

MIRACLES & MILESTONES

OCTOBER 2025

RANCH IMPACT REPORT





JUUU
2025 MASCOT
OF THE YEAR

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OUR MISSION

Our mission is to save as many innocent lives as possible through **education, sterilization, legislation, and collaboration**. We believe we can end dog homelessness and abuse through legislative efforts, hard work, and strategic partnerships near and far. We will never back down from the needs of all heartbeats because every life matters. Our goal is to save 10,000 dogs every year, and we will not rest until every adoptable dog finds a home. Big Dog Ranch Rescue's impact is immense, spanning from coast to coast. The reach of Big Dog Ranch Rescue is global, shaping lives and making a difference on a grand scale. Join us on this incredible journey of love, where these rescued dogs will find their forever homes.



FOUNDER'S MESSAGE

*Lauree Simmons, Founder,
President & Volunteer CEO*

BIG DOG RANCH RESCUE



This past year marked a defining moment for Big Dog Ranch Rescue and for the urgent animal welfare crisis gripping our nation. Across America, shelters are stretched far beyond capacity, burdened by an overwhelming influx of vulnerable dogs. Families struggle to provide care for their companions, facing spiraling veterinary costs, a dire shortage of affordable services, and insufficient education on responsible pet ownership.

Dogs are being surrendered or lost, not just due to financial strain, but also because of lack of shelter space, minimal spay and neuter resources, and the unchecked growth of backyard breeders and puppy mills. These challenges are compounded by legislative gaps that fail to hold irresponsible breeders accountable and do little to curb the cycle of unwanted litters.

In response, we launched America's Pet Crisis, a national campaign that catalyzed coordinated action and lasting change. With your support, this movement delivered real impact where it mattered most: for thousands of dogs at risk in their final moments.

This year alone, Big Dog Ranch Rescue saved more than 8,000 dogs. Thousands were rescued from high-kill shelters; others survived cruelty, abandonment, or years of neglect. Our team provided each dog, no matter how sick, injured, pregnant, or old with comprehensive medical care, rehabilitation, and an opportunity for a second chance at life.

We remain at the forefront of legislative reform. Governor Ron DeSantis's signing of Trooper's Law and Dexter's Law marked major victories in our fight to hold abusers accountable and strengthen animal protection. These milestones represent a public mandate for change and a critical step forward in ending neglect and abuse across our country. Our advocacy efforts continue as we push for regulation and oversight to stop bad actors in

backyard breeding and puppy mills. Every achievement reflects a united commitment to rewriting the future for vulnerable dogs. Together, we are making a difference one life, one law, and one rescue at a time.

At Big Dog Ranch Rescue, there are two things we will always stand behind, our dogs and our military heroes. To date, we placed more than 190 trained service dogs with veterans facing PTSD, trauma, and mobility challenges. Every pairing brought together a veteran and a rescue dog who have helped each other making a better life for both. In 2025, our commitment to the military community will grow with the opening of the Elaine & Ken Langone Patriot Pet Boarding Lodge, where deployed service members can board their dogs at no cost. By caring for the dogs of deployed military heroes, we honor those who serve this country and the loyal dogs who stand beside them. Everything we achieved this year was made possible by our donors, adopters, volunteers, our community, staff, and partners who show up, time and time again, to be part of this mission. When others said it was too much or too late, you helped us say yes. Together, we're not only saving lives, but we are also rewriting the future of rescue in this country.

And we are just getting started.

We will continue to push for affordable veterinary care, expand access to spay and neuter, and strengthen our outreach across state lines. The fight isn't over, but this year has proven that progress is not only possible, it's already happening.

Thank you for standing beside us and making this life-saving work possible. On behalf of every dog who found hope this year, you made the difference.

Lauree Simmons

Founder, President & Volunteer CEO
Big Dog Ranch Rescue

4 PILLARS

Our first pillar is **EDUCATION**, aiming to enlighten the public about the critical issues happening in our own communities. Many people remain unaware of the severe pet crisis unfolding across the nation—overcrowded shelters, rising owner surrenders, and a lack of affordable spay/neuter services have created a heartbreaking cycle of suffering. Families are forced to make impossible choices, often surrendering beloved pets due to economic hardship or housing challenges. By equipping shelter directors, volunteers, and community advocates with the knowledge to take action, we can empower them to fight for the well-being of these innocent animals, combat infectious diseases, and work toward ending unnecessary euthanasia.



Our third pillar is **LEGISLATION**, which is essential in addressing the root causes of the current pet crisis. Unregulated breeding, lack of spay/neuter access, and overcrowded shelters have led to millions of healthy, adoptable dogs being euthanized each year. This year has been a big year for animal welfare legislation, with new laws and policies strengthening protections for pets and holding negligent parties accountable. We are committed to advocating for laws and policies that prioritize animal welfare, regulate breeders, and support overwhelmed shelters. Strong legislation, combined with community action, ensures a future where no dog suffers needlessly, and compassion takes precedence over heartlessness. Our work is not done, and we will continue being the voice for the voiceless.

The second pillar of our strategy is **STERILIZATION**. By addressing the issue of unwanted litters and the subsequent homelessness of dogs, we can make a significant impact that will last for generations to come. We will venture into forgotten corners of rural and underserved communities, offering free sterilization services to those who cannot afford them and providing families with the tools to be part of the solution. Through reducing accidental breedings, we can stem the tide of suffering and death. To ensure this work reaches as many as possible, we will launch spay and neuter buses, traveling county by county across the nation and preventing countless dogs from ending up in shelters or on the streets.

Finally, **COLLABORATION** will be our united front against the forces that seek to divide us. Every animal lover, rescue, and shelter will be brought together in a formidable alliance. Together, we will emerge victorious. United we stand, divided we fall - a mantra etched into the very fabric of our mission. With your support, we will rise above the challenges and navigate these treacherous waters with unwavering resolve. The Big Dog Ranch Rescue promises to give everything we've got, sparing no effort in the fight for our loyal companions. Our grand plan awaits, and we know that the strength of our collective effort will be nothing short of extraordinary. Together, we will bring about the change that our dogs so desperately need and deserve.

Because of **YOU**, we have made miracles happen this year.

OUR IMPACT

THE LAST 12 MONTHS

8,169

Dogs In Need Rescued

4,062

Spay & Neuter Surgeries

6,607

Dogs Placed In Loving Homes

85

Veterans Placed with Service Dogs

SINCE 2008

WE HAVE RESCUED
83,000+ DOGS

1,462

Dogs Saved From High Kill Shelters

1,600+ Total Dogs In Our Care (FL & Alabama)

RESCUE INTAKES:

8,169

Florida: 3,438

- Palm Beach County Owner Surrenders: 1,483
- Palm Beach County Strays: 786
- Palm Beach County Animal Care & Control: 223
- Other High-Kill Shelters in FL: 1,946

Alabama: 1,767

California (L.A. Wildfires): 51

Georgia: 590

Puppy Mill Rescues: 771

Idaho: 2

Illinois: 1

Massachusetts: 13

Michigan: 1

Texas: 286

New Jersey: 51

Oklahoma: 87

Ohio: 5

Penn: 26

Puerto Rico: 250

Washington: 80

South Carolina: 207

Virginia: 69

Maryland: 38

Kansas: 67

Arkansas: 77

North Carolina: 146

Indiana: 19

Delaware: 24

Connecticut: 11

South Dakota: 32

Honduras: 37

Bahamas: 12

US Virgin Islands: 11

MEDICAL TREATMENTS:

Anaplasmosis: 48

Coccidia: 1,835

Demodex: 152

Ehrlichia: 134

Severe

Emaciation: 320

Giardia: 780

Heartworm: 221

Hookworm: 1,021

Lyme: 29

Parvo: 315

Roundworm: 379

Other Skin Issues: 530

SURGERIES:

Neuters: 1,891

Spay: 2,171

Orthopedic Repairs: 203

C Sections: 38

Tumor Removal: 226

Dental: 602

Miscellaneous Surgeries: 1,207

WITH YOUR HELP WE WILL BE ABLE TO DOUBLE OUR IMPACT
AND PUT AN END TO DOG HOMELESSNESS!



ON THE ROAD TO RESCUE

RESPONDING TO CRISIS

When wildfires ravaged communities across **Los Angeles, California** in the beginning of this year, they left devastation in their wake — not only for people but for countless animals displaced, injured, or trapped. Local shelters quickly became overwhelmed, struggling to care for the surge of frightened dogs left homeless by the flames and smoke.

As first responders on the ground, we knew time was critical. Our dedicated bus driver and hero, Robert, did what few others could. Without hesitation, he jumped behind the wheel of our rescue bus and drove it all the way from Florida to California, determined to save as many dogs as possible. This wasn't his first mission—and it won't be his last. Robert is always ready to go, no matter the distance or difficulty. His willingness to hit the road at a moment's notice, often for days at a time, is nothing short of extraordinary.

Over several intense days, Robert and the rescue team coordinated with local shelters and animal control, taking in 48 dogs from the wildfire zones. These dogs faced not only the trauma of displacement but often injuries, burns, and fear that lingered long after the fires were extinguished. For many, this was their first chance at safety and kindness.



ANSWERING THE HARDEST CALLS

While heading back from California, we learned of dogs trapped in freezing conditions in **Cleveland Texas**, facing life-threatening temperatures with no shelter or food. Knowing we couldn't leave them behind, we immediately diverted our route and rushed to their aid. We were able to rescue these pups just in time, bringing them to safety.





BIBI

BREAKING THE CYCLE OF CRUELTY



Every day, we confront the darkest sides of animal cruelty—dogs beaten, starved, burned, chained, discarded like trash. At Big Dog Ranch Rescue, we run toward these tragedies, not away from them. We respond to urgent cruelty cases, step in where abuse has stolen trust, and fight for the ones too broken to fight for themselves. We're not just rescuers—we're protectors, educators, and advocates. We work to heal wounds, both visible and invisible, and to prevent the next case of suffering through community education and outreach.

These dogs have survived the worst—now, they deserve the best.

BIBI WAS ONE OF THOSE CASES.

She was found barely clinging to life—too weak to lift her head, her tiny body emaciated and broken. A compassionate bystander saw her motionless and called for help. We responded and the moment we saw the extent of her injuries, we knew we had to act quickly.

Bibi had suffered unimaginable cruelty. Her ribs were fractured, her spine damaged, and her bruised skin told the story of prolonged, deliberate harm. A BB pellet was discovered beneath her skin—a chilling sign of what she had endured.

Our medical team worked tirelessly to stabilize her—administering fluids, slowly reintroducing food, and gently encouraging her to stand. With each passing day, Bibi fought harder. Her will to live shone through.

Today, Bibi is not just surviving—she is thriving. Safe in a loving home, she is learning to trust again and discovering all the simple joys she was once denied. Now at a much healthier weight and full of life, Bibi loves chasing tennis balls at the beach, splashing in the waves, and soaking up the sunshine. With her energy restored, every day is a new adventure – she's even started making new friends, including a few curious horses she met along the way!

Bibi's recovery is a powerful reminder of what love, compassion, and care can do. From a broken past to a bright future, Bibi is living proof that miracles happen when second chances are given.



PIRATA



NANO



CHISPA

THE THREE TINY SURVIVORS

PIRATA, NANO, AND CHISPA—two Chihuahuas and a Rat Terrier, were victims of one of the most heartbreaking abuse cases we encountered this year. These three tiny dogs had already suffered from long-term neglect when they were subjected to a horrifying act of cruelty: tied behind a pickup truck and dragged down the road.

A witness captured the horrific act on video, leading to the arrest of the man responsible. But the damage had already been done.

We responded immediately to the call from Animal Care and Control and brought them to safety at the ranch, where they received urgent medical care and the gentle attention they'd never known before. When they arrived, they were in critical condition and in shock. Their skin was raw and inflamed, their bodies crawling with fleas. They all had torn paw pads and nails worn down to the skin—signs of unbearable trauma. They were trembling with fear and pain.

Now, each of them is in a better place. Chispa, the Rat Terrier, has been adopted into a loving home where she's settling in



and finally getting the care she deserves. Pirata and Nano, the two bonded Chihuahuas, are thriving together in a foster home—safe, warm, and surrounded by love. For once in their tiny lives, they know what comfort feels like.

Their recovery is still ongoing, but they're finally safe, and that's what matters most.



LIBERTY



Liberty, a 7-year-old Cane Corso Mastiff, arrived with visible signs of long-term neglect—burn scars, arthritis, hip dysplasia, and a torn ACL. Her body showed the wear of multiple litters and years of inadequate care. Walking was painful, and she needed time and support to begin healing.

Despite her condition, Liberty remained gentle and strong. With medical care and patience, she slowly started to improve.

Then came her turning point: a family saw her potential and gave her a second chance. Since her adoption, Liberty's life has transformed. She now enjoys outings to festivals and restaurants, and welcomes attention from neighborhood children. She's no longer just recovering—she's truly thriving.

When Liberty first came to the ranch, she was heartbroken. She would sit silently in her room, staring at the walls, and cry whenever someone walked past—an emotional, aching cry that spoke of years of neglect and a longing to be loved.

But Liberty never gave up hope. With time, she met her forever family who saw her not for her scars, but for her strength. Since her adoption, Liberty's world has opened up. She now spends her weekends going to music festivals and enjoying peaceful afternoons with horses.

She's not just surviving—she's finally living the life she's always deserved. We are endlessly grateful to her adopter for seeing the beauty in Liberty's soul and giving her the second chance she had been longing for.



Daisy came to us under heartbreaking circumstances. A brave bystander stepped in after witnessing three teenagers attempting to hang this sweet girl from a tree with a rope around her neck. We'll never truly know what Daisy endured before that moment, but when we got the call, we didn't hesitate.

For two long years, Daisy remained at the ranch. She was terrified of everyone, recoiled at human touch, and shut down when anyone tried to show her love. Her trauma ran deep, and we gave her the time and space she needed to begin healing.

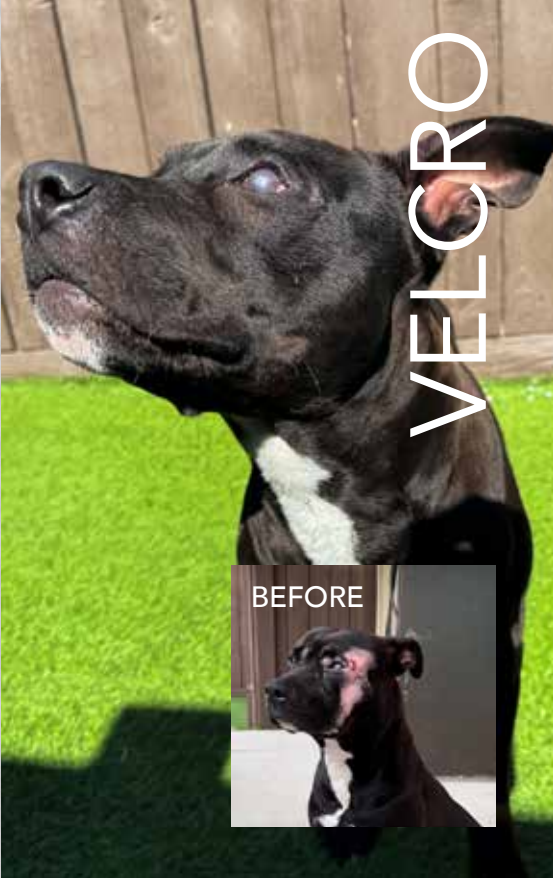
A kind and patient family in Illinois opened their hearts and their home to Daisy. She spends her days chasing squirrels and showing off her strength and courage by leaping up to the top of her 5-foot fence.

Daisy is finally learning what it means to just be a dog, to feel safe, to play, and to love.

DAISY



VELCRO



Velcro came to us with deep physical and emotional scars. Severe burns covered his face and nose, and the damage took the sight from one of his eyes. His injuries told a story of pain and trauma—but Velcro never let that define him. The moment someone reached out with a gentle touch, he leaned right in. It was like he'd been waiting for kindness all along. That's how he got his name—Velcro. Once he connects with you, he sticks close, offering quiet comfort and a steady presence that feels like home.

From the moment he received a gentle touch, his response was immediate: trust. He leaned into kindness and never looked back. That unshakable bond he forms with people is how he got his name—Velcro. Once he connects with someone, he stays close, offering quiet loyalty and comfort.

Velcro is still healing, and some of his scars will always be there. But they don't define him. What really makes him special is his quiet strength, his forgiving heart, and the way he still chooses love—every single time.



Buddy came to us with a chemical burn that left a deep scar down his back, likely the result of past abuse. Despite his pain, he remained gentle, calm, and open to trust.

Though Buddy waited over a year at Big Dog Ranch Rescue, his journey led him to the family he was always meant to have. Today, he's cherished and safe at last.



Caterpillar came to us as a stray from Miami-Dade, underweight and struggling with sensitive skin and medical issues. He was later diagnosed with bladder cancer, which requires ongoing care.

Like his name suggests, Caterpillar has undergone a beautiful transformation. With care and compassion, he's shown that even the most fragile beginnings can lead to a life full of love, joy, and second chances.

BUDDY



CATERPILLAR





CHANGING THE LAWS TO CHANGE THEIR LIVES



Between 2020 and 2024, the euthanasia rate for dogs in Florida's shelters surged by a staggering 83% - a tragic statistic that translates to hundreds of dogs euthanized every single day. These aren't just numbers; each represents a life lost, a loving companion with a wagging tail and hopeful heart no different from the cherished pets in our homes. Despite their capacity for love and loyalty, the system continues to fail these innocent animals.



THE CRISIS IS ESCALATING RAPIDLY.

In just three years, Florida shelters took in **15,500 more dogs in 2023** than they did in 2020, with 2024 estimates showing **140,000 dogs entering shelters statewide**. The burden on municipal shelters to house, care for, and rehome these animals has become **overwhelming, costing Florida taxpayers tens of millions of dollars annually**.

While Big Dog Ranch Rescue has always excelled at large-scale rescues from unethical breeders, we recognized the urgent need to address the problem at its source. That's why we took decisive action by **drafting and introducing critical legislation during the 2024 Florida Legislative session**. Our proposed bill would mandate licensing and inspection by the Florida Department of Agriculture for all commercial dog sellers, creating a framework for regulated puppy sales, enhanced consumer protections, and greater promotion of shelter adoption - ultimately helping to Make America's Dogs Safe Again.

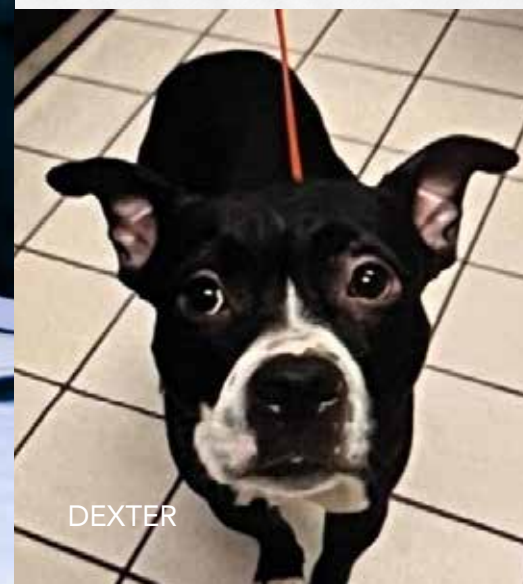




LEGISLATIVE VICTORIES



TROOPER



DEXTER

Our efforts achieved a major milestone when **Governor Ron DeSantis selected Big Dog Ranch Rescue as the venue to sign two groundbreaking anti-cruelty bills into law** at the end of May.

TROOPER'S LAW honors Trooper, a devoted dog who was abandoned and left chained to a post during a hurricane evacuation. Rescuers discovered him barely clinging to life after days without food, water, or shelter. His story became a rallying cry for change. Trooper's Law now makes it a felony to abandon dogs during declared emergencies, holding owners accountable and ensuring pets are never again left behind in life-threatening conditions.

DEXTER'S LAW is named after a dog who was found decapitated just days after being adopted. This horrific act shocked communities across Florida and exposed the urgent need for stronger protections. Dexter's Law establishes tougher penalties for aggravated animal cruelty and creates Florida's first statewide **animal abuser registry**, ensuring those convicted of such acts cannot hide their crimes and acquire more pets to harm. This law is a vital step toward justice for Dexter and protection for countless other dogs.

These victories demonstrate real progress, but **our work is far from finished.**

The underlying causes of this crisis - including irresponsible breeding practices, limited access to spay/neuter services, and economic challenges - require comprehensive, systemic solutions. That's why Big Dog Ranch Rescue remains committed to working with legislators and advocates to pass additional protective legislation, because every dog deserves safety, compassion, and a loving home.

MEDICAL MIRACLES



Some of the dogs that come to us are in such critical condition that it's hard to imagine them surviving. But with the help of our dedicated veterinary team, we perform medical miracles every day. From repairing broken bones and healing deep wounds to treating life-threatening illnesses, our specialized care turns tragedy into triumph. We have saved dogs with conditions others deemed hopeless, and time after time, they have gone on to lead full and joyful lives. These medical miracles are a cornerstone of what we do, and they are only made possible through the support of our community.



MIRACLE FUND

At Big Dog Ranch Rescue, we believe every dog deserves the chance to heal, to be loved, and to live the life they were meant for. Sadly, too many arrive at our doors with devastating injuries or critical illnesses that would otherwise leave them with no hope. Without immediate medical intervention, their stories would end far too soon.

That's why we created our Miracle Fund— to give dogs in desperate need of life-saving care a second chance. From emergency surgeries to vital treatments, this fund ensures that no dog is left behind simply because of the cost of the care.

Join us in making miracles happen. Any donation, big or small, can help save a life and bring healing to the dogs who need it the most.



DONATE
AND SAVE
A LIFE

Esmerelda

Esmerelda was found early one morning after being hit by a car and left alone on the side of the road—broken, bleeding, and barely hanging on. At just two years old, her body had suffered unimaginable trauma.

The impact left her with a complex fracture of her right femur, a dislocated left hip, possible pelvic fractures, internal bleeding, a broken rib, and chest trauma so severe that she began bleeding from her nose. Breathing was a struggle. Time was critical.

Thankfully, Esmerelda was rescued and brought to Big Dog Ranch Rescue just in time. She is now safe and receiving emergency treatment, but her road to recovery is long. She urgently needs an orthopedic specialist, intensive monitoring, and around-the-clock care to survive.

Despite the pain, Esmerelda's gentle spirit never faded. Her fight to live was strong and because of that fight, and the care she received, her story has a beautiful ending.

Today, Esmerelda is not only healed... she is happy, thriving, and loved in her forever home. Her journey from near death to a joyful new life is a shining example to the miracles your support makes possible.

Batty



Batty was 9 just hours away from being euthanized—his life hanging by a thread at Palm Beach County Animal Care and Control—when Big Dog Ranch Rescue’s founder, Lauree Simmons herself, made a life-changing rescue trip that changed everything. We stepped in to save this little guy and rushed him to safety. Paralyzed in his back legs and struggling to breathe, he was in critical condition. At Big Dog Ranch, we stabilized him and kept him on oxygen while coordinating with surgeons to determine the best course of action.

X-rays revealed the extent of his injuries: his stomach and intestines had shifted into his chest cavity, putting dangerous pressure on his lungs, and both his spine and pelvis were fractured. His first surgery at MedVet Jupiter addressed the internal trauma, followed by spinal surgery at Southeast Veterinary Neurology in Miami with Dr. Wong.

After five days of intensive care, Batty returned to Big Dog Ranch for continued rehabilitation, support, and love from our staff and volunteers. His case was one of the most complex and costly we’ve seen, totaling nearly \$21,000.

With less than a 1% chance of regaining mobility, Batty began physical therapy and was fitted for a wheelchair to help him move and rebuild strength. For weeks, he rolled through our halls with determination—but then, something remarkable happened.

Batty took his first steps without his wheelchair.

Batty’s recovery is a powerful reminder of what’s possible with urgent rescue, expert care, and the support of a community that believes every dog deserves a second chance.



Rocky



When **Rocky** was rescued from the streets of Puerto Rico in December, the scars on his body told a story we may never fully understand. But what we do know is this: Rocky is a fighter.

Brought to safety by Big Dog Ranch Rescue, Rocky arrived at our Florida campus with extensive injuries—severe fractures in both hind legs, trauma to his neck, and damage to his pelvis. He spent his first month in our on-site medical facility under round-the-clock care as our veterinary team worked to stabilize his condition and prepare him for the life-changing surgeries he urgently needed.

In January, Rocky underwent the first of two orthopedic surgeries to repair his left hind leg. Thanks to the skill of our medical staff and the support of our compassionate donors, the procedure was a success. Since then, Rocky has been on a steady path of healing—growing stronger by the day.

His journey isn’t over yet. A second surgery on his right hind leg is planned, bringing him one step closer to the active, pain-free life every dog deserves. And while much of his time at the Ranch has been spent in recovery, Rocky hasn’t let that stop him from embracing the simple joys of puppyhood. He’s discovered a love for swimming, playing, and snuggling up with his favorite caregivers.

Rocky is not just surviving—he’s thriving.

Recovery is better with a friend—Batty & Rocky in water therapy.



Megan



Megan's arrival at Big Dog Ranch Rescue was both unexpected and heartbreaking. She had been found lying on the side of the road in Broward County—struck by a car and clinging to life. With no owner to be found and no financial support available, an emergency veterinary clinic rushed her to us as her last hope.

Megan's injuries were devastating: her back foot was degloved, her legs torn, her abdomen severely damaged, and her body covered in road rash. She was in shock, in pain, and unable to eat. As a stray, she faced not only overwhelming medical challenges but also the grim possibility of euthanasia due to the cost and complexity of her care.

But at Big Dog Ranch Rescue, we believe every life is worth fighting for. Without hesitation, we made the decision to save her—no matter what it took.

Shortly after intake, our medical team discovered another serious complication: a life-threatening intestinal blockage.

Megan underwent emergency gastrotomy surgery to remove the obstruction, and against the odds, she pulled through. Her next battle was to try and save her badly damaged foot.

Due to the severity of her wounds and the lack of remaining skin, Megan was referred to a specialty clinic for a series of hyperbaric oxygen treatments to promote healing. This was followed by numerous orthopedic evaluations and surgical attempts to salvage the limb. Despite every effort—and Megan's unwavering will to survive—the damage was simply too great. Ultimately, her leg had to be amputated.

Despite it all, Megan showed incredible resilience. She underwent multiple treatments and surgeries and began to heal, little by little. Today, Megan is still on the road to recovery, but she's made remarkable progress—a reminder of the strength found in even the most fragile lives.

THE COST TO SAVE A DOG

At Big Dog Ranch Rescue, we take in the dogs that others won't—the ones with broken legs, heartworm disease, or Parvo—those who are often overlooked due to the high cost of their care. Through our Safety Net Program, we also support families in need, providing lifesaving medical services, including emergency care, for dogs whose owners can't afford treatment. Because every life is worth saving, and every dog deserves a second chance.



TOTAL DOG EXPENSES: \$13, 651,000
TOTAL DOGS SAVED: 8,169

Staff Costs: (Kennel Caregivers, Adoption Counselors, Trainers, etc.) **49%, \$6,623,000**

Dog Housing & Facility Costs: (Mortgage, Insurance, Utilities, Taxes, Maintenance) **16%, \$2,163,000**

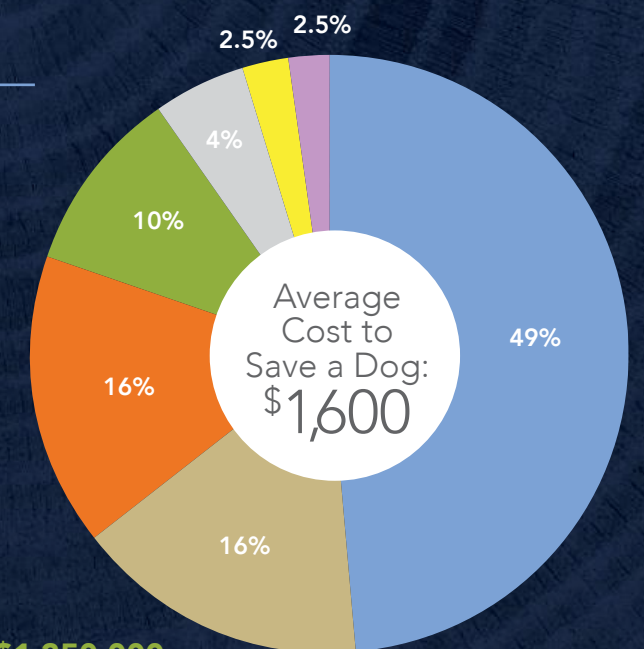
Veterinary Costs: (Medical Supplies, Equipment, Treatment for Dogs, Medicine, Dental, Physical Therapy, Surgeries, Veterinary Technician Salaries) **16% \$2,163,000**

Dog Food & Supplies: 4%, \$676,000

Program Expenses: (Veteran Dog Training, Big Dog University, Hurricane Disaster & Relief) **10% \$1,350,000**

Transport Expenses: 2.5% \$338,000

Marketing & Advertising To Get Dogs Adopted: 2.5% \$338,000



HEROES

HEALING HANDS



DR. TOMAS INFERNUSO

Some heroes wear scrubs, not capes—and in the world of animal rescue, few shine brighter than Dr. Tomas Infernuso. With healing hands, a generous heart, and a passion for saving lives, his impact on Big Dog Ranch Rescue is nothing short of extraordinary.

A board-certified orthopedic surgeon based in Long Island, New York, Dr. Infernuso has dedicated his life to giving animals a second chance. His advanced surgical expertise has saved countless dogs—many with injuries so severe that, without his intervention, they would have faced amputation or euthanasia.

What truly sets Dr. Infernuso apart is not just his skill, but his selflessness. In addition to running his own successful veterinary practice, he flies to Loxahatchee Groves, Florida, one weekend

each month to perform complex orthopedic surgeries at Big Dog Ranch Rescue. He offers these life-saving procedures at no cost—driven purely by his love for animals and his unwavering commitment to animal welfare.

His work restores more than just mobility; it restores hope, dignity, and the possibility of a happy future. Because of Dr. Infernuso, dogs who once had no options now walk, run, and play again—and go on to find the loving homes they so deserve.

Dr. Tomas Infernuso is more than a surgeon. He is a true hero, and we are deeply grateful for the lives he has touched and the miracles he continues to make possible.



DR. TARA SERMER

At Big Dog Ranch Rescue, there are few figures more devoted, more impactful, or more quietly heroic than Dr. Tara. Over the past few years, she has been the driving force behind the incredible growth of the ranch's medical program—expanding its capabilities, mentoring and training countless team members, and envisioning bold initiatives like launching an in-house blood bank. Thanks to her leadership, the Ranch is now performing more surgeries and managing more urgent medical cases than ever before.

But what truly sets Dr. Tara apart isn't just her clinical skill—it's her unmatched dedication and heart. Her love for the dogs in our care is deep and unwavering. It's not uncommon to see her working from sunrise to long past sunset, often without a break, pouring her energy into giving every animal a fighting chance.

Dr. Tara is also the person you can always count on—day or night. When emergencies strike after hours, she doesn't hesitate. One call, and she's on her way, often rushing in during the middle of the night to save lives. She is more than our veterinarian—she's our lifeline, our teacher, and our hero in scrubs.

THE HEARTS THAT GIVE



JIM DEFRANCESCO AND PAM MALAMPHY DEFRANCESCO

Jim and Pam DeFrancesco are heroes to the animals of Big Dog Ranch Rescue, giving not only generously of their resources but also of their hearts, time, and talents.

A lifelong animal lover and accomplished business leader, Jim brings unmatched dedication to our mission. As a licensed pilot for over 50 years, he has personally flown countless rescue missions, using his own plane to transport dogs from danger to safety. His passion for saving animals led him and Pam to co-found Race for Life Rescue in November 2021, a nonprofit dedicated to airlifting at-risk animals from overcrowded shelters. This mission aligns seamlessly with his role as an active and valued member of our Board.

Pam shares Jim's deep devotion to animal welfare, a passion rooted in her own lifelong history of rescuing animals in need. After the heartbreaking loss of their beloved dog Daisy, Pam and Jim recommitted themselves to saving lives, channeling their compassion into action by supporting rescue missions and advocating for animals in crisis. Pam continues to be a guiding voice and hands-on advocate, helping ensure every animal gets the second chance they deserve.

Together, Jim and Pam are an extraordinary force for good. Their financial support, leadership, and tireless efforts have helped Big Dog Ranch Rescue save thousands of lives. We are honored to recognize them as hero donors and are forever grateful for their unwavering commitment to our cause.



NATE AND KIM ALBERS

For the past six years, Kim and Nate Albers have been true heroes to Big Dog Ranch Rescue. Their unwavering support has made a lasting impact on our mission to save lives. From sponsoring service dogs for veterans to stepping up when we urgently needed additional quarantine space—providing medical trailers in both Florida and Alabama—the Albers have consistently answered the call.

Their generous financial contributions have enabled us to expand our reach and care for even more dogs in need. Beyond their donations, Kim and Nate also give their time, volunteering at the Ranch and offering a helping hand whenever it's needed most.

Because of their compassion and commitment, countless dogs have found safety, healing, and loving homes. We are deeply grateful to Kim and Nate Albers for being part of our family and for being true heroes at Big Dog Ranch Rescue.

Thank You

YOU ARE REAL LIFE HEROES!

2025-26 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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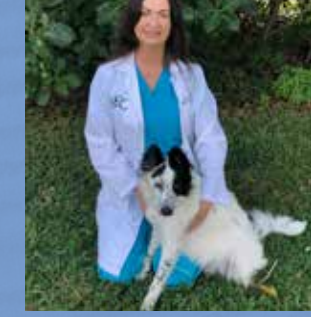
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Thank you

DONORS

To all of our incredible donors—thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Your generosity is the driving force behind everything we do at Big Dog Ranch Rescue. Because of your support, we are able to save thousands of dogs each year, providing them with critical medical care, rehabilitation, and ultimately, the loving homes they deserve. Every happy ending begins with you.

Nothing we do is possible without your commitment and compassion. Whether your gift is big or small, your impact is immeasurable. You are the reason we can say, “Big and small, we will save them all.” Thank you for being true lifesavers and for making miracles happen every single day. Together, we’re not just rescuing dogs—we’re giving them the future they never thought they’d have.



Denise and Lee Rizzuto



Nate and Kim Albers



Bob Bishop, Ella Brenner, Perri Bishop



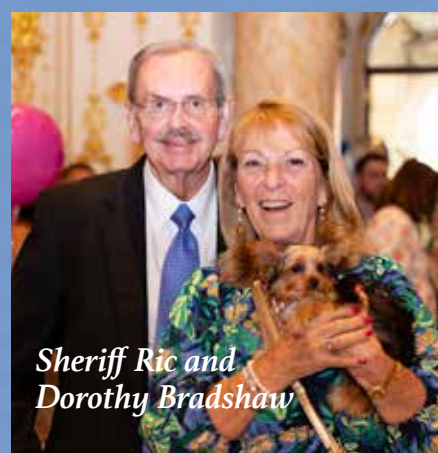
Dr. Tomas Infernuso and Shouka Amirsolimani



*Jim DeFrancesco and
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Nicola and Stephen Verses

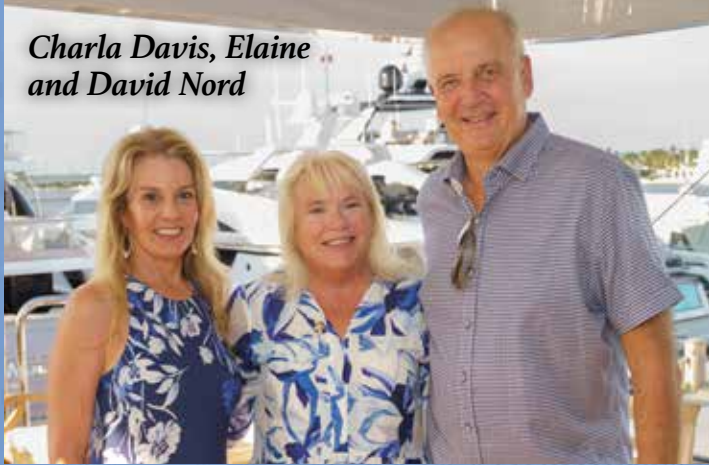
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Coach T, Susan Malzoni, Elena Cardone, Sabrina Cardone



Aimee Lettich



Brooke and Ed Garden



David and Lisa Askin



Soula and Ari Rifkin



Michael Burkart, Lauree Simmons, ML Burkart



Mike Walsh

THANK YOU TO OUR LIFESAVERS

Our Lifesavers are the reason thousands of dogs were rescued, healed, and given a second chance this year. These dedicated monthly donors are the backbone of Big Dog Ranch Rescue, and their support allowed us to face one of the most challenging years yet—with more dogs in crisis and more families forced to surrender their pets than ever before.

Because of our Lifesavers, we never had to turn our backs. They helped fund emergency surgeries, cover rising medical costs, and fill countless bowls with food. They made sure our staff, volunteers, and veterinary team had the resources to keep going—even when the need felt overwhelming.

For just \$1 a day—or \$30 a month—you can become a Lifesaver, too. Monthly gifts provide the dependable funding we need to respond quickly when dogs are in crisis and continue our mission without hesitation.



THESE ARE THE DOGS *You Help Save*



Lovebug was discovered wandering the streets of Miami—starving, exhausted, and completely alone. Her body was skin and bones. Her eyes, heavy with fatigue. And yet, when our team gently approached her, she wagged her tail.

That simple gesture—so full of hope in the face of suffering—was the first miracle.

We brought her to Big Dog Ranch Rescue and named her Lovebug. With time, safety, and love, her spirit began to shine. The frail street dog transformed into a joyful, affectionate companion who lit up every room she entered.

Lovebug adores toys, cuddles, and other dogs. She's gentle with children and practically vibrates with happiness when she sees the people she loves—sometimes even wiggling herself right off her feet.

Her journey from forgotten to beloved captures everything we fight for at Big Dog Ranch Rescue. And every step of her transformation was made possible by the kindness and support of people like you.



To our current Lifesavers: we are endlessly grateful. Your ongoing generosity has created thousands of second chances.

If you're not yet part of this vital group, we invite you to join today. Become a Lifesaver and be a part of every miracle we make possible. Because when we come together, there's no limit to how many lives we can save.



CORPORATE PHILANTHROPY PARTNERS

For more than 18 years, corporate philanthropy partners have made it possible for us to rescue, rehabilitate, and rehome thousands of homeless dogs. By becoming a corporate partner, you can help us save more dog's lives.
Thank you for your continued support.

None of this would be possible without **YOU**. Your generous support has allowed us to save thousands of dogs, provide critical medical care, and find loving homes for animals who would otherwise have no hope. From life-threatening situations to joyous adoptions, your contributions have been at the heart of every miracle we've achieved this year.

BECOMING A PAWTNER

Through an annual commitment, we develop mutually beneficial relationships and provide recognition of generosity. Corporate partners are featured at our signature events, invited to exclusive ranch dinners, featured on our social media channels, and more.

THE AUDIENCE

Big Dog Ranch Rescue reaches a wide and engaged audience through social media, website, weekly newsletter, and a variety of events. Aligning with our cause connects you to a mission that reaches and inspires a broad audience of dedicated supporters.



204,000+ Facebook followers
129,000+ Instagram followers
76,000+ UVPM on website
92,000+ Newsletter recipients
3,000+ Event Guests



STARKWEATHER & SHEPLEY
INSURANCE BROKERAGE INC.



ANNE FONTAINE



DOLLARS RAISED = LIVES SAVED

NOLA'S PROSTHETIC JOURNEY WITH ORTHOPAWS



Rescued from Clewiston, Florida, Nola endured a life of unimaginable cruelty and neglect. For years, she was chained in a dirt-ridden yard surrounded by rusted car parts and pools of oil. Emaciated, infected with mites, and missing a leg due to a botched amputation, she clung to life with nothing but her will to survive.

Deep scars circle her neck—painful reminders of the chain that imprisoned her. Her ears were raw and inflamed, her skin hung from her bones, and she bore the physical toll of birthing multiple litters. She had no teeth left, likely worn down from years of gnawing at her chains in desperate attempts to free herself.

Though her exact age is unknown, Nola is a senior dog. And what makes her story especially heartbreaking is that she never knew kindness, safety, or love until now.

A concerned neighbor—heartbroken by the horrific conditions she was living in—removed her from the property. Unable to provide the level of care she needed, he called Big Dog Ranch Rescue.

Our medical team immediately stepped in. Nola was battling severe heartworm, Lyme disease, a weakened heart, and extreme malnutrition. It took months of intensive care just to stabilize her enough for spay surgery. But slowly, she began to heal. And for the first time in her life, she was safe.

Nola is the embodiment of why we do what we do at Big Dog Ranch Rescue. Against all odds, she chose to fight—and because of that fight, she now has a future.

We were honored to partner with OrthoPaws, a team that specializes in prosthetics,



orthotics, and mobility aids for pets. Nola's case was especially challenging due to the way her limb had been amputated—but OrthoPaws had the expertise and heart to take it on.

After a couple of visits to the Ranch to measure, assess, and ensure the perfect fit, the moment we'd all been waiting for finally arrived: Nola's custom prosthetic leg was ready. The device—now officially named "THE NOLA"—was designed just for her and will help other dogs.

"THE NOLA" will now serve as a model to help other dogs with similar amputations regain their mobility and independence.

For the first time in a long time, Nola stood tall on all fours. She didn't just walk—she stepped forward into the life she was always meant to have.

2024 SUPPORT & EXPENSES

WHERE YOUR DOLLARS GO AS WE GROW

SUPPORT

■ Donations and Grants	\$8,143,000
■ Donations from Events	\$8,663,000
■ Retail Sales	\$136,000
■ Operations <i>(Adoption fees & Big Dog University)</i>	\$1,429,000
■ In Kind Donations <i>(Donated Food, Medical Supplies, Equipment)</i>	\$139,000
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	\$18,510,000

EXPENSES

■ Dog Housing & Facility Costs <i>(Mortgage, Insurance, Utilities, Taxes, Maintenance)</i>	\$2,163,000
■ Transport Expenses <i>(Transport, Vehicle Repairs, Fuel, Tolls)</i>	\$338,000
■ Dog Food & Supplies	\$676,000
■ Marketing & Advertising Costs to Get Dogs Adopted	\$338,000
■ Veterinary Costs <i>(Medical Supplies, Equipment, Treatment for Dogs, Medicine, Dental, Physical Therapy, Surgeries, Veterinary Technician Salaries)</i>	\$2,163,000
■ Staff Costs <i>(Kennel Caregivers, Adoption Counselors, Trainers, etc.)</i>	\$6,623,000
■ Program Expenses <i>(Expenses (Veteran Dog Training, Big Dog University, Hurricane Disaster & Relief)</i>	\$1,350,000
■ Fundraising/Major Events:	\$1,828,000
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$15,479,000

Big Dog Ranch Rescue employs 235 people.

BEYOND THE NUMBERS

It's about making real, tangible differences in the lives of dogs. By supporting our cause, you're not just contributing funds; you're actively participating in a movement that changes dogs' lives every day. Together, let's redefine rescue and give countless deserving heartbeats the new beginnings they deserve.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Adoption | Microchipping |
| Behavioral Training | Socialization |
| Critical Medical Needs | Sterilization |
| Hurricane Relief & Disaster Response | Transportation |
| Education Programs | Veteran Service Dog Training Program |
| Food | |



Welcome to our world-class 33 acre campus, dedicated to rescuing, caring for, and rehoming dogs in need. Featuring our specialized medical intake and veterinary clinic, puppy cabins, cage-free rooms, and expansive play yards, our facilities ensure every precious resident receives the love and care they deserve. Additionally, our serene sanctuary provides a peaceful retreat for our senior dogs, while our veteran service dog training program transforms the lives of both our American heroes and our rescue dogs.



HOFFMAN FAMILY VETERAN DOG TRAINING LODGE

VISITOR CENTER



VETERINARY HEALING CENTER



SENIOR SANCTUARY



PUPPY TOWN



THE DOLLY & SULLY STEWART MEMORIAL GARDEN



ELAINE & KEN LANGONE PATRIOT PET BOARDING LODGE

Grand Opening on November 10th



PLAY YARDS

EDUCATION & INNOVATION BARN



Opening in January

SAVING LIVES THROUGH TRAINING

Every day at Big Dog Ranch Rescue, we witness something extraordinary: rescue dogs becoming heroes in the lives of veterans. Through our **Veteran Service Dog Training Program**, dogs who were once abandoned or overlooked are trained to become steady, skilled companions for veterans living with PTSD, physical disabilities, and emotional trauma.

For veterans, a service dog can mean fewer panic attacks, more restful nights, and the courage to reenter the world with confidence. For the dogs, it's a second chance at life and purpose.

We are proud to say that since the program began, we have successfully changed 200+ Veterans lives.

In partnership with the local Veterans Administration, this program has been formally recognized as a form of **nontraditional therapy**—a powerful, proven alternative for healing invisible wounds. And this year, we've continued to expand the reach and depth of the program, pairing even more veterans with service dogs trained right here at Big Dog Ranch Rescue.

This year alone, we've seen veterans return to work, reconnect with family, and even begin mentoring others—because of the strength and stability their service dog provides.

And while each story is different, the outcome is often the same: **two lives changed for the better—forever.**

Unwavering Support of the Fazio Family

The success and expansion of the Veteran Dog Training Program would not have been possible without the extraordinary generosity of the Fazio family. Paul and Pam's ongoing dedication to this cause has empowered the program to flourish, providing countless veterans with the chance to regain their independence, confidence, and emotional stability through their partnership with service dogs.

The veterans involved in this program often share that their dogs have given them a reason to keep going, helping them reconnect with the world around them. These partnerships reflect the healing power of unconditional love and the importance of second chances—for both the veterans and the dogs they rescue.





VETERAN'S GRADUATION

LORI
+ SAM

This year, veterans graduated alongside their loyal companions, many of whom were once rescues given a second chance through our Service Dog Program at Big Dog Ranch Rescue. For these dogs, the journey from uncertainty to purpose has been extraordinary. For the veterans, the gift of a service dog means so much more than companionship. It brings freedom, healing, and renewed hope.

At this year's graduation ceremony, we witnessed the true meaning of second chances. Dogs that once faced abandonment or hardship now stand proudly beside the men

and women who bravely served our nation. Together, they are beginning new chapters filled with trust and unconditional love.

None of this would be possible without our skilled trainers and supporters who believe in this mission. Every partnership forged through this program is a reminder that when we save a dog, we may also save a hero. These graduates are living proof that miracles have happened when compassion and purpose come together.

"Since being matched with Sam through the Big Dog Ranch Veterans Program, my life has completely changed. I've learned that this program is not only for the betterment of the Veteran, but also for easing the daily stressors of a Veteran's life. Sam has received top-notch training from the dedicated trainers at Big Dog Ranch, and it shows every single day.

For my autistic child, Sam's presence provides comfort, stability, and a sense of safety that helps reduce meltdowns and anxiety. For me, he brings peace of mind and the ability to let my child safely explore the world. With Sam by our side, I can walk through a parking lot

without fear of my child wandering off. I can go grocery shopping knowing my child is right next to me — because Sam is right there too.

It has taken hard work and dedication, not only from the trainers but also from my family to reinforce the skills Sam has learned, and it has been more than worth it. The bond they share has opened doors to independence, connection, and moments of calm I never thought possible. I finally feel like the world is our oyster, and we can explore it safely together."

-Lori Emery

Thank you, Big Dog Ranch Veterans Program, for giving me a new lease on life. Thank you for all the hard work and dedication you put into us Veterans as well!



ELAINE & KEN LANGONE PATRIOT PET BOARDING LODGE

Serving Deployed Military and Veterans

Patriot Pet Boarding Lodge

This new facility will serve as a temporary home for the beloved pets of active military personnel who are deployed and unable to find a home for their dog. We want to ensure that our brave men and women have peace of mind knowing that their cherished companions are well cared for during their absence.

The Elaine & Kenneth Langone Patriot Pet Boarding Lodge will feature 20 bunk rooms tailored to accommodate the pets of active military personnel.

In addition the lodge will house 20 additional spaces to expand our Veteran Service Dog Program which will allow us to increase our capacity for training and preparing service dogs to be paired with extraordinary veterans.

This lodge will allow our team to extend their reach and positively impact the lives of even more veterans in need of these life-changing service dogs. Your support in building this crucial facility will leave a lasting legacy for your family or company, while positively impacting the lives of those who have served our country.



Naming & Sponsorship Opportunities

Contact Development at development@bdr.org or (561) 651-9147

*This year, 30 dogs were given
a second chance through our
program, preventing them
from being surrendered and
allowing them to remain
in loving homes*

BIG DOG UNIVERSITY
& Small

At Big Dog Ranch Rescue, we know that behavioral challenges are one of the top reasons dogs are returned to shelters. But many of these challenges are fixable—with the right support. That's why we created **Big Dog University**—to step in before dogs lose their homes.

Our training program has helped countless families who felt overwhelmed, out of options, and heartbroken at the thought of giving up their dog. With patience, skill, and compassion, our trainers have turned uncertainty into success—helping dogs stay where they belong: in loving homes.

With shelters across the country overflowing and surrender rates at a crisis point, Big Dog University is more critical than ever. We strive to show owners that giving up a dog doesn't have to be the answer. Training can be transformative—not only for the dog but for the entire family.

Through this program, we are helping reduce shelter intake, lower euthanasia rates, and most importantly, keep families together.

LEAVE A LEGACY OF COMPASSION



While none of us can know what the future holds, we do have the opportunity to make meaningful choices today—choices that can save lives for years to come. Planning ahead is a powerful way to ensure your values endure, your wishes are honored, and the causes closest to your heart continue to be supported.

At Big Dog Ranch Rescue, we are deeply grateful to those who consider including us in their legacy plans. Your commitment helps secure a future where thousands of dogs are rescued, healed, and loved.

MAKE A LASTING DIFFERENCE By Including Big Dog Ranch Rescue in Your Estate Plans

Naming Big Dog Ranch Rescue, Inc. as a beneficiary in your **Will** or **Revocable Living Trust**, or designating us as a beneficiary of your **IRA**, retirement plan, **annuity**, or **life insurance policy**, provides a lasting gift to support our lifesaving work.

More advanced options, such as **Charitable Remainder Trusts** or **Charitable Lead Trusts**, can also be used to benefit both your loved ones and the mission of Big Dog Ranch Rescue.

Every planned gift—no matter the size—brings hope and healing to dogs in need.

PLANNING FOR YOUR PET'S FUTURE

We understand how deeply bonded you are to your dog—and we are honored that many supporters entrust us with their care, even beyond their lifetime.

LET'S TALK

If you're considering a legacy gift or would like to explore how your estate plans can support our mission and even ensure care for your dog. We'd be honored to speak with you.

 Please contact our Development Team at: legacy@bdr.org • (561) 651-9147

If you choose to include Big Dog Ranch Rescue in your estate plans, you now have the option to designate that we take in and care for your beloved dog in the event of your passing.

To explore this compassionate option and discuss the details, please reach out to us directly. We are here to help you craft a plan that honors your wishes and ensures your dog is safe and loved.

REVOCABLE LIVING TRUST

A **revocable living trust** outlines how your assets should be managed and distributed during your lifetime and after your passing. Assets placed in a revocable trust typically avoid probate, potentially saving time, legal costs, and preserving privacy. A trust can also help streamline and expedite any charitable gifts you wish to make.

IRA DISTRIBUTIONS

If you are 70½ or older, you may transfer up to **\$100,000 annually** directly from your **IRA** to a qualified charity like Big Dog Ranch Rescue—**tax-free**. These distributions count toward your required minimum distributions (RMDs) and can provide significant tax advantages.

GIFTS OF APPRECIATED ASSETS

Contributing **appreciated assets**—such as stocks or mutual funds—may offer you significant tax benefits. You can avoid capital gains tax while supporting Big Dog Ranch Rescue with the full fair market value of the gift.

CASH DONATIONS

We continue to gratefully accept one-time or recurring cash donations in any amount. Every gift is a life saved.



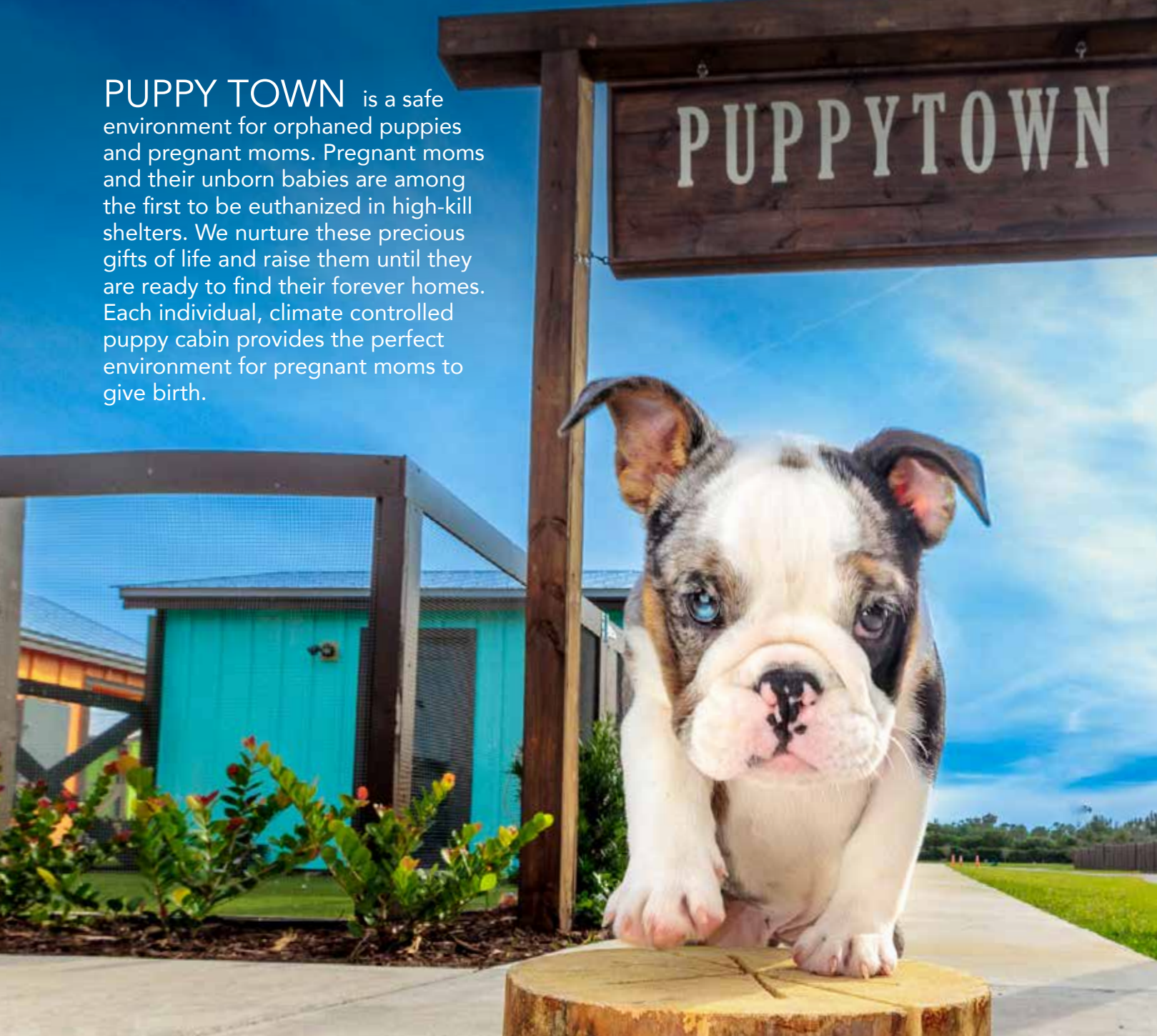
When we say we save them all, we mean it! Our Senior Sanctuary, In honor of King Benji, is a haven for senior dogs where love and care reign supreme.

This incredible space allows our beloved four-legged friends to find solace in their golden years. Here, they are cherished and given the utmost care to ensure they live out their days anxiety-free, and surrounded by love.

At Big Dog Ranch Rescue, we believe that every dog, no matter their age, deserves a life filled with love, comfort, and dignity. Our **Senior Sanctuary** was created with that mission in mind—a place where senior dogs, often overlooked in shelters, can live out their golden years in peace. These dogs may be older, but they have so much life left to give.

For many, the Senior Sanctuary represents a second chance at happiness, where they are given the medical care, love, and attention they deserve. It's a place where the tail-wagging doesn't stop, and where every day is a celebration of resilience and survival. Here, age is just a number, and every senior dog is cherished as a valued member of our family.

PUPPY TOWN is a safe environment for orphaned puppies and pregnant moms. Pregnant moms and their unborn babies are among the first to be euthanized in high-kill shelters. We nurture these precious gifts of life and raise them until they are ready to find their forever homes. Each individual, climate controlled puppy cabin provides the perfect environment for pregnant moms to give birth.



Mama Moo Cow was found wandering alone on a farm in Miami Dade County – scared, exhausted and visibly pregnant. With no one to care for her and 13 puppies on the way, time was running out for this young mama-to-be.

Thankfully, we were able to help just in time.

We brought her to safety just in time and gave her a quiet, comfortable space in our Puppy Cabins to rest and prepare for birth. Surrounded by warmth, compassion, and

expert care, Moo Cow was finally able to let her guard down. Here, she didn't have to face motherhood alone.

In the early hours of May 8th, Mama Moo Cow underwent an emergency C-section. Our veterinary team acted quickly, and nine of her 13 puppies survived. Today, they're all thriving in their forever homes.

Mama Moo Cow's journey was a tough one but it reminds us why our mission matters. We are so grateful she was able to deliver her puppies safely and in peace.



ALABAMA *A Vision of Hope*

3 years ago, Big Dog Ranch Rescue took a bold leap forward—in the fight against suffering and abandoned dogs in rural Alabama. Today, that vision is a reality. Our Alabama ranch is bursting with successful stories of hope where there was once none. Thousands of lives saved and an ever-growing and strengthening bond with the community we serve.

Our mission fuels a movement. From pulling dogs from overcrowded shelters, providing pet food to struggling community members and rescues to extending affordable veterinary services, every step we take is shaping a future where fewer dogs suffer, more families adopt, and the entire community thrives.

This past year, our Alabama campus has redefined what's possible in rescue operations. During a time that everyone has felt the pressures of economic uncertainties, we have been able to offer a lifeline of relief to struggling community members.

Affordable Veterinary Care: A Lifeline for Pets and Families In an area where veterinary care is scarce and costly, our low-cost clinic has been a game-changer. Local families now have access to affordable vaccines, spay/neuter procedures, and essential wellness checks—services that reduce dangerous disease outbreaks like parvovirus while preventing countless litters of homeless puppies. Each treatment not only saves lives but also empowers responsible pet ownership across our community.



RESCUE, REHABILITATION, RELOCATION: A Second Chance at Life

Alabama faces some of the highest euthanasia rates in the nation. We refused to let statistics define these dogs' futures. Through our expanded intake and transport program, dogs from overcrowded municipal shelters are welcomed, medically treated, and behaviorally assessed. Many are then transported to regions with higher adoption demand, giving them a real chance at the life every dog deserves. What once were desperate final days in crowded kennels have now become fresh beginnings filled with hope.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: Building Bonds, Creating Change

The ranch has become more than a shelter—it's a thriving hub of compassion and collaboration. Volunteers are stepping up, lending their hands to comfort dogs, maintain facilities, and power adoption events. Local partnerships with Universities, businesses, and community groups are deepening awareness and resources for animal welfare.

Beyond saving lives, our growth has helped fuel economic opportunity in Shorter, creating jobs, supporting businesses, and strengthening community pride.

CHALLENGES THAT DRIVE US

While our progress is extraordinary, the needs are still overwhelming. We face shortages in

supplies, volunteers, and veterinary support. Every blanket, every toy, every treat makes a difference in the lives of the dogs we rescue. The demand for affordable veterinary services also far exceeds available resources, underscoring just how vital ongoing support remains.

LOOKING AHEAD: A Vision of Hope

As we step into the future, our Alabama ranch is committed to scaling its impact even further.

Our goals include:

- Expanding veterinary outreach and pet-owner education
- Rescuing and relocating even more dogs into loving homes
- Building stronger volunteer programs and partnerships
- Creating a sustainable future for animal welfare in Alabama and beyond

Every adoption, every wagging tail, every life saved is only possible because of you—our donors, volunteers, and supporters. Together, we've not only saved thousands of lives, but also rewritten the story of animal welfare across Alabama.

Now, we invite you to dream bigger with us. Join us in continuing to build a future of hope, healing, and second chances.



PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

This summer, Big Dog Ranch Rescue proudly hosted **Deputies, Kids, and Dogs**—a special day with the **Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office (PBSO)** summer kids camp that brought together approximately 60 children for an unforgettable experience. Throughout the day, campers participated in meaningful activities that combined fun with purpose. From bathing dogs and handing out pup cups to creating themed crafts and learning the daily responsibilities of animal care, the children gained a deeper understanding of what it truly means to care for a dog.

The highlight of the day was an educational look into our Veteran Service Dog Training Program, where campers saw firsthand how these incredible dogs become lifelines for veterans—helping them manage PTSD, build independence, and navigate life with renewed confidence.

PBSO also gave kids an exciting inside look at law enforcement technology, including a demonstration of the robotic dogs used in the field.

The day was a great hands-on, empowering lesson for the kids.



PALM BEACH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE & BIG DOG RANCH RESCUE PRESENT:

DEPUTIES, KIDS, & DOGS

Activities:

- ✓ Crafts + Activities
- ✓ Dog Washing
- ✓ Games + Prizes
- ✓ Leash Training Class
- ✓ Pup Cups
- ✓ Ranch Tour
- ✓ Snacks + Lunch



“ Big Dog Ranch Rescue is a sanctuary of healing, hope and second chances. On our Annual Deputies, Kids and Dogs Day, it becomes a place where broken hearts, both human and canine, begin to heal. Their mission doesn't just save dogs; it touches lives, especially the young people in our PBSO Community Outreach Mentoring Program, who find comfort, purpose, and love the moment they walk through those gates. ”

— Deputy Kenneth Torrence (Coach T)



THANK YOU TO OUR
VOLUNTEERS

Thank you to our **2,100 volunteers** who continue to be the driving force behind our mission alongside our **265-300 employees** to keep the Ranch running every day.

They didn't just show up—they stepped up. Whether it's walking dogs recovering from surgery, preparing for emergency rescue transports, cleaning up, or helping us stretch every dollar through hands-on support, their contributions helped us weather financial strain while never compromising care.

Their efforts rippled far beyond our gates, inspiring others to foster, adopt, donate, and take action. They remind us that real change isn't just possible, it's happening every day because of the people who chose to give their time and heart.



BIG DOG RANCH RESCUE VOLUNTEERS:

- Care for and sit with abused, abandoned, and lonely dogs.
- Assist our adoptions team with getting dogs adopted into their forever home.
- Act as the life-line between the precious dogs and potential adopters.
- Help our events team by handling dogs at events.
- Assist our trainers preparing dogs for veterans to provide a sense of purpose. Help us work towards the goal of saving 10,000 dogs every year.
- Show affection and walk dogs around the campus.
- Bathe new arrivals and current dogs at the Ranch.

To every volunteer who gave their all in 2025: your impact is immeasurable, and your presence is priceless. You keep hope alive at the Ranch.



Brian Kappen

For the past eight months, Brian has been coming to Big Dog Ranch nearly every day, generously dedicating at least three hours of his time during each visit. His presence has become a comforting constant for the dogs.

You'll often find Brian out walking dog after dog, always with a calm energy and a kind word. "I find so much enjoyment when I'm around dogs," he says. "It's amazing to see how happy they get when I walk through the door."

While he loves all the dogs at the Ranch, Brian has a soft spot for the pit bulls, especially his favorite, Tank. His bond with them is built on patience, love, and

simple moments of connection.

"For the 10 to 20 minutes I'm with each dog, I talk to them, hug them, and give them kisses just to make them happy and feel wanted," Brian says.

We're incredibly lucky to have Brian as part of the Big Dog Ranch Rescue family. His dedication brings joy to our dogs each day and helps them feel truly loved as they wait for their forever homes. Thank you Brian!



Lorna Hayes

Over the years, Lorna has worn many hats at Big Dog Ranch Rescue — helping in medical, cleaning bunks, assisting at adoption events, and filling in on transport needs. But recently, her heart has been with the dogs who are often overlooked: the long-term residents and those considered more difficult to adopt.

"I think some of their behavior issues can be reduced just by spending time with the same people consistently," Lorna shared. "We do simple 'doggy' things. We walk them, groom them, go on car trips, and even make special treats."

Lorna's journey as a volunteer has been filled with meaningful moments, but one of her earliest memories still stands out. When she first began, the Veterans

Program was just taking shape, and Evan had started training volunteers to assist with the dogs in the program. "My first dog was Socco," she said. "We had an immediate bond. I still think of him often. I miss him, and I hope he's happy"

Though there are too many favorite dogs and memories to count, Lorna knows the time she gives has a lasting impact.

Lorna said, "I hope the hours we put in help keep the dogs socialized and comfortable around people. That makes them more attractive to adopters and more prepared for life in a loving home." Thank you Lorna for your hours and dedication to our mission!

CORPORATE VOLUNTEERS
Breakers Palm Beach

The Breakers Palm Beach has formed a strategic alliance with Big Dog Ranch Rescue to address not only the urgent demand for dog assistance but also the challenge of retaining employees during the summer months. This innovative initiative, "The Breaker's Gives," embodies the values of Generosity, Integrity, Volunteerism, Environmental Sustainability, and Service (G.I.V.E.S). The Breaker's Gives Volunteers have a variety of opportunities and tasks from helping with maintenance, walking and bathing dogs to building beds, filling Go Home bags or assisting with holiday decorating.



WHAT VOLUNTEERS
DO IN
A DAY



Dogs fed and
bowls washed



Loads of laundry



Blankets folded



Rooms
washed



Dogs
walked



hours/week
event &
community
outreach



volunteer hours yearly



THEIR NEW CHAPTER



Adoption Stories



MUFFIN arrived from Miami-Dade with a shattered front leg and a silent story of suffering. His injury couldn't be repaired, and the only option was to remove the damaged leg. As if that weren't enough, he was also heartworm positive—facing two major battles before he could even begin to heal.

Recovery was slow and full of challenges. Muffin had to learn how to walk—and live—on three legs while also undergoing heartworm treatment. But through every hurdle, he remained gentle, patient, and hopeful.

Nearly two years passed. Muffin watched as other dogs came and went, each one finding a forever family while he waited quietly in his kennel. Despite it all, he never gave up hope.

Then one day, everything changed.

An incredible family saw beyond his past and gave Muffin the chance he had been waiting for. Today, he's living his very best life—wearing his sunglasses, going on adventures, and soaking up every moment of freedom and love. His new family says he's the perfect addition to their home.



LUCIELLE came to us after her owner passed away, left outside away from her puppies. A neighbor finally noticed her after some time, and she was brought to the shelter scared and overwhelmed. She had scars and open wounds from fights with other dogs, and on top of that, she was diagnosed with heartworms—a serious illness that needed treatment.

Her story could have ended there, but thankfully, a wonderful family up north saw her and gave her a new chance. Now, she's doing great. Sunbathing is her favorite activity and has found a love for playing with toys. Her scars are healing, both on the outside and inside.

She's a reminder that with a little love and care, even the roughest starts can lead to something good.



Lychee

Last year, we shared Lychee's incredible journey. Surrendered to us after becoming paralyzed, she spent months at the ranch being overlooked simply because of her disabilities. Then one day, everything changed—Geri saw past Lychee's challenges during a tour and gave her the loving home she deserved.

But Lychee's story was only the beginning. A few months later, we received a heartbreaking call from our past adopters: Toby, their beloved dog, had suffered an accident that left him paralyzed, and his family could no longer provide the care he needed. When we saw how much Toby resembled Lychee and how similar their stories were, one thought came to mind—we knew exactly who to call.

Geri didn't hesitate. Just days later, Toby joined her family, and Lychee suddenly had a best friend who truly understood her

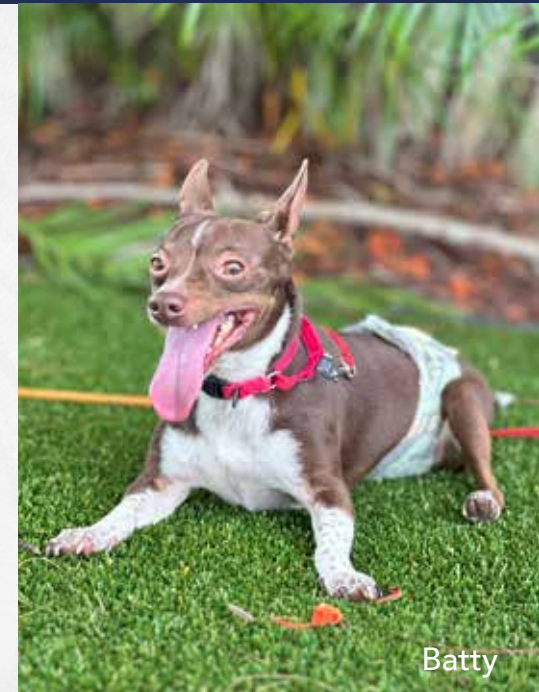


Toby

world. Watching them side by side in their wheelchairs was nothing short of miraculous.

That same month, Batty, a little Chihuahua (whose full journey you can read on page 19), who had once relied on a wheelchair but had regained partial use of his legs through months of healing and water therapy, was finally ready for adoption. Once again, Geri opened her heart, completing a trio of little dogs who defy the limits of their disabilities.

Today, Lychee, Toby, and Batty live happily together, each one thriving because someone refused to see their disabilities as limitations. We are endlessly grateful to adopters like Geri, whose extraordinary commitment gives special-needs dogs a second chance at life.



Batty



OUR VISION FOR 2026



FIGHTING FOR THE VOICELESS

As we look ahead, our mission expands beyond rescue and rehabilitation—we're targeting the root causes of suffering. The year to come will be defined by bold action, tireless advocacy, and systemic change. With every partnership we forge and every policy we pursue, we are standing up for the voiceless and working toward a future where irresponsible breeding no longer fuels shelter overcrowding. This isn't just about saving dogs today, it's about building a future where fewer dogs need saving at all.

THE IMPACT AHEAD

As we move into the new year, we are intensifying our efforts to establish mandatory statewide inspections and licensing for all dog breeders during the 2026 legislative session. This critical initiative represents a major step forward in our fight against unethical breeding practices that fuel shelter overcrowding. We are currently collaborating with the Florida Department of Agriculture, Governor DeSantis' office, and our legislative partners to develop comprehensive legislation that will implement meaningful, enforceable standards across the breeding industry.

The proposed bill will create a framework for responsible breeding by defining clear minimum care requirements, instituting a formal licensing system with regular

inspections, and ensuring proper oversight of commercial breeding operations. These measures will not only improve conditions for breeding dogs but also protect consumers and reduce the flood of unwanted dogs entering our shelter system.

Complementing our legislative work, our partnership with the University of Florida continues to provide vital data-driven insights into Florida's shelter crisis. Through detailed tracking and analysis of shelter intake and outcome statistics across the state, we are able to identify emerging trends, target the most at-risk communities, and measure the effectiveness of our interventions. This approach allows us to focus our resources where they can make the greatest difference and develop solutions to this complex problem.

Together, these parallel efforts – transforming breeding regulations through legislation while implementing data-informed shelter strategies – form a powerful, multi-pronged approach to creating lasting change in Florida. We are committed to addressing both the supply and demand sides of this crisis, working to prevent unnecessary breeding while improving outcomes for dogs already in the system.

The path forward requires persistence, collaboration, and sustained effort – but every step brings us closer to a state where no dog suffers due to irresponsible breeding or shelter overcrowding.



BENEFITING **BIG DOG RANCH RESCUE**
& Small

BARKS, JAZZ AND Glam

GALA



Annual Winter Bark Bash | Barks, Jazz & Glam | Friday, December 5, 2025

Join us for a magical evening where Palm Beach elegance meets Bourbon Street soul at the stunning Mar-a-Lago Club. Experience the rich sounds of live New Orleans jazz, Creole-inspired cuisine, dazzling live auction experiences, and vintage masquerade glamour, all in support of Big Dog Ranch Rescue and the 83,000 lives saved to date. Let the good times roll—for the dogs.

We had so much fun in 2024!



FRIDAY
DECEMBER 5, 2025

The Mar-a-Lago Club | Palm Beach

Chairs, Perri & Bob Bishop | Co-Chairs, Lara & Eric Trump

COCKTAILS
& FINE WINE

BIG DOG RANCH RESCUE
& Small

CULINARY
DELIGHTS

HOUNDS, HIGH ROLLERS & HAUTE CUISINE

Chefs FOR
Canines

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SUNDAY, APRIL 12, 2026

5:30 - 10:00 PM | BDRR.ORG | INVITE TO FOLLOW

CHAIRS NICOLA & STEPHEN VERSES | COCKTAIL ATTIRE

CASINO
NIGHT

OPAL GRAND
OCEANFRONT RESORT & SPA
DELRAY BEACH FL

AUCTION



Chefs for Canines | Sunday, April 12, 2026

Savor an unforgettable evening! Join us for a fun and flavorful night where great food, fine wine, and rescue dogs come together! Some of the area's favorite chefs will be serving up delicious bites, perfectly paired with wine and cocktails. It's a relaxed evening full of tasty treats, good company, and lots of surprises—Eat, sip, and make a difference!

The dogs won the jackpot in 2025!



For more information, contact Lori Elsbree: lori.elsbree@bdr.org or (561) 791-6465



WWW.BDRR.ORG/WWS2026



Wine, Women & Shoes | Friday, March 6, Saturday, March 7 or Sunday, March 8, 2026

For the first-time ever, Wine, Women & Shoes will take place over three fabulous days in March – so you can choose your perfect day to play! Get ready for the most fun mid-day event of the season featuring a chic runway fashion show, an adorable doggie fashion show, live entertainment, silent and live auction experiences, and plenty of surprises throughout the day!

Every year gets better and 2026 promises to be the best yet!



THE 3RD ANNUAL

Cars & Cigars

UNDER · THE · STARS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2026

5PM-10PM

THE MAR-A-LAGO CLUB

PALM BEACH, FL

BIG DOG
& Small
RANCH RESCUE



THE DOG WHO WAITED

*Beneath the silence of forgotten days,
a dog lay waiting, through sorrow's haze.*

*Abandoned, unseen, with scars untold,
yet carrying a heart more precious than gold.
No past of chains, no cruel hands remain,
for love outlives the deepest pain.*

*She waits, she hopes, through endless skies,
a faithful flame that never dies.
The world may turn, the hours may flee,
but still she whispers, "Someday... me."*

*Not for food, nor for a bed,
but for gentle hands to rest her head.
And when you come, her eyes will show,
a boundless love you'll never outgrow.*

*No shadow remains, no fear, no shame—
just joy that answers to your name.
For only a dog can teach this truth:
that love erases the scars of youth.*

*And she would wait all dying days,
to give you love in endless ways.*



DOLLARS RAISED = LIVES SAVED

Get Involved

JOIN THE BIG DOG RANCH RESCUE FAMILY



SCAN TO
DONATE



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TO DONATE: Visit bdrr.org/donate or contact development at development@bdrr.org