and individual supporters.

## 2022 Major Events

Wags & Wine

Lucky Dog's 9th Annual Casino Night Gala

## 2022 Campaign Events

Do More 24

Strut Your Mutt

Giving Tuesday

End of Year Giving



## 2022 Community Events

Puppy & Kitten Showers

Online Apparel Sales

Social Media Contests

Lucky Trails 5k

Pups on the Patio Happy Hours

Trick or Treating with Dogma Bakery

Santa Photos at Dogma Bakery

Birthday Celebrations

Wedding Celebrations

Bar/Bat Mitzvah Celebrations

Combined Federal Campaign events

Private Happy Hours

Valentine's Day flower deliveries with She Loves Me

Holiday Donation Box Drive

Have a Heart Hop

Bark Social Tap Take-Overs

Sweatcoin Community Challenges

Pup Parties

Holiday Fair

Ukrainian Support Donation Drive

Clear the Shelters

World Bank Community Connections Campaign



*"WE MUST REMEMBER THAT OUR ACTIONS TOWARDS ANIMALS REFLECT OUR HUMANITY. IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO BE COMPASSIONATE AND KIND."*  
- VELMA BRONN JOHNSTON



## OUR VOLUNTEERS



I was born as a “do gooder” in Germany over 1/2 a decade ago. I carried frogs over the road, walked dogs for the elderly, picked up injured animals, the list goes on.

My husband, Dirk, and I moved to the United States – Connecticut – in 1999. We then relocated to Florence, South Carolina in 2012. Here in SC, I learned about high kill shelters for the first time. I mean, I had heard about them, but I never thought they really existed.

Then I went to visit one. I saw cages filled with scared puppies at high risk of catching deadly diseases, pregnant mama dogs looking for a safe place to have their puppies, dogs that used to sleep on a bed laying in confusion on concrete floors, and old dogs that didn’t understand how they ended up in that place. My “do gooder” heart was shattered. I knew I had to do something.

I heard about Lucky Dog Animal Rescue, and that’s how it all started. Lucky Dog was a way out for these poor souls. A glimmer of light in an otherwise hopeless life. So I started fostering to help make room in those

overcrowded shelters. I love watching those scared puppies turning into playful little bundles of joy within 10 minutes of bringing them home. I love seeing the relief of mama dogs in their eyes being in a safe environment. The thankfulness of the old dogs finding a soft place to sleep on.

Always trying to help more animals, I wasn’t fulfilled just fostering a few here and there. So, my wonderful husband Dirk built a foster barn for me. Literally, a small barn for my foster animals. It wouldn’t have been possible to foster over a thousand animals without his support. The foster barn stays full with mama dogs, puppies, old dogs, heartworm dogs and also some cats and kittens. It fulfills my “do gooder” heart to help those animals. But this is all just possible because of Lucky Dog Animal Rescue. LDAR gives those animals a ticket to their Happy Ending. I love LDAR for saving all kinds of dogs and cats no matter the breed, age or stage of health they are in. Thank you LDAR for making my “do gooder” heart whole again.

Anja Kulhmann – Team South Carolina



*“ANYONE CAN LEARN HOW TO COMMUNICATE WITH ANIMALS IF THEY ARE OPEN TO THE PROCESS AND WILLING TO PRACTICE.”*

- KAREN A. ANDERSON, AMERICAN ANIMAL COMMUNICATOR AND AUTHOR



Shortly after my husband and I were married, we rescued a dog via Pen Pals, a program that connects local area rescue dogs with inmates at Virginia correctional centers to train and socialize dogs in need of adoption, while also providing rehabilitation and life skill development opportunities for inmates. It is a wonderful program that we were happy to support and were thrilled to start our family together with Shoney, a well-behaved and sweet pup. Four kids quickly followed to complete our competitive and fun-loving family. Shoney was a lucky dog surrounded by lots of love. In late February 2020, our family sadly said goodbye to Shoney after 18.5 fantastic years.

As we struggled to adjust to life without our long-time pet, quarantine hit and our totally crazy, chaotic school and sports schedule screeched to a halt. During the pause in learning, our kids were tasked with weekly research projects to exercise their minds, dig deeper into things that interested them and hone their presentation skills. Our thirteen year-old daughter gave a heartfelt presentation on the benefits of fostering a pet, convincing us to jump onto the Lucky Dog website

and begin the application process. We had no idea the impact that this decision would have on our family.

Our experience with Lucky Dogs Animal Rescue has been nothing short of amazing. Our family started our fostering journey with a timid pup from Puerto Rico that infused an energy and feeling of joy into our home that is difficult to explain. Our teenagers emerged from their rooms, put down their phones and focused on the dog – working together to make her feel comfortable with lots of treats, belly rubs and romps around the yard. After a few short weeks, she was placed into her forever home and our family couldn’t wait for our next foster pup. In short, we quickly became foster addicts. Religiously checking our email for Lucky Dog weekly needs and making (quick) family decisions on which puppies to ‘draft’, we couldn’t wait to find out which puppy or puppies we would welcome next.

Fast forward nearly three years and we have eclipsed 200 total puppies fostered. Big or little, shy or rambunctious, healthy or frail - our family has learned to work with a variety of breeds and personalities teaching us that with a little love, kindness and patience all of these puppies can flourish. And somehow we have migrated to “specializing” in litters...after all, why foster one at a time when you can have seven times the joy.

Before we began our Lucky Dog journey, we often ruminated on the fact that our crazy family schedule made community service very difficult. Now, we feel great pride having found a means of family service that so nicely intertwines into the fabric and rhythm of our life. So many wonderful memories, amazing puppy snuggles and stories of successfully matching these pups with grateful and loving families.

Kristie Helfrich – Puppy foster family

## OUR VOLUNTEERS



My journey into volunteering and rescue started long before I knew it. When I was considering adopting my first dog, I went to an adoption event and fell in love with a hound dog named Ophelia. She was shy, could barely look you in the eyes, but I was in love. I didn't know it then, but that meeting would set me on a path towards animal welfare. This was 2012.

Fast forward 6 years, and in 2018 I decided I wanted to start volunteering with a community that was important to me, and I knew that my dog was my world. I looked into how to get involved with Lucky Dog. I started to handle dogs at adoption events, driving dogs to and from our boarding partners to events. I was drawn to the dogs that were living at our boarding partners that had some extra energy and may have needed a bit more help to be their best self at adoption events. For the next year or so I became an advocate for a few dogs in boarding that could rely on

me to take them to events, voice for them, and show off their personalities at adoption events. Not every dog is going to show you their best self at an adoption event, but I knew that I could help them find their forever home. After each dog I handled got adopted, even if it took months, I was so happy to be a small part of their journey. The right home is out there for every type of dog and finding that right match is so rewarding.

Throughout my time handling dogs and spending my weekends at events, I found a community of people, friends with the same likes and goals. I'm an animal lover at heart. I've had cats my entire life and currently have two - so becoming a kitten foster was next on my list of things to try. How hard is it to resist a kitten, especially when there are 4 or 5 of them? I've fostered dozens of kitten litters and love their energy. Most of all, I love that kittens brighten everyone's day. I had spent years handling dogs at events and now I was moving on to bringing kittens to events to find their forever homes. Posting them on social media, talking to adoption coordinators about their little personalities and finally talking to the adopter as they consider adding a kitten to their family. I think there is something similar to handling the dogs that need



a bit more support and fostering the smallest, most delicate kittens. Both need a lot of love, attention and advocacy to find their forever home.

While I was fostering kittens in 2019, my sweet Ophelia passed away. I knew I'd adopt again, but was not sure when. Months passed. Week after week, going to events, seeing all the amazing dogs arrive. It wasn't until one week I walked past a shy girl with her head down and her tail tucked. I gave her a little pet, said "Hello" and moved on. A week or so later I was on vacation and I could not get that shy dog out of my head. I set up a meet and greet for the minute I got off the plane and the rest is history. Deer entered my life as a 9 month old shepherd puppy and EVERYTHING changed. Her energy, her love of literally everyone big and small took over my world in a way that I was not ready for but needed! She is the best momma to foster kittens and the friendliest dog in the neighborhood. She is my soul dog.

Currently, my volunteer role at Lucky Dog is a cat Adoption Coordinator. Given my years of experience with Lucky Dog, my variety of roles I've played (I've also been a puppy protector, contracts reviewer, Puppy Bowl host; you name it, I've probably done it!) I find it really rewarding to now talk with potential adopters and help them find their perfect addition to their family. People tell me all the time that they didn't realize that Lucky Dog had cats, that we were only a dog rescue. Don't let the name fool you, we have a great cat team, bring



in the best cats and kittens and do an amazing job at matching them to adopters.

After my 9-5 job ends, my Lucky Dog "job" begins. I gladly volunteer a lot of my time to Lucky Dog, I'm at (almost) every Sunday event, spend countless hours on the phone with adopters, email fosters and coordinate with Lucky Dog staff. Lucky Dog brought me my first dog Ophelia, my soul dog Deer, and an amazing community of people saving lives every day. If you see me at an event, be sure to say "hi" or if you want to adopt a cat (or dog!), I hope you apply!

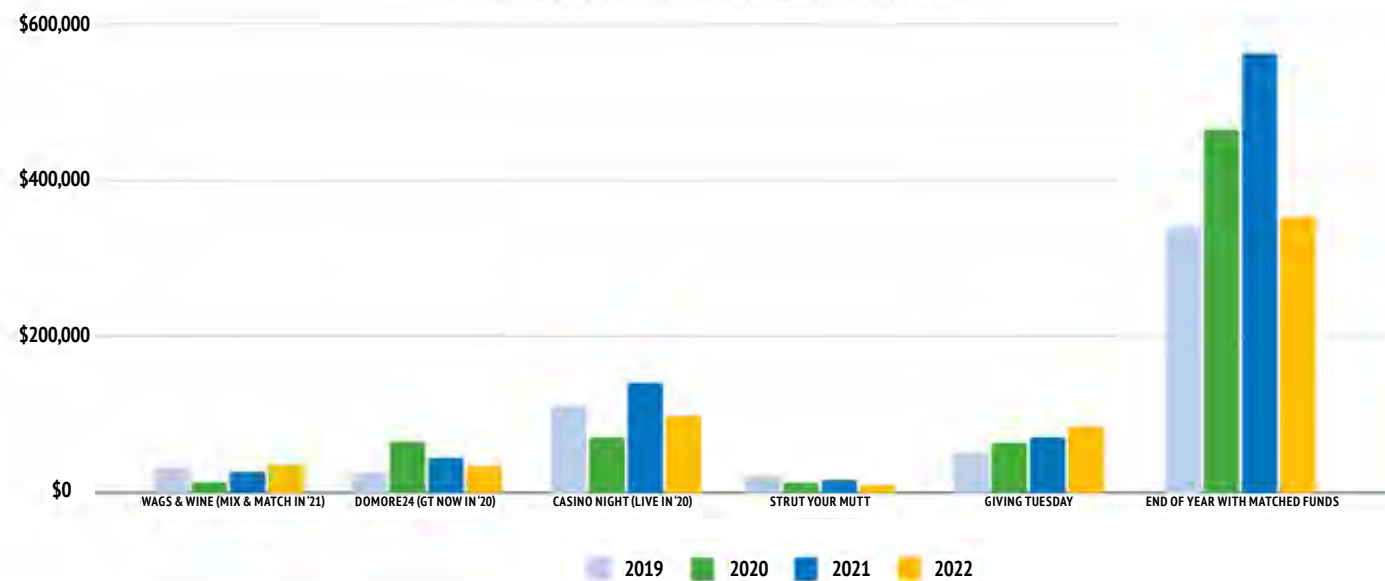
Lauren McCarty - Cat Team Adoption Coordinator

# 2022 FINANCIALS

2022 marked Lucky Dog's first full year of in-person events for both fundraising and adoptions following the dramatic shut down of 2020. Throughout the year, we emphasized community expansion and worked hard to welcome supporters back to in person events. With an increase in adoptions over what we saw in 2021, we experienced a corresponding increase in veterinary, transport, and critical care expenses – making our fundraising efforts even more important. We want to give special thanks to our supporters, donors, partners, and volunteers -- you made 2022 one of our MOST successful adoption years to-date.



## FUNDRAISING OVERVIEW 2019-2022



*"THE GREATNESS OF A NATION AND ITS MORAL PROGRESS CAN BE JUDGED BY THE WAY ITS ANIMALS ARE TREATED."*  
 – MAHATMA GANDHI

## 2022 MAJOR EVENTS RESULTS

Wags & Wine - \$36,544.18  
 Casino Night Gala - \$99,203

## 2022 CAMPAIGN RESULTS

Do More 24 - \$35,024.24  
 Strut Your Mutt - \$9,862  
 Clear the Shelters - \$12,110

## 2022 GIVING TUESDAY & END OF YEAR FUNDRAISING

Giving Tuesday - \$84,081.51 and  
 End of Year Fundraising - \$353,029.69

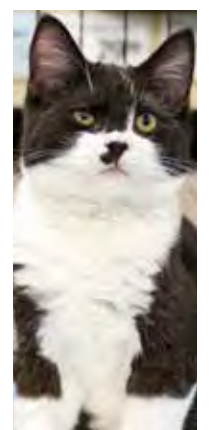


## NEW MAJOR GRANTS

- J.R. Peterson Foundation: \$40,000 for new medical equipment
- J.R. Peterson Foundation: \$76,000 for ultrasound & x-ray machine
- Petsmart Charities: \$80,000 for adoption preparation
- Petsmart Charities: \$48,500 for adoptions & event support
- Petco Love: \$10,000 for transport prep
- Pedigree: \$15,000 for Project Pawsitive training grant

## 2022 INDIVIDUAL MONTHLY DONORS:

\$13,229.37 monthly | \$133,374.57



## BREAKING GROUND - FLORENCE, SOUTH CAROLINA



In 2021, we made the huge decision to purchase 220 acres of land in Florence County, South Carolina. With a lot of hope and a giant dream, we started planning how to construct a one-of-a-kind rescue campus where animals could have time and space to get healthy before transporting north to loving homes.

The J.R. Peterson Ringworm Building opened in December of 2021 as we took our first tentative step towards making our dream a reality.

In April 2022, we officially broke ground on the three huge construction projects included in Phase I: The Verstandig Family Foundation Veterinary Clinic, the Lazin Foundation Infectious Disease ICU, and Stopover Station – a kennel designed to house dogs until their freedom ride arrived.



A project this immense cannot be completed without incredible community support. And, we are grateful for every single person who has been a part of this journey, whether they have sponsored a kennel, named a building, or given us volunteer time and expertise along the way.

As we get to the end of Phase I, which will open in 2023, we are already looking forward to kicking off Phase II so we can have a safe place to treat and house heartworm patients as well as having a building specifically designed to house cats in need. If you want to learn more about our South Carolina Campus, please email [EleanorR@luckydoganimalrescue.org](mailto:EleanorR@luckydoganimalrescue.org).

