



TALES OF GOLD

These are some of the faces in which we invested love, care, time and commitment during 2020 for various reasons including medical and behavioral issues. One of our valuable resources are our foster families, who provide the appropriate care and accept the dogs the way they are without any undo expectations. Our foster team works with each dog to ensure all their needs are met, including extensive training, medical treatments/surgeries or simple kindness to give them reassurance in their foster home surroundings. This special time in foster care prepares them for placement in a loving forever home. Foster mom Melanie says, "They all come with a story. Some

have been loved very much, but some have dealt with the pain of abuse." No matter how small or large their issues, these pups are quickly embraced by our village of volunteers.

LOVE WILL FIND A HOME

by Sandy Kumpf

Once settled in foster care, a certified trainer and/or medical specialist works closely with the foster family to create a plan to overcome any issues. Although our professional partners discount their rates, the average cost per dog so far this year was approximately \$2,100 for veterinary services. Our dedicated fosters continue priceless hours of positive reinforcement training and caring for these dogs offering reassurance, comfort and love while helping to develop their trust and confidence. As foster Cindy says, "For us, fostering is giving the dog a safe, secure home where they can heal medically and emotionally." Fosters are the bridge that enables our dogs to smoothly transition into a forever home. Once adopted, our trainers and medical team will continue helping the new family.

The many success stories of our adopted dogs are a tribute to all the foster families who pour their hearts into loving and caring for these amazing dogs. As foster mom Cindy declares, "These special souls need time to become who and what they need to be - loved and loving."

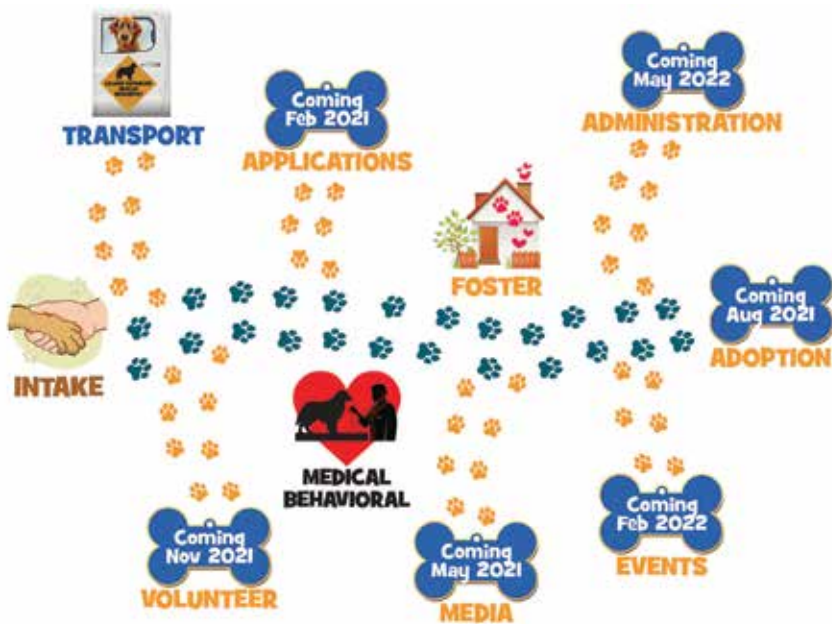


GRRMF CONTACT INFORMATION
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Hotline: 407.332.2840
Fax: 888.408.5520

FOSTER VILLAGE



Continuing our series to introduce our GRRMF village volunteer teams, this fourth installment focuses on the core strength of our rescue, our foster homes. The number of and skill sets in our foster homes have a direct correlation to how many dogs we can bring into our program. We are blessed with foster families who go above and beyond their personal needs to provide a safe and loving environment. Our fosters are supported by all the fellow volunteers in our village; from our medical team and trainers to continually learning about how to care for their dog's unique needs, our transportation team to safely bring their dog to them or to necessary appointments for their care and our media, application and adoptions teams to match their precious rescue with the forever family who can meet the dog's needs. GRRMF is so grateful for our families who have opened their hearts and homes for our rescues.

LESSONS LEARNED FROM FOSTER PARENTS by Jamie Demsky



Susan Grasso - My husband and I fostered 11 Golden Retrievers. All of these dogs, young and old, were so special and each had their own unique needs. Some were recovering from surgeries and required extra care and medications while others needed a sense of security and affection. One sweet girl had Alzheimer's, and another suffered from a damaged nasal cavity. For him, we came up with creative ways to keep his mouth open so he could breathe.

Bambi Anderson-Ivers - I have fostered some pretty amazing dogs and each one has an indelible place in my heart. One in particular taught me that the connection between human and dog is profound, and that permanent separation cannot undo that bond. He taught me it's ok for a dog to not want to be with other dogs, it's ok to be grumpy when you feel like it and it's acceptable to be flawed and loved for your imperfections.

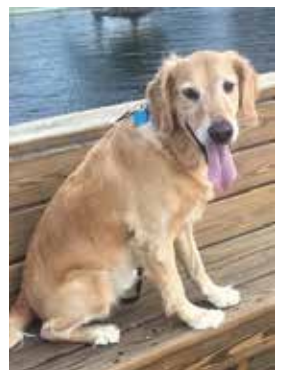


Cynthia Knopka - I love being a foster because every pup comes with different needs which requires me to learn a little more about behavior and proper training methods. My biggest lessons were learned from working with pups who were feral or mistreated. Helping them to regain trust in people is a huge undertaking: learning how to do this and watching the results is unbelievably satisfying. One such little girl who had never set foot in a house before and terrified of every new experience is now a certified therapy dog!

Melanie Bontrager - When people find out I'm a foster, they ask, "How can you do that? Don't you get attached?" My response is, "Of course, every, single time and the day I no longer shed a tear on adoption day, is the day I stop being a foster." When our pups come to us, they are confused, fearful, sad and scared. We give them a home, assurance, creature comforts and affection. They teach us tolerance, mercy, acceptance and endurance. In the end, we are both rewarded with LOVE!!!



Dennis Gamelin - We are an anomaly as far as fosters go. Most have dogs of their own, but we never adopted another after ours passed away. Because of this we tend to get dogs that want to be 'only dogs' in their home. So, we work closely with the GRRMF trainers to teach our fosters good behaviors. We have learned so much and seeing these dogs blossom with the training is wonderful.





Diana Sterling - We decided to foster to give back for all the wonderful dogs that have graced our lives. From swallowing a sock to re-arranging the flower beds, each dog we've cared for has captured a place in our hearts. We want to keep them all, but we know there is a special family out there who is waiting. The absolute best part of fostering is adoption day when the family finally meets the one that is meant for them. GRRMF has an almost magical touch of pairing the perfect pup with the perfect family.

Cindy Snedeker - Tucker loved to watch the water disappear in the toilet. Blind, Scramble still chased his tail. Kylo and Jasper were 2-year-old pups who made us laugh with their play. Tess loved to ride in the car to go watch cows. Leo and our second Tess were the gentle ones who took over our sofa, chairs and bed. Scruffy shared her last 10 days with us. Photogenic Bear could



be a movie star. Tom loved being outside in the garden with us. Sadie with special needs is now a sanctuary girl with her forever family. And our own sanctuary girl, Sweet Miley, gave us two and a half years of love and devotion. They are why we foster.

UNSUNG HEROES, OUR SANCTUARY FOSTER FAMILIES

by Ellen Steiger

GRRMF is fortunate to have special people who volunteer to be permanent foster families to dogs that are not adoptable. These rescue dogs may have serious health problems, advanced age or terminal illnesses. Dogs that need special care are placed in our sanctuary program and live the rest of their lives with their loving and dedicated GRRMF foster family.

The sanctuary foster families provide all the necessary care these angels require for their special needs. The loving support and attention given to each dog enriches their lives and fulfills their physical and emotional needs. Time, dedication, love and support from our donors saves the lives of these dogs that otherwise would not have any options. Currently, the sanctuary program has nine dogs ranging in age from three to fifteen years. Your generous donations provide these special needs dogs the quality of life they truly deserve. Through the tireless efforts of our volunteers, medical professionals and support from donors, GRRMF is able to continue this valuable program for these beautiful dogs.

Visit www.grrmf.org/about/sanctuary-dogs/ to read the heartwarming stories of these sweet souls - you will smile, laugh and feel renewed in the love and bond they have with their wonderful families.



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT by Carol Forsberg

2020 has been a year of challenges and thankfulness. With the pandemic, we are blessed that our volunteers are keeping safe while continuing to support our efforts. This year, we are seeing a decrease in goldens coming into our rescue and an unprecedented increase of adoption applications requesting to bring a golden into a loving home. While the wait time continues to grow for our patient approved adopters, we are thankful they are ready to help us quickly match and rehome a dog in need. There are unknown days ahead and likely difficult financial decisions families with goldens will need to make. When they need us, we will continue to be here.

As we enter the fall season, the average cost to intake a dog this year without considering additional testing or surgical procedures beyond spay/neuter is approximately \$520. Eighty percent of our medical expenses fund our rescues to restore their health, enabling them to be adopted and live the life they so truly deserve. An additional twenty percent supports the medications, supplements and special diet requirements needed for their wellness. We are currently tracking to spend approximately \$200,000 in medical expenses to meet our mission this year to save, protect and rehome our goldens and goldens blends. Your ongoing partnership enables us to continue into 2021 ... our 30th year of rescue.



Uplifting us during difficult times is our Sanctuary program which continues to be supported by our gifted forever foster families with our oldest resident celebrating his 15th year young birthday this summer! Our Hearts of Gold therapy team has found creative ways to stay in touch and share joy with the facilities we supported prior to the pandemic and are looking forward to sharing their golden fur love with these facilities again soon.

Golden wishes to you and all your loved ones for a safe and joyful holiday season.

A SEASON OF HOPE - GIFT GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

GIVING TUESDAY – Save the Date - December 1, 2020

Giving Tuesday is a global generosity movement unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their communities and the world. Together we can make a difference in the lives of our rescues. Our golden wish on Giving Tuesday is to raise \$20,000 for our medical fund. All donations will be matched by a special donor pool. See if your employer matches charitable gifts too. Donations can be made using the form on the back page and we also accept credit card or paypal donations at www.grrmf.org/2020-giving-tuesday/. Thank you for your partnership during this special season of hope.



2021 GRRMF Calendars

Keep your world GOLDEN all year with our 2021 calendar of smiles and joy each month! Our beautiful adopted goldens share their forever home stories with you monthly. A unique and special gift you can give to golden lovers in your family and circle of friends and colleagues. It is a heartfelt gift helping the breed we all cherish. Order at www.grrmf.org/grrmf-calendar/



Amazon Smile – Did you know a percentage of your Amazon purchase can be donated to GRRMF? Simply identify GRRMF as your charity recipient and shop with Amazon Smile to stretch your holiday shopping gift giving and all year long at no additional cost to you. Here is the link to sign up <https://smile.amazon.com/>



Adoption Stories



Amy Nellie

One glance in her direction sets Amy's tail a-wagging, prompting her to grab a toy and bring it to her parents. To say that she LOVES their company is an understatement. Whether they're working, cooking or watching a movie, she eagerly provides them with hours of cuddles in exchange for endless belly scratches, coat brushings and praise. "We've

had the best time and experience with Amy," says Jason, "and we're fur-ever happy that we chose each other."



Chloe Orli

Chloe is very much a Florida girl. She loves riding in the golf cart, swimming in the pool and best of all going to the beach. She also enjoys all of her toys. "She wants us to throw them to her and she jumps to catch them but drops them immediately when she sees another one coming. It's an assembly line of air catches."

She also adores playing keep away with mom's things. With her new feeling of security, Chloe has entrusted her heart to her forever family.



Malachi Alec (with sock)

After Malachi left Healing Hearts, he happily became a part of Jerry and Darlyn's loving family, which includes golden sister Sheba and two cat siblings. Jerry would like to say that Malachi "bounded out of the car and into their hearts," but after his first

knee surgery, Malachi could not quite do that. However, by avoiding the zoomies and jumping, Malachi healed quickly. Since having his second knee surgery, Malachi is now enjoying all of his favorite activities: sitting on the dock watching the dolphins, stealing socks, and playing tug-of-war.



Glenda Aubrey

It was love at first sight when Susan saw this adorable pup's light brown eyes and beautiful smile. Glenda feels right at home with her new family and has a new name: Miss Dixie Devereaux! Dixie is an active one-year-old, and the perfect playmate for her fur brother, Shea. They romp through the house constantly, sharing toys and treats. Dixie is full of love and shenanigans. Although she came in to rescue underweight, Dixie is now in excellent health. Sounds like she's

definitely living "happily ever after."



Garnet Aubrey

Garnet Aubrey, now known as Gar-Gar, found her way to her forever family through the help of GRRMF. No stranger to dogs, they welcomed the golden blend into their family with open arms. She loves her walks, chasing squirrels and looking for lizards. Her toys, which she knows by name, are great to play keep away or tug of war with. "The end

of the day finds her snuggled in with her family with paws crossed, head up, eyes half closed, a picture of contentment."



Cody Nolan

Goldens rule! And from the instant Cody entered the Randolph family's world, he captured their hearts and has reigned over them, loyally and lovingly, ever since. "If they handed out trophies (or crowns) for Best in Snuggling," says Susannah, "Cody would win in a heartbeat." Whenever the

family's relaxing in the living room, he's right there relaxing in total rapture alongside them. "There's nothing like a golden snuggle to make your day brighter and your smile wider."

Happy Thanksgiving!

THANK YOU! DONATIONS JULY - SEPTEMBER 2020

GENERAL

Ade, Marilyn
Adler, Jeffrey
Amazon Smile Program
Arter, Kym
Ashwell, Jane
Atwell, Caprice
Barnes, Susan
Berke, Jill
Best Friends Animal Society
Bingham, Lou
Burgin, Charlene
Chagnon, Dennis
Colter, Michael
Cook, Louise
Counen, Marilyn
Covert Chris
Curry, John
D'Alessandro, Melinda
Dalton, Penny
DeWitt, Stephanie
Doherty, Phil
Elliot, Robert
Fitzpatrick, Gary
Friedlander, Leslie and David
Glock, Janet
Golden Retriever Foundation
Haberkamp, Elizabeth
Hall, George
Hamel, Susan
Heart of Florida United Way
Hertz, Charlotte
Holcomb, Lois
Hopkins, Barry
Jackson, Joshua
JMJ Farm
Jones, Pamela
Kard, Charles and Carole
Keilholtz, Joseph
Keller, Cliff and Karen
Koropsak, Tammy
Koval, David
Kubasta, Elaine
Lacoste, Lois
Laskowski, John R
Leon, Coralee and Philpot,
Michael J.
Marcus, Matthew
Mckenzie, Graham
McMillan, John
Mitzel, John
Network for Good
Norvig, Linda
Nossair Laurie
O's 20/20
Owens, Cindy

Parker, Jeanie
Paypal Giving Fund
Perkins, Samantha and Chris
Prosser, Anthony
Rossburg, Kenneth
Salesforce
Sander, Susan
Schaefer, George
Schumar, Debbie
Sprague, Robert
Stastka, Michael
Steinard, Linda
Sterling, Diana
Stringer, Mary Jennifer
Tanner, Jessica
Taylor, Karolyn
Vongprachith, Anonglack
Warth, Mark and Cheryl
Youngs, Dale and Kelly

IN HONOR OF

Anderson, Barbara and Robert
for Chloe and Cindy
Coffman, Bob, for Annie Rose
Curry, John, for Cassie
Drapo, Deborah,
for Sanctuary Paris
Gogerty, Pat and Sharon,
for Alexander
Heeter, Greg and Debby,
for Finley
Holecek, John and Tammy,
for Buckley
Long, Sherrie, for Marley
Morrell, Kathleen, for Lola Knoff

IN MEMORY OF

Anderson, Myra, for Anitra
Doss Ruth
Boggs, Greg and Carla,
for Anitra Thomas
Bowden, Sharon, for Cheryl
Dupree-Mesker
Curry, John, for Carver, Tessie,
Josie, Grey and Mulligan
Elliott, Jane Fox
Essential Balance Holistic
Wellness Center, for Anitra
Doss Ruth
Ferrante, Barbara and John,
for Benny
Fishkind, Linda, for Saydi
Forsberg, Carol, for Maverick
Forsberg, Carol, for Timber Moose
Gogerty, Sharon and Pat,
Gemgolds SandPebbles

Harrell, Jerilane, for Nola
Holecek, John and Tammy,
for Dakota
Holliday, Bacardi, Montana
and Timber Moose, for Maverick
Holliday, Barry and Lyn, for Judd
Klemetti, Stacy, for Maverick
and Timber Moose
Lacoste, Lois, for Kip Scarlett
Ladies Auxiliary of Greater
Tampa Burial Fund,
for Lynda Porter
LeDuc, Stephanie and Edward,
for Cody and Lucky
McAllister, Deborah,
for Mary Jean Craig
McAnally, Michael,
for Maggie Mae
McCoy, James,
for Debbie McCoy
McNulty, Elizabeth, for Buddy
Millard, Roberta, for Rusty Bear
Shealy, Jeff and Julie, for Henri
Shepard, Pat and Bill, for Annie
Stewart, Linda, for Golden
Dutchess of Stewart
Sturman, Janet, for Judd
Thompson, Paula, for Junior
Todaro, Kathy, for Ambrosia
Tucker, Barbara, for Lacey
Fallchase Smarty Pants
Ulrich, Marilyn,
for Rodney Bennett
Vincent, Ginger and George,
for Maverick
Vincent, Ginger and George,
for Minnie
Vincent, Ginger and George,
for Timber Moose
Weber, Karen, for Maya
Wilcox, Jana,
for Lynda Alexander

WOODY FUND

Alfson, John and Lynda,
for Clooney
Alfson, John and Lynda,
In Memory of Terry T,
Sunny and Sugar
Alfson, Lynda and John,
In Honor of Joy-Joy, Button 2
and Sissy
Anonymous
Clark, Carol
Conicella, Lisa A

Deptulski, Terry and Solum,
Renee, In Memory of Belle
Duty, Paul, for Leo Jimbo
Estate of Carol R. Hurden,
for Allie
Gruher, Alfred
Jones, Pamela, for Clooney
Rogers, Kimberly
Sheely, Susan
Snedeker, Cindy and Mike,
for Scramble and Miley
Tradelius, Paul and Mary Anne,
In Memory of Maverick

WOODY FUND for TOBY

Alfson, Lynda and John
Anderson-Ivers, Bambi
Ayers, Robert
Aziz, Douglas
Byrne, Kathleen & William
Crofts, Teresa
Cuccaro, Thomas
Cundey, Rhannon
Davis, Sarah
Dumas, Christiane M
Dyke, Jason
Evenden, John
Faulkenberry, Tori
Graser, Lyda
Holliday, Bacardi and Montana
Horton, Julia
Klemetti, Stacy
Lancaster, Christy
Leake, Tracy
Leon, Coralee
Lieble, Elizabeth
McManus, Dawn
Murphy, Ellen
Nalbach, Susan
Rafferty, Marjorie
Skeber, Jaclyn
Steiger, Ellen
Sturman, Janet
Terrio, Jenna
Vincent, Ginger and George
Wells, Deanne

GIFTS IN KIND

Sandy Harbour

FUNDRAISERS

Cathy Christy -
Facebook Birthday
Kym Arter - Pampered Chef

Brock and Susan Anderson -
Dixie
Bambi Anderson-Ivers - Thumper
Danny and Keith Bennett - Jazzy
Christina and Lee Blood - Maggie
Marty Burke - Hazel
MaryLou Coffman - Minnie
Justin and Sarah Dethier - Harley
Debbie Drapo - Ambrosia
Julia Gagne - Boudreaux
GRRMF Family and
Cherie Connelly - Nala

GRRMF Family and Cindy
and Mike Snedeker - Miley
Sandy and Roger Harbour - Luke
Lyn and Barry Holliday - Maverick
Lyn and Barry Holliday -
Timber Moose
Dawn and Peter Kinsley - Jackie
David and CK Kirkland - Jasmine
Patty and Rick Kwapien - Lucy
Frank and Elizabeth Lieble - Jax
Nancy Love - Tallulah
Stephen and Sue Meyer - Sandy

Frank Napoli - Buddy
Pat and Coleen Rinard - Tucker
Janet and Jeff Rosenbeck - Judd
Emily Rowe - Maddie
Cathy and Bill Schultz - Corey
Julie and Jeff Shealy - Henri
Pat and Bill Shepard - Annie
Cindy and Mike Snedeker -
Scramble
Diana and Ray Sterling - Beaux
Bonnie and Reid Wettersten - Lucy



5 STAR FOSTERS



TEAM DOWDLE - Sometimes offering a loving home is not enough. Sometimes our rescues need critical care and when they do Jeanne is at the ready. She doesn't think twice about driving a dog across the state to receive medical attention. Her entire family welcomes every dog into their home with open arms. They are devoted to their fosters and

nurture their emotional well-being as well as their physical health. It's because of selfless volunteers like Jeanne that GRRMF is so successful. Thank you, Jeanne!

TEAM MUELLER

- You could say Ferris has a sixth sense; she has an uncanny knack of listening and understanding what her foster dogs are saying. In fact, many times, Ferris can spot a medical condition in one of her dogs before it becomes an issue! She is also willing to go that extra mile to make sure her foster dogs get the best care available. Her dedication is matched by her wonderful communication skills with the foster coordinators, which is key. GRRMF is lucky to have Ferris on our team – Thank you!



HEARTS OF GOLD



in spirits or visit our website at www.grrmf.org/therapy-latest-news/. We are currently working on life-size acrylic cutouts of each therapy pup for our upcoming "roaming pet therapy" project where they will be displayed in the lobby area of facilities we regularly visited.

Spreading joy to others is the heart of this therapy program and our pups have been actively doing just that despite being "temporarily unemployed" due to the pandemic. We have learned to leverage different social media avenues to have our therapy pups visit with residents and friends. Thanks to the talents of our volunteer photographers, Mike and Renee, our Hearts of Gold therapy pups have been busy showing off in front of their cameras creating happy tail wagging videos to share with everyone. New addition is our own GRRMF Hearts of Gold YouTube channel you can subscribe to and watch our special pups in action whenever you need a lift

Interested in joining our Hearts of Gold therapy team? Now is the time to enroll Fido in a Canine Good Citizen (CGC) class and be ready to test at one of our upcoming 2021 screenings. Our Hearts of Gold therapy pups wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a healthy New Year.



Golden Retriever Rescue of Mid-Florida
Post Office Box 1449
Goldenrod, Florida 32733

Return Service Requested



Please consider making a much needed donation to help save our goldens!

You may donate online at www.grrmf.org or fill out this form and mail it to:
GRRMF - P.O. Box 1449 - Goldenrod, FL 32733. Donations are tax deductible.

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Would you prefer to receive your receipt letter by (circle one) EMAIL US MAIL

I'd like to donate as follows:

\$ _____ General donation \$ _____ Woody Fund for special needs dogs \$ _____ Giving Tuesday

\$ _____ In honor of : _____

\$ _____ In memory of : _____

Membership options (circle one): \$25 Regular \$50 Golden Friend \$100 Sponsorship

A copy of the official registration and financial information for Golden Retriever Rescue of Mid-Florida Inc., a Florida-based nonprofit corporation, (Registration no. #CH11185), may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services by calling toll-free 1.800.help.fl (432.7352) within the state or by visiting 800helpfla.com.
Registration does not imply endorsement, approval or recommendation by the state.



29 YEARS OF SAVING GOLDENS - 3,861 SAVED SINCE 1991
Golden Retriever Rescue Of Mid-Florida