

A close-up photograph of a soldier in camouflage attire holding a dog. The soldier is wearing a digital camouflage cap and jacket. The dog is a medium-sized breed with a white chest and face, and a brindle pattern on its head and ears. The dog's mouth is open, showing its teeth and tongue. The background is blurred green foliage.

**BIG DOG**  
*& Small*  
**RANCH RESCUE**

OCTOBER 2022

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# RANCH IMPACT REPORT

# JACK 2022 MASCOT OF THE YEAR

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In loving memory of a loyal companion...  
now a guardian angel looking over the  
dogs at Big Dog Ranch Rescue.

## OUR MISSION

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Our Mission is to Rescue, Rehabilitate and Educate until every dog has a loving and safe place to call home. We believe we can, and we will see an end to dog homelessness and abuse through legislative efforts, hard work and strategic partnerships near and far. We will never give up and we will never back down from the needs of all heartbeats because every life matters.

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*The sad reality of rescue is everywhere we turn, we are inundated with pleas for help, pet owners and animal shelters having to euthanize for space. Our mission is to rescue 10,000 dogs a year and to help to change the standards for shelters worldwide. We cannot do this without you. You are their lifeline.*

LAUREE SIMMONS  
Founder, CEO and President, Big Dog Ranch Rescue

# FOUNDERS MESSAGE

## *A Message from Our Founder and CEO at Big Dog Ranch Rescue... A Year of Resilience*

First and foremost, we want to thank our supporters for supporting our mission to save abandoned and abused dogs. This year was a true testament to our team's resilience and commitment to our mission. With growing economic hardships and international conflicts, there is uncertainty everywhere you look. Yet, while we have felt the pressure of these global changes, we have forged ahead, accomplished incredible milestones, created new solutions for animals in need, and blazed trails for the heartbeats.

The lives we have saved over this past year and every year since we started this mission have been made possible by you, our supporters. That is why we continuously work to be transparent and informative about our goals, struggles, heartaches, needs, and successes.

Soaring inflation, our nation's new reality, has triggered a grave and quickly growing nightmare for animals. With an estimated 30% increase in cost for rescue and food, medication, goods, services, fuel, and even housing, our rescue and shelters across the country have reported a surge in animal intake and a decrease in adoptions. Additional effects of the economic instability have rippled across the Ranch and tested our team's resilience. The National employee shortage presented challenges that continue to be addressed and an influx of preventable canine infectious diseases. Although we are incredibly proud to report that our team broke records in identifying, isolating, and successfully treating the affected pups, it has been a challenge attributed to sharp spikes in costs and accessibility to veterinary medicine. With the efforts of our remarkable team and your support, we have met each of these challenges head-on with innovative solutions, and our foundation is stronger than ever. As a result of our focused team and a cause for celebration, we rescued our fifty-thousandth dog as of March 2022!

Additionally, we have broken ground on an exciting major facility! We are expanding to Shorter, Alabama, a major Big Dog Ranch Rescue expansion, on a sprawling 103-acre property that will be a light for the heartbeats during a dark time. This expansion will allow us to DOUBLE our annual intake of dogs in need!

*“We thank you endlessly for your belief in us, we promise to never give up no matter the hurdles ahead and we will continue our work until ‘Every last dog’ has a loving home.”*

### **Lauree Simmons**

*Founder, CEO and President*



### **Robin Friedman**

*Executive Director*



# SINCE 2008, WE HAVE RESCUED 50,000+ DOGS.



Fourteen years ago, Lauree Simmons realized her calling; saving, healing, and finding homes for injured, homeless, and abused dogs. Big Dog Ranch Rescue has since grown into the largest cage-free, no-kill dog rescue in the entire country, celebrating a milestone, rescuing our 50,000th dog!

## EMPRESS AKA 50K

In March 2022, we got a call from Palm Beach County Animal Control with an urgent case that needed immediate medical attention. Our veterinarian specialist found Empress with gunshot wounds on her face just under her left eye. A bullet entered her face, shattered her mandible, and just missed her spinal cord. They believe Empress was likely shot with a 40 or 45 high caliber bullet, possibly from close range, and the fragments nearly missed her vital organs. Thankfully she did not lose her sight, but her jaw required special intervention. We helped her make a full recovery and find the perfect safe and loving home with Officer Craig Yochum from the Jupiter Police Department. He heard about what happened to Empress and wanted to adopt her. We have no doubt that Empress is in safe hands now!



BEFORE

AFTER



# Help us save another 50,000+ dogs!

**3,569**

Dogs In Need Rescued

**3,047**

Dogs Placed In Loving Homes



**2,118** DOGS

Saved From High Kill Shelters

**249**

Rescued From Natural Disasters

**261** DOGS

Treated For Life-Threatening Issues

**2,073**

Spay and Neuter Surgeries

**86** DOGS

Orthopedic Cases with Broken Bones Fixed



**21**

Veterans Placed with Service Dogs



## Last 12 Months

### RESCUE INTAKES:

Alabama: 36 dogs

Arkansas: 58 dogs

Bahamas: 40 dogs

China: 237 dogs

Dominican Republic: 25 dogs

Florida: 1160 dogs

Georgia: 621 dogs

Louisiana: 40 dogs

(hurricane relief)

Maryland: 41 dogs

Mississippi: 19 dogs

North Carolina: 28 dogs

Puerto Rico: 542 dogs

Romania: 40 dogs

South Carolina: 141 dogs

Tennessee: 214 dogs  
(rescued from rural areas and rescue that is closing down)

Texas: 124 dogs

Virgin Islands: 6 dogs

238 stray dogs from Palm Beach County

459 owner surrenders from Palm Beach County

179 dogs born at Big Dog Ranch Rescue from rescued pregnant mothers

Ukraine 263 from war zones

### MEDICAL TREATMENTS:

Anaplasmosis: 22 dogs

Coccidia: 289 dogs

Demodex: 36 dogs

Dental: 400 dogs

Ehrlichia: 99 dogs

Severe Emaciation: 64 dogs

Giardia: 31 dogs

Heartworm: 780 dogs

Hookworm: 600 dogs

Lyme Disease: 12 dogs

Parvovirus: 106 dogs

Roundworm: 106 dogs

Other skin issues: 42 dogs

### SURGERIES:

Neuters: 926

Spays: 1047

Orthopedic Repairs: 86 dogs

C Sections: 6 dogs

Tumor Removal: 93 dogs

Micellaneous: 212

Despite the year of challenges we faced with canine influenza, distemper outbreaks, and record high owners surrenders, we managed to push forward and make an impact due to your help!

**WITH YOUR HELP WE WILL BE ABLE TO SAVE 50,000 MORE!**



# THE WORK WE DO

## WHAT SETS US APART

Our focus is on the dogs in need of medical care and in life threatening situations or overcrowded shelters where their time is up. We have become national and international first responders and educators on the issues of dog care, health and safety, the importance of spay and neuter, stray and abuse prevention, and so much more. **BECAUSE IF WE CAN, WE WILL SAVE THEM ALL.**



Lauree Simmons says the dogs and the people that have been part of this incredible milestone hold a special place in her heart,

*“When I see a dog healed from being hit by a car be able to walk again, when we reunite a beloved pet separated during a natural disaster with their family, when a new litter of puppies comes safely into the world from a mother that had been abandoned, and when I see all of our dogs find their new forever homes, those are moments I cherish. Thank-you to all the volunteers, staff, supporters, companies and everyone in the community who has had a part in helping us save those 50,000+ lives. We won’t rest until we end dog homelessness and abuse forever.”*





## BLAKE

Blake was rescued after being hit by a car in Miami and brought to Big Dog Ranch Rescue. After further evaluation, we believe he was in a dog fighting ring. He suffered from bite wounds all over his body as well as injuries to his face, ears and legs. Despite his past, he was extremely sweet, snuggly and mellow. We nursed him back to health and it didn't take long before this special boy found a loving family that he deserved, along with a fur sibling!



## DEACON

Deacon was shot in the leg and abandoned. A local shelter found him in Georgia wandering around, limping with a bullet hole that went all the way through his leg. We don't know who did it, but for now we are happy that we were able to rescue him and give him the medical attention he needed! Deacon had the leftover bullet fragments removed and received plates and pins in his leg in order to save it. He is the most friendly, affectionate dog who has not stopped wagging his tail since he was rescued - regardless of the excruciating pain he experienced. Deacon is still awaiting his forever home but until that time comes, he is enjoying his time at the Ranch playing and making friends!



*Blake and Deacon were given a second chance at the life they deserve here at the ranch. Sadly, more often than not, a majority of dogs are overlooked or euthanized in overcrowded shelters.*



# WHAT IS A HERO?

**How do you define 'hero'?** If you look up the word "Hero" in the dictionary, you will find many definitions, mythological characters, warriors, and even mention of a sandwich that has gained the name, Hero. We want to introduce you to our definition of a hero. His name is Dr. Tomas Infernuso, a highly accomplished board certified veterinary surgeon, entrepreneur, philanthropist, animal lover, and trailblazer.

Dr. Infernuso has spent his entire life caring for animals and figuring out how to save as many as possible. He recalls growing up in Naples, Italy,

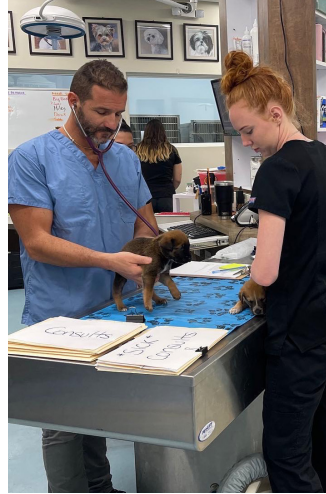
*"I always had this amazing connection to animals that had no owners. Finally, I realized no one was taking care of them, and that is when I knew what I would do with my life."*



During the very early years of his childhood, he began his journey toward veterinary medicine and animal welfare. At the tender age of 10, he started volunteering at a local animal hospital, learning all he could. By the age of 13, he started sterilization efforts on the Island of Procida, where he would transport stray animals by boat from the Island to the mainland, where they could get veterinary treatment and sterilization.

At 18 years of age, Dr. Inferuso followed this passion at the University of Naples, Fredrick II School of Veterinary Medicine. Then, he received a one-year scholarship to the University of Madrid and graduated from the Las Palmas University School of Veterinary Medicine in Spain. He knew that to make the most significant impact and save the most animals, he would need to attend the best veterinary college, so he moved to the US and studied English while working as a veterinary technician and volunteering at shelters in his spare time. After days of arduous studying, he applied to the prestigious Cornell University, where he was accepted to continue his studies. After a comprehensive one-year internship in small animal medicine and surgery at the Animal Medical Center in New York City, Dr. Inferuso completed the surgical residency requirements for certification in the American College of Veterinary Surgeons in 2010.

Dr. Inferuso firmly believes that we can ALL accomplish our biggest dreams with hard work and focus. Anyone who has had the opportunity to get to know him would agree that this mindset has served him well. After a few years of working in private practice and honing his specialty as a Board-Certified Veterinary Surgeon, he started his traveling veterinary practice, Animal Surgical Center, serving the surrounding counties of New York. To date, Dr. Inferuso is the sole owner and Executive Director of Animal Surgical Center in NY. He manages a hundred employees and



twenty doctors of which he has built a culture of servitude.

We were so fortunate that Dr. Inferuso walked into Big Dog Ranch Rescue during his vacation to Florida in early 2022. He read about our efforts and was excited to see the campus; during that visit, he decided that he wanted to help Big Dog Ranch Rescue continue our mission in whatever way possible. To date, Dr. Inferuso has donated his time to perform over 100 orthopedic surgeries for our most critical and desperate incoming dogs, saving the ranch over \$250,000 in surgery fees. In addition, through his heroic actions, compassion, and love for animals, we have saved many more critical cases of dogs hit by a car and other severe injuries.

Dr. Inferuso has a big vision. He intends to help create a culture of giving back to the community of animals in need that don't have loving owners through professional veterinarians.

We are beyond proud to announce that Dr. Inferuso has officially joined the Board of Directors at Big Dog Ranch Rescue. He and his beautiful wife, Shouka, share the same ideals of giving back and making the world a better place. Shouka has a passion for biohacking to increase the longevity of pets' lives and is working on some exciting projects of her own that will no doubt help many. We are incredibly grateful to have the help of this real-life Hero, and we know our supporters will be just as appreciative.

*Thank You, Dr. Tomas Inferuso*  
**YOU ARE A REAL LIFE HERO!**





Injured in a Ukraine explosion

# BIG DOG RANCH RESCUE GLOBAL IMPACT

Big Dog Ranch Rescue has undoubtedly moved the bar for what is possible in the world for animal welfare. When we started this cause 16 years ago, we never imagined how far this work would take us nor the challenges we would meet along the way. Over time our organization has developed a resilient and strong infrastructure which has allowed our efforts to continue and expand locally and make a lasting impact across the globe.



#BDRRUKRAINE #BDRRBAHAMAS #BDRRCHINA #BDRRPUERTORICO



Some people may ask, "why help dogs abroad"? Well, our answer is, "WHY NOT." Our team has become well-versed and well-prepared for all types of animal welfare needs. This invaluable skill set has enabled us to jump to the call of need and desperation of helpless dogs and people near and far. We are so incredibly proud of our brave and selfless team members who have gotten on planes, boats, buses, and by foot to save precious heartbeats globally. We are excited to share some of the details of this global impact with YOU, our supporters.

## INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS — UKRAINE

As bombs dropped on innocent families and their pets, Big Dog Ranch Rescue led a global mission to save lives. Brave Ukrainians loaded vans with starving, homeless, and injured dogs from missile-ravaged cities and brought them to a new Big Dog Ranch Ukraine Rescue on the Polish border and into our temporary shelter in Potsdam, Poland.

Big Dog Ranch Rescue Founder and CEO Lauree Simmons flew to the region leading a team of volunteers who cleaned, stocked, and opened the abandoned building that would serve as the new shelter. A veterinarian was brought in, and dog-loving homeless Ukrainian refugees were given jobs. We worked hard to reunite pets with their families and find homes for the dogs whose owners were killed or could not be found. As the largest cage-free, no-kill rescue in America, we have a big voice and a big responsibility. From natural disasters to fighting the Asian dog meat trade to rescuing animals in a war zone, our missions not only save the dogs directly impacted but also shed light on issues that need immediate attention. When you consider supporting an organization, research how deep its commitment is.

# BIG DOG RANCH RESCUE FOUNDATION GIVING SOCIETIES

We gratefully thank our elite group of philanthropists whose unwavering generosity to Big Dog Ranch Rescue allows us to save lives each and every day. We could not do this without you.



## ANGEL'S SOCIETY GOLD PAW

**\$2,000,000+**

The Fleming Family Foundation  
Lauree and Bob Simmons

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## ANGEL'S SOCIETY

**\$1,000,000 - \$1,999,999**

Chris Cline  
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Kenneth and Elaine Langone  
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John Singleton

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Eugenia Tzikas  
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J. K. and Mary Walker  
April and Anthony Webb  
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*Thank you for your consistent giving. You have helped save the lives of so many.*

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Nancy Jefferies  
James Moore  
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### **7 YEARS OF GIVING**

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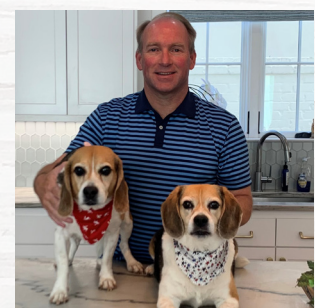
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# SUPPORTING OUR TROOPS & VETERANS

*Veteran Training Program*



**Alan Donor**

We are extremely grateful for the service of our veterans and active military. That's why we introduced our Veteran Service Dog Training Program; to help military veterans by using the power of the human-animal bond while providing a second chance for rescue dogs. Our service dogs are trained and then matched up with military veterans who can benefit from having a trained service dog in their lives.

Big Dog Ranch Rescue works closely with the local Veterans Administration.

As a result, the V.A. has classified the Big Dog Ranch Rescue Veteran Dog Training Program as a "Non- Traditional and Innovative" therapy. To date, more than 50 veterans have been paired with service dogs through our program. We provide all training and equipment for both the veteran and the service dog.

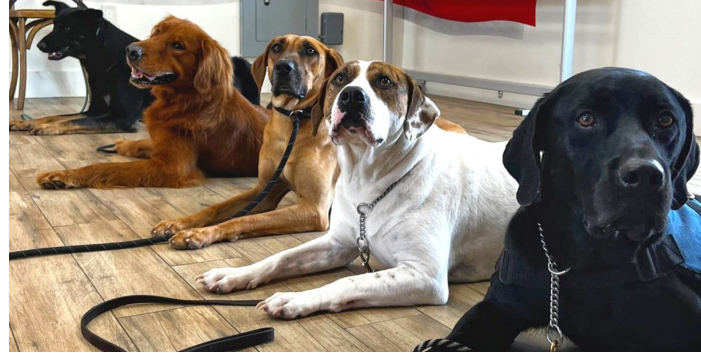
**The Dawn & Al Hoffman Training Lodge opened in November 2021 just in time for Veteran's Day!**

*The Veteran Dog Training Program is made possible by the generosity of The Fazio Family.*



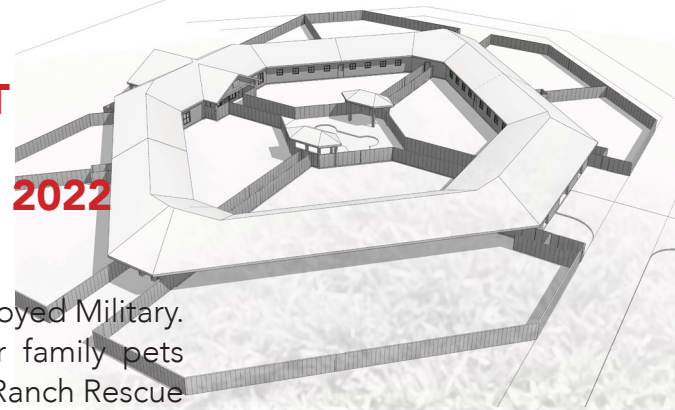
Service members can't bring their dogs with them when they are deployed. Supposing they don't have family or friends to watch their dog during their extended time away, they typically surrender the dog to a shelter, where it will either be adopted or sadly euthanized in overcrowded shelters.

We will assist these active-duty service members and their beloved companion or assistance service canine through deployment where a unit or member of a specific unit has received deployment orders related to combat, peacekeeping, or humanitarian missions.



## **ELAINE AND KEN LANGONE PATRIOT PET BOARDING BUNKHOUSES — BEGINNING CONSTRUCTION IN LATE 2022**

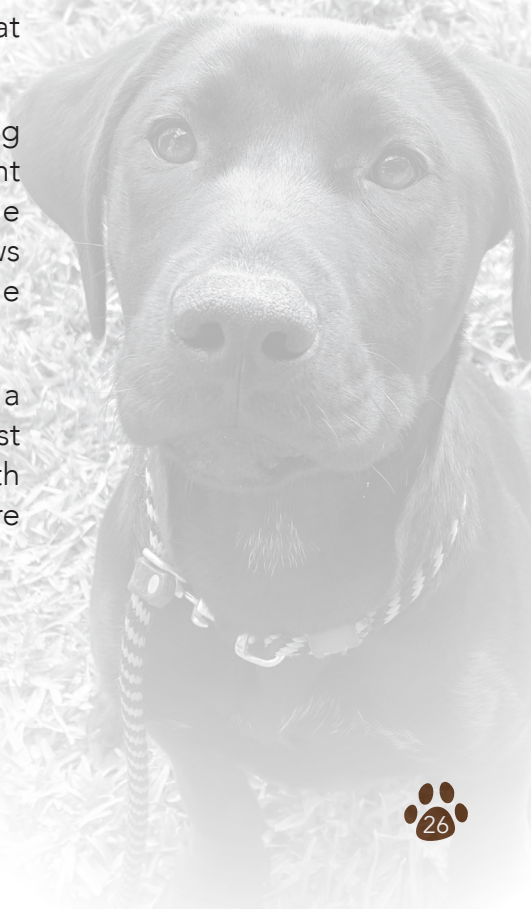
### **Four Wing Bunkhouse Complex**



One wing is the Dog Boarding Center for Actively Deployed Military. Service members are often forced to surrender their family pets when they are deployed for months at a time. Big Dog Ranch Rescue believes that these furry family members are essential to the well-being of all returning service members, so we will board their dogs at no cost until their owners return from duty.

Another wing is for rescue dogs recruited for the Veteran Dog Training Program. When dogs are in the basic training, it is important to control their stimulus and environment. In this bunkhouse, all the dogs are on the same training program and schedule, which allows trainers to identify which dogs will progress to the next stage of the program.

The remaining two wings are dedicated to public boarding for a fee. We will be able to board their dogs and provide training to past adopters and the general public in our home, like bunkhouses with attached play yards. The revenue generated helps to sustain the care of the free boarding for Actively Deployed Military dogs.



# CORPORATE PHILANTHROPY PARTNERS



For over 16 years, Philanthropy Partners like you have made it possible for us to rescue, rehabilitate and rehome thousands of homeless dogs every year.

*Thank you* for your continued support.



## \$500K+

SIMMONS BUILDING CORP./ SIMMONS INTERIORS

## \$250K+

CHENEY BROTHERS  
SOUTHERN TRUSS

## \$100K+

B & W QUALITY GROWERS  
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## \$50K+

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SURTERRA WELLNESS  
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## \$25K+

ABAXIS  
DEFINITIVE ELECTRONICS

## SISTER'S TOWING

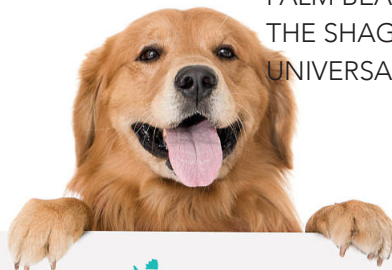
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APPLE INSURANCE & FINANCIAL SERVICES  
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PALM BEACH ELECTRONICS  
THE SHAGGY DOG  
UNIVERSAL CABLING SYSTEMS



DOLLARS RAISED = LIVES SAVED



# SENIORS SENIORS 4



*“I was so lonely sitting by myself the dog made the biggest difference, giving me something to love that loves me back.”*

*~Senior Citizen*



The mission of the Seniors for Seniors Program is to harness the power of love and healing by uniting senior citizens with senior dogs. This program was created to address one of the most at-risk categories of canine populations - senior dogs who are seven years or older. This volunteer-supported program consists of two opportunities. First is our supported adoption program, which matches senior dogs with senior citizens. Our goal is to place as many dogs as possible with senior citizens each year

to give them companionship and a reason to stay active. The second opportunity is a visitation program designed to promote love and companionship in the most supportive way.

**It costs us \$284,115 annually to run this program. We are looking for sponsors and volunteers to help us continue this valuable program.**

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*A study published in the Journal of the American Geriatrics Society demonstrated that independently-living seniors with pets tend to have better physical health and mental well being than those who don't. - AKC.org*

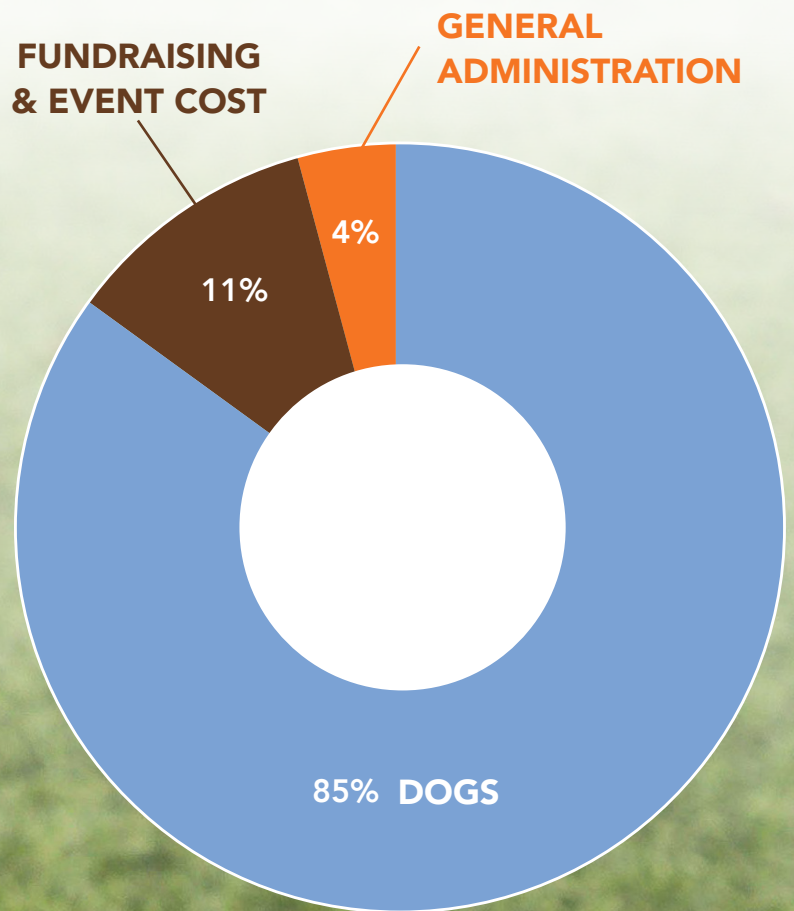
# 2021 SUPPORT & EXPENSES



## **YOUR SUPPORT IS DEEPLY APPRECIATED AND INVESTED WISELY.**

In 2021, Big Dog Ranch Rescue raised \$10.2 million to support our mission and operations. We spent \$7.9 million on the rescue operations, programs, medical expenses, and general care of the dogs.

One question we are frequently asked is how much of the money we raise is spent on the dogs. We are proud to say that 85 cents of every dollar is used on programs and services for the dogs we rescue.

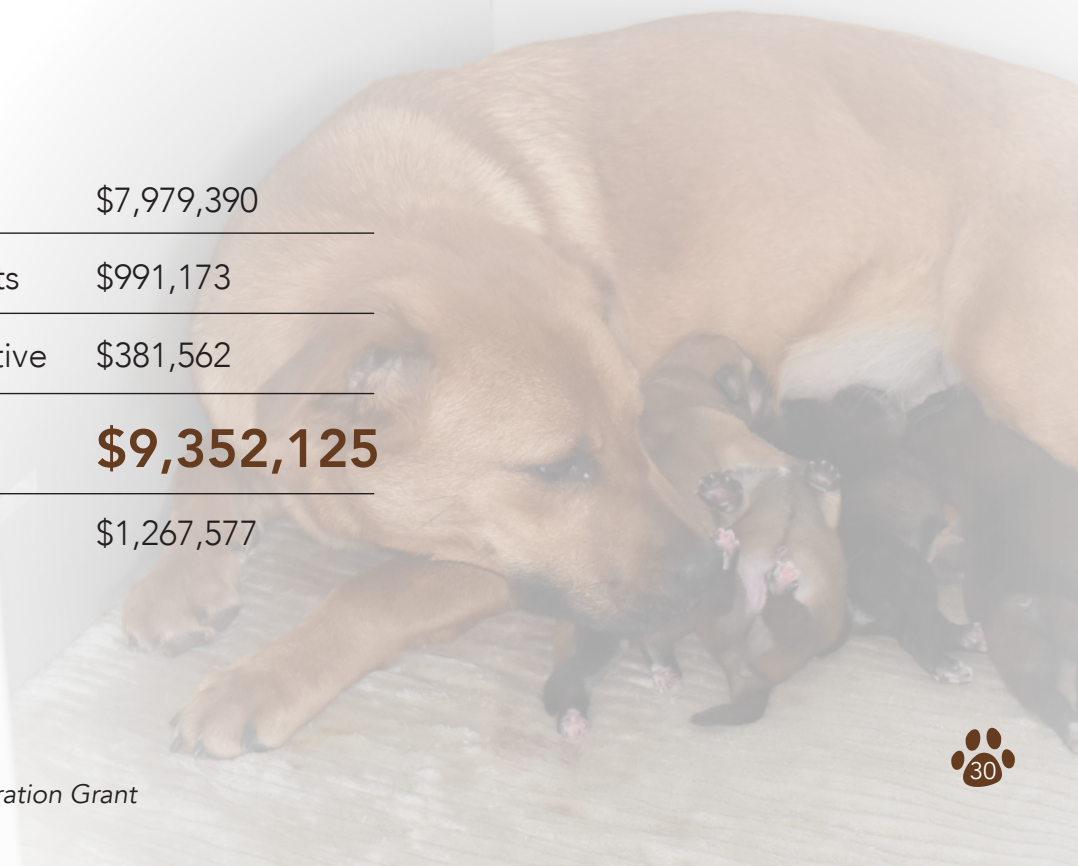


# CONTRIBUTIONS

■ Donations and Grants	\$3,774,287
■ Fundraising/Major Events	\$3,535,822
■ Income from Adoption Fees and Retail Sales	\$1,868,403
■ In Kind Donations	\$857,769
■ Other Revenue	\$156,127
<b>TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE</b>	<b>\$10,192,408</b>
Capital for Construction	\$809,545

# EXPENSES

■ Programs & Services for Saving Dogs	\$7,979,390
■ Fundraising/Major Events	\$991,173
■ General and Administrative	\$381,562
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$9,352,125</b>
Construction Expenses	\$1,267,577













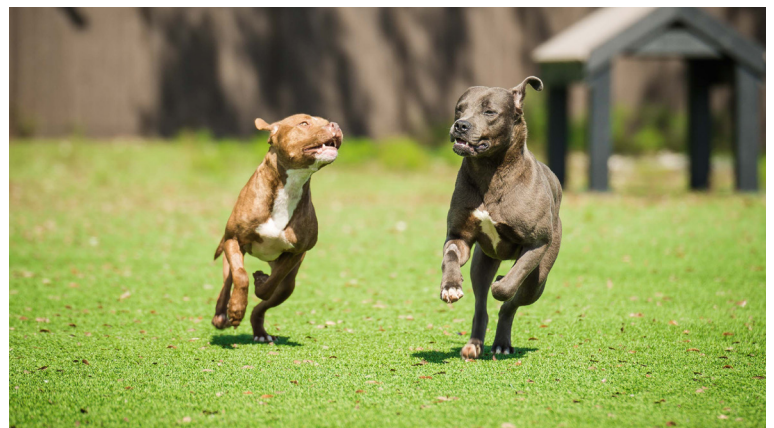
\*Includes Small Business Administration Grant



Thanks to you, our loyal donors and sponsors, Big Dog Ranch Rescue is the nation's largest no-kill, cage-free dog rescue. Our Vision has become a reality on our unparalleled, state-of-the-art campus: "Disneyland" for dogs. Phases 1-2 of our 33-acre campus have been completed. Phase 3 is under construction.

## NOW OPEN:

-  Alex & Elizabeth Lewyt  
 Lauree & Robert Simmons  
 Tito & Dogjo  
 Visitor Center
-  Tito's General Store
-  Fleming Family Foundation & Friends  
 of Frisco Veterinary Healing Center
-  Fleming Foundation Intake Center
-  Emma & Casey Shaw Quarantine Center
-  Dog Bunkhouse Complex with four wings,  
 each with 1/2 acre exercise  
 yard with splash pool. Includes:
  - Clark Bunkhouse
  - Cline Bunkhouse
  - Lipman Bunkhouse
  - Welch Bunkhouse
-  Dolly & Sully Stewart Memorial Garden
-  Fleming Family Foundation Senior  
 Sanctuary
-  Lake with Walking Trails
-  Rachel Ray Nutrish Puppyland  
 Kelly and Don Dixon, The Fleming Family Foundation,  
 Mike Walsh, Michael Bozzuto, Byron & Laura Russell,  
 John & Holly Boswell, Karen & Jerry Fischer, Aneice  
 Lassiter, In Memory Of Brian Edward Gershon, Buddy  
 Shawna Tuscai
-  The Hoffman Family Veteran Dog Training  
 Center



## PHASE 3 CONSTRUCTION OR UNDER DEVELOPMENT.

### THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS PATRONS

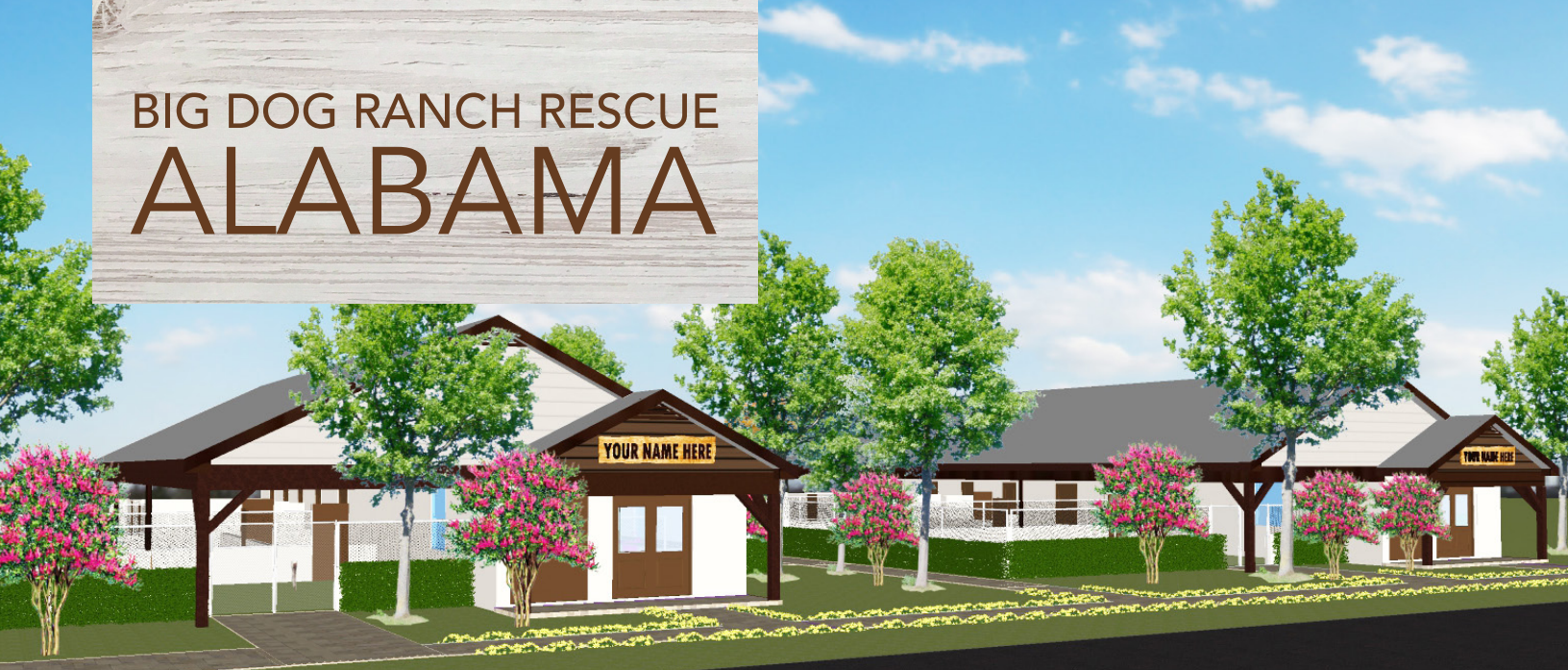
- The Fleming Family Foundation Physical Therapy Building with Hydrotherapy Pool, Cold Laser and Hyperbaric Chamber — Opening September 2022
- Geller Heart House in Honor of Dog Bob *Leslie and Paul Geller* — Opening September 2022
- Josh Golder Maintenance Building — November 2022
- Josh Golder Senior Sanctuary — November 2022
- 2 Puppy Quarantine Buildings  
*The Fleming Family Foundation*  
*Marti and Gary Ziegelbauer*
- 8 More Puppy Cabins  
*Dorothy & Ric Bradshaw • Jane & Daniel Nesbitt*  
*Lisa & Thomas Sliney • JoAnna & Stephen Myers*  
*Elaine & David Nord • Erika & Matt Rizzuto*  
*Kathleen Raese • Kristin & Matt Brown*  
*Nate & Kim Albers*
- **Elaine & Ken Langone Patriot Pet Center Bunkhouse Complex.**
- **John Singleton Education & Event Barn—**  
This is a 9,500 square foot building designed to host thousands of people. It is open to the public for education on proper care and training of all animals, the importance of spaying and neutering pets and the impact of dog homelessness on our community. The Barn is also available as a rental for events such as weddings, birthday parties and school programs which will provide much needed funding for our life-saving operations.











*John Singleton Education & Event Barn*

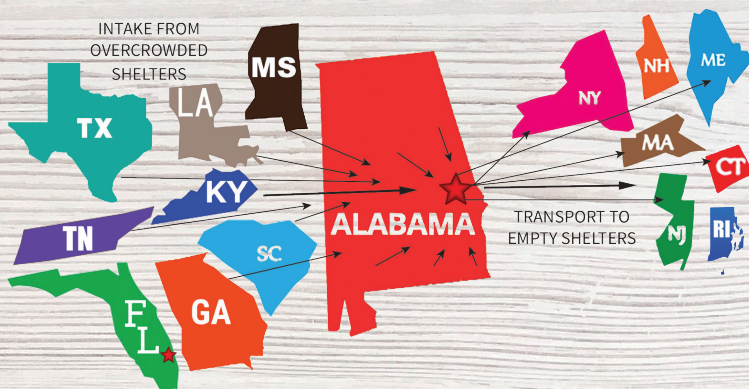
For more information, please contact  
Executive Director [Robin.Friedman@BDRR.org](mailto:Robin.Friedman@BDRR.org) or 561.529.1424

# BIG DOG RANCH RESCUE ALABAMA

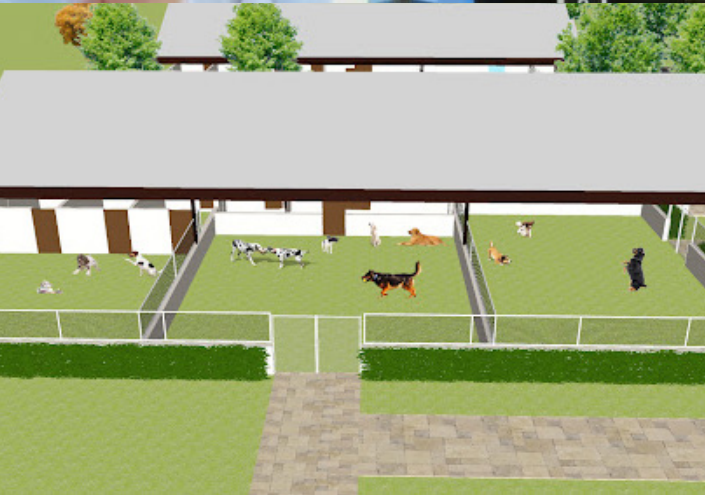


-  Future Site of Teaching Hospital
-  Quarantine
-  Mom and Pup Wards
-  Puppy Isolation
-  Sick Dog Isolation
-  Temporary Hospital
-  Adoptions/Transport
-  Future Site of 9 Guest Cabins

## SHORTER, ALABAMA



Our massive 100+-acre location will provide us with quarantine, rehabilitation, medical, and adoption facilities while growing within the community of Shorter, Alabama and the surrounding regions. This expansion allows us to rescue and vet more dogs from Southern states that are experiencing a massive overpopulation problem and transport these adoptable dogs to our Northeastern rescue partners who are not experiencing the animal welfare crisis. The facility has 16 separate kennel buildings and several other structures that will be renovated prior to opening. Priority is being given to the immediate opening of 5 kennel buildings, establishing a Veterinary Healing Center. The first buildings in the facility are

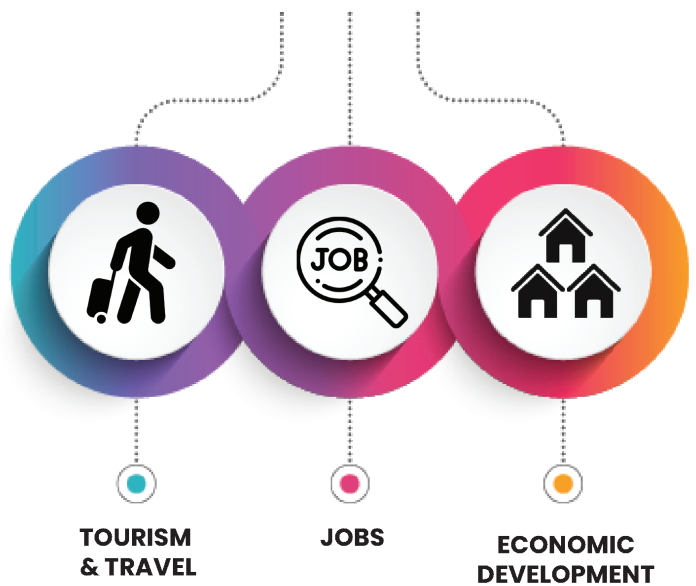


expected for a partial opening officially in October 2022. This expansion will allow us to double our impact in saving last-day dogs from euthanasia by increasing our capacity to a facility where our rescue efforts are desperately needed. Together we can make a difference in ending dog homelessness and saving more lives!

## OUR IMPACT & COMMITMENT

*Big Dog Ranch Rescue is proud to be an integral part of the community in promoting animal welfare, creating job opportunities, supporting the local economy and Shorter, Alabama tourism.*

## PROMOTE ANIMAL WELFARE



For more information about naming opportunities contact [Robin.Friedman@BDRR.org](mailto:Robin.Friedman@BDRR.org) or 561.529.1424

*What's going on in*

# ANIMAL WELFARE



Rescue organizations across the country are sounding the alarm on a massive increase of animals entering shelters and a decrease in adoptions. Due to our current economic crisis of inflation, we are faced with an all-time high level of owner surrenders at shelters across the nation. As a result, shelters have become overcrowded, leaving no room to house additional animals. Sadly, there is no choice but to euthanize otherwise healthy and adoptable pets.



*“Even Rescue groups in the Northeast what we are seeing now is EVERYONE is full,” says Simmons. Rescue groups in the Northeast that were historically a safe haven for unwanted animals from the more overcrowded shelters are now reporting adoptions have noticeably declined, and owner surrenders have increased.*

Furthermore, there is a national veterinary shortage causing animal health care costs to increase and community access to affordable sterilization to decrease. Without affordable and regular access to veterinary care, pets are going unvaccinated and untreated for illness. Owners cannot afford the rising costs of sterilization and medication for their pets..

We need the public’s help to reduce the

deaths of healthy dogs. Choosing adoption over pet stores and backyard breeders or fostering a dog while a permanent home is found will help free up the additional shelter space to house additional dogs in need. Donating to a local shelter in need can make an impact. Every dollar helps save more lives. Volunteers can help relieve the burden on the shelter, especially when they are working on a small budget and the costs of hiring have skyrocketed. Your voice is vital in raising awareness and educating others on the importance of spaying and neutering family pets.

*“Our group can work through the most unimaginable circumstances,” says Simmons; “we have been on the frontlines of all hurricanes, the pandemic, hoarding situations, the dog meat trade in China, and recently set up satellite shelters on the Ukrainian border. However, this is different, this we simply cannot strategize our way through. We need everyones help” – Simmons.*



Your support is vital to helping last-day dogs from euthansia. Visit [WWW.BDRR.ORG](http://WWW.BDRR.ORG) for information on all the ways you can donate and/or support our mission.

# VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to our 1,500+ volunteers who assist our 165 employees to keep the Ranch running every day. The love, support and dedication they provide to the precious dogs here is unmatched and we could not be more grateful.

More so than ever, our volunteers have helped alleviate costs and fill gaps with labor loss while we face an economic crisis.



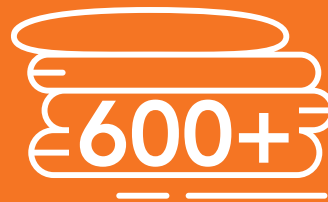
## WHAT VOLUNTEERS DO IN A DAY



Dogs fed and  
bowls washed



Loads of laundry



Blankets folded



Dogs  
bathed



Dogs  
walked



Rooms  
washed



volunteer hours yearly

## BIG DOG RANCH RESCUE VOLUNTEERS...

- Care for and sit with abused, abandoned, and lonely dogs.
  - Act as the life-line between the precious dogs and potential adopters.
  - Assist our trainers preparing dogs for veterans to provide a sense of purpose.
  - Help us work towards the goal of saving 5,000 dogs every year.
  - Bathe new arrivals and current dogs at the Ranch.
  - Assist our adoptions team with getting dogs adopted into their forever home.
  - Help our events team by handling dogs at events.
  - Show affection and walk dogs around the campus.
- Above all, they care for, love and provide attention to the deserving dogs here so they feel safe while they wait for their forever home.



Lauren Moss

**Stephanie Moss and Lauren Moss** are an AMAZING mother-daughter duo who have volunteered at Big Dog Ranch for the past seven years! They have volunteered in all different areas at the Ranch, but both say "Helping animals find their people" is their favorite part. Lauren is now a Senior in high school and works at a local animal hospital. She is planning to pursue a career as a veterinarian and would like to return to the Ranch once she completes that goal. Stephanie calls the ranch "her happy place."

*Thank You, Stephanie and Lauren, for your contributions to all the pups at Big Dog Ranch!*

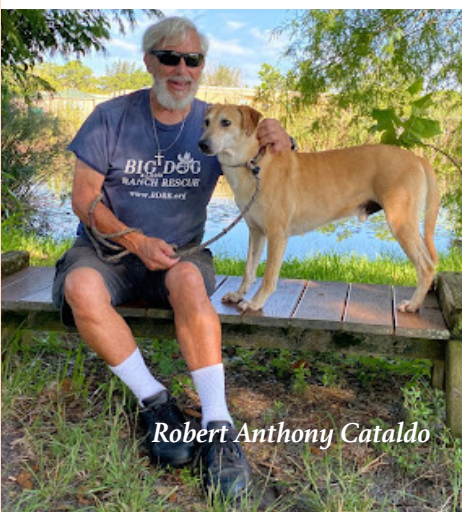


Bernadette Keegan

**Bernadette Keegan** has volunteered at Big Dog Ranch Rescue for the past four years. She says her favorite part about volunteering at the Ranch is "helping the underdogs, those that need more special attention." Bernadette was crucial in the rehabilitation and socialization of a group of young German Shepherds that came to the Ranch paralyzed and fearful; she worked with the pups seven days a week until they were comfortable in their wheelchairs and ready for new loving homes! *Thank You, Bernadette, for your dedication to the Big Dog Ranch*

**Melissa Bilodeau** has volunteered at Big Dog Ranch for nearly ten years. Her specialty is fostering pregnant, nursing moms, special needs, and scared dogs. Melissa says she has "lost count of how many pups she has fostered for the Ranch" and says, "At times, it can break your heart but overall, it makes your life overwhelmingly better because you know you made a difference." Melissa says she has made life-long friends at the Ranch and plans to continue volunteering for as long as possible.

*Thank You, Melissa, for your loving, giving heart!*



Robert Anthony Cataldo

**Robert Anthony Cataldo** has been a volunteer for the past five years. He enjoys working with all dogs at the Ranch but especially loves working with the fearful dogs who need a bit more reassurance. He says his trick to earning their trust is time sitting with them. He brings a milk crate into their room and waits until they are ready to take a treat from him. He says, "it could be hours, days, or even weeks, but it's all about patience. When they finally take that treat, it's all worth it" To date, Cataldo has proudly worked with over 150 dogs at the Ranch who have been adopted to loving homes. He says he walks dogs at the Ranch approximately 2 miles daily, and it is extremely relaxing to have that time just for him and the dogs.

*Thank You, Anthony, for your commitment to the Ranch pups!*

# FOSTERS

## EACH DAY OUR FOSTERS SAVE LIVES.

With the current economic status and the highest rate of owner surrenders we've ever seen, fosters are crucial in helping us care for these dogs, while also allowing us to take in and save more dogs.

At Big Dog Ranch Rescue, we comfortably house over 600 animals as they wait to find their Forever Home. In order to give more animals a place to stay on our campus, we rely on the help of foster parents and fostering allows rescue dogs to live outside of the campus and experience being part of a family as they await adoption, so it's a win, win!

As a foster parent, your goal is to find the rescue a Forever Home. This involves taking our rescue to adoption events, regular check-ins with the ranch, and giving them a safe home. A dog's time in a foster home can range from a few days to several months. Every rescue is different, so every foster experience will be different.

### **Kelsie Sanchez – Adoptions & Foster Manager**

Our foster program at Big Dog Ranch Rescue is vital to our adoption success.



The commitment, hard work, and compassion our dogs receive from foster parents are evident in the remarkable transformations we witness daily. They provide a safe, loving home and have unwavering patience in



helping our dogs blossom outside the rescue while freeing up space for more dogs in need. Although we do a great job with adoptions, overlooked dogs with medical issues, behavioral issues, extreme separation anxiety, or medical problems that make it impossible to adopt them out are the dogs that benefit the most through fostering. Our fosters who will take our more complicated cases are crucial to their adoption because the foster families send pictures, videos, and detailed information about a dog from all the invested one-on-one time getting to know the dog within their home.

*Fostering increases the dog's chances of adoption through socialization within a home, in-depth knowledge of the dog's personality, and training. Our fosters get free training through our training center, which is the biggest thing that sets us apart!*

Additionally, we support the financial responsibility of covering the medical care for the remainder of the dog's foster life. We have fosters that come in and solely want to foster hospice cases. That way, they live out the rest of their lives in the comfort of a foster home. HOMER, who has been in foster care for over a year, and has cancer resulting in a leg amputation is



doing wonderful! His foster mom LOVES him! Seeing the dogs I've helped go into a home and live their best life is what I absolutely love!

## FOSTER STORY

When we met Bella at Big Dog Ranch Rescue on January 26, 2022, the staff told us she had been there a while, and no one was interested in her because of her extreme timidity. She was too shy to come out of her pen, leaned against the wall, and shook when we took her out on the leash. The staff was remarkably knowledgeable and accommodating to my husband and me in getting acquainted with Bella through the process of fostering. We were drawn to her good looks and potential, so we decided to take a chance at helping Bella become more social to increase her chances of adoption. The staff made it clear it could take many months before we might start seeing her open up. Well, it took about five days!

Since we have fostered her, she has more confidence and shows us more and more of her personality. She is sweet and silly and smart. She loves to play and cuddle and run zoomies inside and outside. We take her to the dog park or the dog beach nearly every day, along with multiple daily walks and other adventures to work on bonding, obedience, and socializing with people and other dogs. She loves to play with other dogs and is starting to warm up to other people. She's already picked up many commands, and we're consistently working with her to respond to commands more consistently. We couldn't be more pleased with how she has progressed, and we feel grateful to be able to devote so much time and attention to seeing her grow and blossom and feel safe with us and the world around her. We are such a happy family! But, the greatest reward of all...we fell so in love with Bella, WE ADOPTED HER!



## DOGGY DAY OUT

Foster a dog for an hour or the entire day! Doggy Day Out is a short-term foster program where the public can take dogs from Big Dog Ranch Rescue on special day outings. A Doggy Day Out can include a hike, a trip to Starbucks for a Puppachino, or a drive to a petstore for some goodies. These field trips help rescue dogs socialize, burn off energy and get more exposure to potential adopters! Doggy Day Out recap with Topgun! Topgun and Big Dog Ranch Rescue volunteer Kristina had the best day EVER! They attended 2 adoption events, relaxed at a dog friendly brewery, and explored the toy section at a nearby pet store.

Contact [kelsie.sanchez@bdr.org](mailto:kelsie.sanchez@bdr.org) for more information.

# WINE, WOMEN & SHOES

SATURDAY, MARCH 4 **SOLD OUT**

*or*

SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2023

THE MAR-A-LAGO CLUB, PALM BEACH

10:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



*W*ine, Women & Shoes is the most sought-after ticket for daytime charity events in Palm Beach County, and raises over a million dollars annually for dogs in need. This event pays tribute to saving dogs, while providing a bucket list experience for attendees... donors, corporate sponsors, celebrities and more, and quite simply, anyone who loves dogs. Contributions go directly to the dogs!

This charity event is not to be missed... set in the backdrop of the iconic Club at Mar-A-Lago, the world's most exquisite private club. Meet purebred and mixed breed rescue dogs from China, Puerto Rico, and little towns across the country. Shop designer brands, sip on wine and champagne, browse one-of-a-kind auction items, and enjoy an exquisite luncheon, fashion show with Lola Dre, doggy fashion show, and After party.



[WWW.BDRR.ORG/EVENT-CALENDAR/WWSMARCH2023](http://WWW.BDRR.ORG/EVENT-CALENDAR/WWSMARCH2023)





**DOLLARS RAISED = LIVES SAVED**  
 Our fun and fabulous events help us raise the funds to save more lives. It's all about the dogs, but our fundraising events are a good time for people!



# 14<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL WINTER BARK BASH



14<sup>TH</sup> WINTER  
*Bark  
Bash*

**DENIM**  
**DIAMONDS**  
**& DOGS GALA**

Chairs, Matthew and Cassie Lawton

SATURDAY  
**DECEMBER 3, 2022**

TRUMP NATIONAL GOLF CLUB  
115 Eagle Tree Terrace | Jupiter, FL

DANCE TO THE SOUNDS OF  
THE IDES OF MARCH featuring  
JIM PETERIK and special guest MARK FARNER

**6:00 P.M.**  
Casino Games open early for play  
Raffle Prizes awarded to the Winners

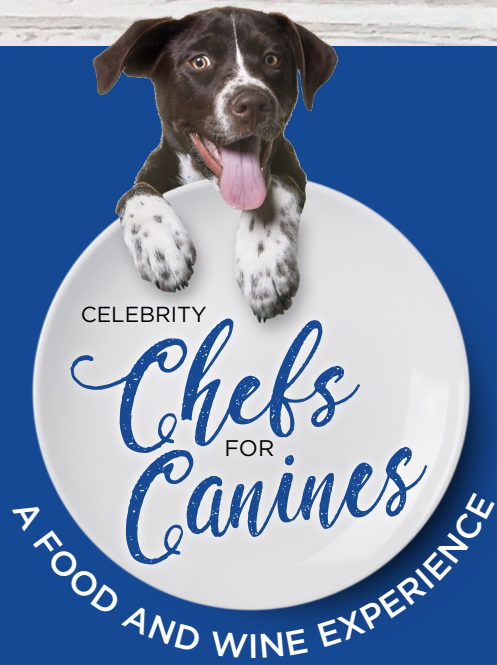
**6:30 P.M. — RECEPTION**  
Big Dog Ranch Rescue's Holiday Dogs  
Putting on the Green against PGA Pro Robert Allenby  
Live Entertainment from The Matt Stone Elvis Experience  
Delicious Sea Food Bar & Cocktails

Wine Tasting • Live Auction Preview • Silent Auction bidding

**8:00 P.M. — DINNER & SPECIAL PROGRAM**  
Welcome from The Puppy Pals as seen on  
America's Got Talent



# CELEBRITY CHEFS FOR CANINES



April, 2023

OPAL GRAND

OCEANFRONT RESORT & SPA | DELRAY BEACH

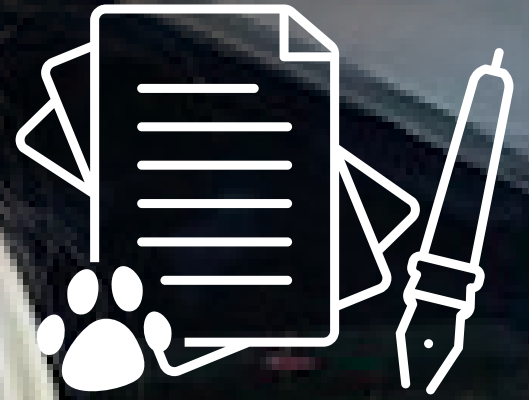
Relish in foods prepared by the most renowned Chefs in the world! A culinary journey with a variety of cocktails, fine wines and specialty dishes offered while guests enjoy live performances, dancing and view luxury auction items.



**OUR ANNUAL FUNDRAISERS HELP OUR MISSION TO SAVE LAST-DAY DOGS FROM HIGH-KILL SHELTERS.**

All Big Dog Ranch Rescue events are open to the public and directly benefit Big Dog Ranch Rescue's dogs. For more event information, contact Lorie Elsbree at 561-651-9147 or [lori.elsbree@bdrr.org](mailto:lori.elsbree@bdrr.org).

# LEGACY GIVING





## LEAVE A LEGACY

We are devoted to healing dogs who have been neglected, abandoned, and mistreated both physically and emotionally. Since 2008, Big Dog Ranch Rescue has rescued over 50,000 dogs with a goal of saving 5,000 dogs every year and preparing each dog for a loving family. By making a gift to the Ranch through your will, trust, or other financial plan, you can help save dogs now and well into the future. Ways to give include:

### REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST

A revocable trust is a set of instructions detailing how an individual's assets should be managed and distributed to beneficiaries. Assets owned by the revocable living trust avoid probate. Avoiding probate may save you and your heirs time and money. In addition, having a revocable living trust will expedite any testamentary gifts to the charities of your choice. And it may better protect the privacy of your estate.

### IRA DISTRIBUTIONS

IRA owners, age 70-1/2 and older, can direct a tax-free transfer of up to \$100,000 each year from their IRA to qualified charities like Big Dog Ranch Rescue. Direct distributions from an IRA to charity count towards an individual's required minimum distributions if they are required to take RMDs for such a year.

### APPRECIATED ASSETS

A gift of an appreciated asset, often common stock or mutual fund shares, is a valuable way to contribute to Big Dog Ranch Rescue and receive tax benefits based on the value of the asset(s) and avoid recognizing the gain for tax purposes.

### LIFETIME PET CARE PROGRAM

Enrollment in our program ensures our lifelong commitment to your dog should you pass through pre-arrangements. First and foremost, your dog's well-being and needs will always be met by our committed staff in the loving and safe environment of Big Dog Ranch Rescue, where the health and happiness of your dog are our primary concerns.

For more information on a Legacy Giving Plan customized for you, please contact our Executive Director Robin Friedman, at [Robin.Friedman@BDRR.org](mailto:Robin.Friedman@BDRR.org) or **561.529.1424**.

*Get Involved*

# JOIN THE BIG DOG RANCH RESCUE FAMILY

