



Lucky Dog
Animal Rescue



ANNUAL REPORT 2021



IN THIS REPORT

*“AN ANIMAL’S EYES HAVE THE POWER TO
SPEAK A GREAT LANGUAGE.”
- MARTIN BUBER, GERMAN PHILOSOPHER*

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PHOTO CREDITS: LUCKY DOG ANIMAL RESCUE

ANNUAL REPORT DESIGN: MOMME DESIGN

FIXING NANOOK'S HEART



When Lucky Dog rescued Nanook from an overcrowded rural shelter in South Carolina in June, we promised him, as we promise all Lucky Dogs and Cats: "You are safe now, we will find you your forever home." Yet, unlike many of our other rescues, bringing him to DC was not immediately possible. Soon after rescuing Nanook, as we were vetting him in preparation for transport, we realized that his belly frequently filled with fluid to the point that he couldn't eat or drink, becoming so full it hurt for him to move. The only solution was for the vet to drain it every few days so that Nanook could eat, and move. We knew that Nanook needed help immediately.

Nanook had an extremely rare and life-threatening heart defect, something we discovered after visiting not one, not two, but three different specialists. He was born with three heart atria, rather than two. This extra chamber in his heart restricted blood flow, causing fluid buildup in his belly. If left untreated, Nanook faced catastrophic heart failure. His situation was so urgent that the cardiologists at NC State -- one of the only locations in the southeast United States that could perform a surgery of this magnitude -- agreed to take his case. They added an extra surgery spot and treated him immediately. We knew we were investing a lot to save a five-month-old puppy, but Nanook's life depended on it. His surgery was a huge success, and according to his vet at NC State, "Nanook was a trooper and the perfect patient."

Nanook's foster picked him up directly from NC State and brought him home to the DC area to care for him during his recovery. What the foster family didn't know when they committed to fostering him was that they wouldn't want him to leave once he recovered. They quickly applied for adoption and Nanook became a successful "Foster Fail."



Without your support, we would never be able to provide this specialized care, and Nanook would not be with us today. Today, his heart has healed and he is bringing incredible joy to his forever family. He is well-adjusted to his family's lifestyle. He loves his daily walks and going to the park with his brother, a husky named Mo Mo. This extraordinary rescue was only possible because we have the support of our Lucky community.

At Lucky Dog, we don't give up when the going gets tough -- or when we're faced with extraordinary challenges. Giving second chances to adoptable and at-risk animals with no other hope is what Lucky Dog is all about. And it's why YOU make such a difference. You make everything we do possible, and together we are going to achieve great things for homeless animals in 2022 and beyond.



LUCKY DOG 2021 STATISTICS

Added 430 new fosters and 1,680 new volunteers to the Lucky Dog family

Conducted 96 animal transports

Brought in dogs and cats from 22 shelters across 10 states and territories

Evacuated 22 animals to DC in the aftermath of Hurricane Ida

Successfully treated 37 dogs and cats with extraordinary medical conditions

Treated 121 dogs for heartworm disease

Rescued 880 puppies and 621 kittens (57 of which were born in our care).

Saved 1,676 Lucky Dogs and 821 Lucky Cats in 2021

Adopted out 1,834 Lucky Dogs and 844 Lucky Cats in 2021



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



In many respects, 2021 felt like the tale of two years. During the first half of the year, Lucky Dog operated completely virtually, holding Mix and Match Madness as an entirely virtual event in March and continuing with weekly virtual adoption events and virtual meet & greets. However, once June rolled around and the world started to look a little “more normal,” Lucky Dog began to dip its toe into more in-person activities.

By May, we resumed our in-person adoption events in earnest, and by the fall, we were seeing the majority of our adoptions happen at in-person events. Then, in October, we held our first in-person fundraising event – our Casino Night Gala, complementing it with a virtual component so that anyone could join the festivities.

Going into 2021, we didn’t know what to expect in terms of adoptions, particularly following the incredible growth in adoption numbers we saw in 2020. And, while we did see some decline as people began to return to work and resumed traveling and getting out of the house more, we still were able to save more animals in 2021 than before the pandemic began, rescuing a total of 2,497 animals from high-kill shelters across the country.

While we were operating in a 100% virtual space, we learned many new ways to work more efficiently, and throughout 2021, we began to apply those learnings to an in-person operating model. In true Lucky Dog fashion, we never just return to “the way things were,” but ask how we can do it better this time around. 2021 gave us many great opportunities to implement positive operational change.

We are grateful to all the fosters, volunteers, donors, and supporters who made 2021 an incredible year.

Mirah Horowitz


Founder and Executive Director



WHO WE ARE

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



- Verstandig Family Foundation
\$265,000 match funds for End of Year/DoMore24
- Lazin Animal Foundation
\$700,000 for Parvo ICU in SC
- J.R. Peterson Foundation:
\$105,00 for Ringworm Ward in SC
- The Jefferies Foundation
\$65,000 for general operating costs
- J.R. Peterson Foundation
\$60,00 for a new van
- Petsmart Charities
\$17,175 for adoptions & event support
- Petco Foundation
\$15,000 for transport support
- Pedigree
\$15,000 for virtual adoption and training support
- Rachel Ray
\$14,000 for neonatal kitten funding
- Best Friends Resiliency Grant
\$5,000 for operating expenses
- Grey Muzzle
\$2,500 for a senior cat pilot program
- Booboo Foundation
\$2,000 for general operating costs
- Best Friends Animal Society
\$1,000 cat shelter supplies

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

- MAHATMA GANDHI, INDIAN SOCIAL ACTIVIST



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- Marcia Marsh
- Maureen Atkins Vollmer
- Michael Horowitz
- Mirah Horowitz
- Suzy Brown

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2021 AT A GLANCE



What a year 2021 was! This year, Lucky Dog continued to pivot, and adjusted to what was needed to continue our lifesaving mission while addressing the ever-evolving national and local safety needs. We also crossed the milestone of saving more than 21,000 lives since our founding in 2009. We purchased a 20-acre property in Florence, SC and worked to develop a medical campus to serve the animals in need throughout the southeast. We launched new partnerships with organizations such as the Lazin Animal Foundation to build a Parvo ICU on our medical campus, increased our partnership with the Verstandig Family Foundation and strengthened our commitment to our shelter partners in Florence, SC, Laredo, TX, Puerto Rico and beyond. We hosted many virtual adoption and fundraising events and returned to hosting in-person adoption and fundraising events. We brought in dogs and cats from 26 shelters across 10 states and territories while welcoming hundreds of new fosters and volunteers. All of this activity helped Lucky Dog save the lives of 2,497 at-risk dogs & cats.



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR INCLUDE:

- Celebrated our 12th year of saving lives. Saved lives since our founding surpassed, 21,000.
- Rescued and rehomed animals, working both in-person and virtually during year two of the pandemic.
- Hosted virtual adoption events throughout the year and returned to in-person adoption events in May.
- Featured in over 50 media stories and appearances throughout the DC metro area and beyond.
- Rescued and treated 121 Heartworm positive dogs.
- Treated over 37 critical care cases.
- Conducted 96 transports from as far away as Puerto Rico, Mississippi, Texas, and as close as Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina.
- Brought in dogs and cats from 22 shelters across 10 states and territories.
- Rescued 2,497 total animals – of which 1,676 were Lucky Dogs, 821 were Lucky Cats, 880 were Lucky Puppies, and 621 were Lucky Kittens.
- Welcomed 430 new fosters and 1,680 new volunteers to the Lucky Dog family.
- Participated in the World Bank Community Connections Campaign and the Combined Federal Campaign.
- Accepted into the 2021-2022 Catalog for Philanthropy – Greater Washington’s only locally-focused guide to giving and volunteering.
- Furthered our Legacy of Love, our planned giving program, Do More 24 day of giving and our End of Year fundraising were generously matched by the Verstandig Family Foundation. Raising over \$595,000 in our May 2021 and December 2021 campaigns to save lives.
- Received Guidestar’s Platinum Seal of Transparency for the third consecutive year – the highest nonprofit rating offered by Guidestar.
- Received 100 out of 100 rating for Charity Navigator -- Your Guide to Intelligent Giving.
- Selected as a recipient of the Jefferies Group International Day of Giving.
- Awarded capital funding from the Lazin Animal Foundation to build the Lazin Animal Foundation Infectious Disease ICU on our Florence, SC medical campus.
- Hosted annual spring winery event as a virtual event rebranded as: Mix & Match Madness.
- Hosted our 8th annual Casino Night Gala in-person and virtually.

OUR PROGRAMS



ADOPTION PROGRAM

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



ADOPTION MATCHMAKING

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

FOSTER PROGRAM

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



LUCKY DOG YOUTH PROGRAM

Lucky Dog's Kid's Club offers opportunities for children and teens to become involved in Lucky Dog's programs and learn about animal nutrition, health and safety. The Kid's Club meets monthly with special guests and adoptable dogs. The Ambassador's Club is for high school students and provides meaningful volunteer opportunities for that age group, including internships.

ADOPTER STORIES

Like many of the kittens we rescue, Wonder ended up with his siblings in the cat room at the Florence County shelter, placed in a kennel labeled with the date on which they could be euthanized. These tiny kittens were too young to be dumped in a kennel where half the space was occupied by a litter box. Too tiny to be able to eat the giant adult kibble in their bowl. It's no wonder they quickly developed upper respiratory infections that spiraled out of control.

Wonder, the tiniest of the kittens, suffered more than his siblings. The kittens' upper respiratory infections got so bad that Wonder's eyes sealed shut with inflammation. By the time we found them and were able to start medication, we didn't know if they'd survive. But, survive they did.

Wonder was the last of the kittens to recover, and although his lungs cleared, we were not able to save his eyes. Because they had been so badly damaged while he was sick, we had no choice but to remove both of them.

Even though no one could explain to Wonder what had happened and couldn't prepare him for the loss of sight, he had no problem adjusting. Once he started feeling better, he quickly began behaving like any other kitten: exploring his surroundings and zooming around the room.

Now, Wonder is not just recovered and pain-free, he is also in his forever home, living his very best life. A life he would not have had without Lucky Dog.

- Quinn C-M - Volunteer, Adopter



I have always been an animal lover. When I was toddler, I would move the worms from the sidewalk onto the grass so they wouldn't get squished. I started campaigning to have a dog of my own. It finally worked when I was in fifth grade and someone brought a box of puppies to the ice rink where I was waiting for my sister to finish practice. I held one of the puppies for hours, and when it was time to leave, I told my mom that it would break my little heart to not keep her. It worked! Lucky became a beloved member of the family, and eventually went to college with me.

After Lucky died, I went for many years without a dog, because I wanted to wait until my life was more settled. After adopting several wonderful dogs through the years, I adopted Hurley the Hound dog. He was quirky, stubborn, and loud, like all good hound dogs are, but he seemed to know when I was overwhelmed or sad, and he would comfort me. Hurley's life met a tragic end, and his passing truly broke my heart. I decided the best way to honor him was to help other pups find their forever homes, so I signed up to volunteer at Lucky Dog!

I started out as a handler at events, and I would also try to drive as many dogs and cats who needed rides as possible. Every weekend, my car would have at least one Lucky Dog, but often many more than that! I remember the first time I drove a litter of puppies, I was so excited that I picked them up an hour early so I could pet them for awhile before the event started. Little did I know then how involved I would later become with Lucky Dog's puppy team.

I moved through several volunteer positions at Lucky Dog, learning new things and making new friends every step along the way. I became a dog adoption screener, adoption coordinator, a puppy screener and eventually the puppy team co-lead. The puppy team is made up of a group of truly amazing women who work nonstop to get hundreds of puppies adopted each year.

During the pandemic, the puppy team and Lucky Dog Animal Rescue saved me. I also became one of the thousands of people to adopt a puppy; Clara has brought so much unbridled joy into my life. She is the best foster sister to the hoards of puppies that make their way through my house, and she became the best big sister to the Lucky Kitten, Wyo, who I adopted this year. They make me laugh multiple times a day with their antics.

I am grateful to Lucky Dog for so much more than bringing Clara and Wyo into my life. Volunteering with the organization has introduced me to a community of like-minded individuals who passionately believe in animal rescue and who volunteer countless hours to get dogs and cats into their forever home. If you are missing a sense of community and love animals, I highly recommend becoming involved with Lucky Dog. As grateful as I am to Lucky Dog, I know they are equally appreciative of me and all the other volunteers who make up this wonderful animal rescue!

- Melissa Aten – Puppy Team Co-Lead



2021 EVENTS AND FUNDRAISERS

2021 EVENTS

We celebrated our 12th year of saving lives with great success! We continually work to transition our model, continue saving lives and engage our community. Working in both the virtual and in-person space during 2021, Lucky Dog hosted multiple virtual adoption and fundraising events and campaigns while we partnered with area and national businesses and individuals to support our lifesaving successes.

2021 Major Events

- Mix & Match Madness
- Lucky Dog's 8th Annual Casino Night Gala

2021 Campaign Events

- Do More 24
- Strut Your Mutt
- Giving Tuesday
- End of Year Giving



"PETS UNDERSTAND HUMANS BETTER THAN HUMANS DO."

- RUCHI PRRABHU, INDIAN AUTHOR

2021 Community Events

- Capital One Pups & Pints Event
- Virtual Puppy & Kitten Shower
- Online Apparel Sales
- Social Media Contests
- Pups on the Patio Happy Hours
- Tito's Handmade Vodka June ABC event
- Trick or Treating with Dogma Bakery
- Santa Photos at Dogma Bakery
- Birthday Celebrations
- Wedding Celebrations
- Bar/Bat Mitzvah Celebrations
- Combined Federal Campaign events (virtual and in-person)
- Private Happy Hours
- Virtual Shop Kendra Scott Shopping Event
- Valentine's Day flower deliveries with She Loves Me
- Daley Dots Campaign
- In-person Trivia
- Virtual Wine Tasting
- Virtual Minecraft
- Holiday Donation Box Drive
- In-person Yoga
- Virtual Exercise and Lifting Class
- Have a Heart Hop
- Bark Social Tap Take-Over
- Sweatcoin Community Challenges
- Virtual and In-person Pup Parties
- Virtual Holiday Fair



OUR VOLUNTEERS

Growing up, my family never had dogs or cats because my mom was allergic to them. I always knew as soon as I graduated from college and moved into my own place I was going to adopt a dog. Shortly after moving out, I started looking at the local animal shelter for an animal to adopt, but I hadn't clicked with one that was allowed in my apartment with their long list of breed restrictions. I was following an animal rescue foundation in Aruba on Instagram and connected with their mission and adoptable dogs. Sgt Pepper's Friends focuses a lot of their efforts on TNR (Trap Neuter Release) to combat the lack of spay/neuter and the large stray dog population in Aruba. Sgt Pepper's works to rescue these dogs from the streets and help them get adopted to loving homes locally as well as the US, Canada, and the Netherlands. I fell in love with not one but two Aruban Cunucus. The next step was waiting for the dogs to have a flight volunteer to bring them from Aruba to Washington, DC. Tiki and Roo were my first two dogs and got me through some tough times living on my own in DC not knowing many people.

About a year and a half later after my now-husband had moved in with me, we decided to adopt a third Cunucu from Sgt Pepper's Friends. This time we rescued a 10-month-old puppy named Foxy, and BOY where we in for a whole new adventure. Tiki and Roo were five and three years old when we adopted them so we had never dealt with puppy behaviors before. We learned very quickly that she had some separation anxiety when we came home to a chewed up couch cushion. We quickly started crate training to help with the separation anxiety and to also help keep our furniture intact. We got married a few months later, honeymooned in Aruba, and visited Sgt Pepper's Friends to volunteer for a few hours. We met Foxy's foster while there and got to snuggle so many puppies. When we got home, I sought a way to become more involved in animal rescue to give back and help the animals in need like my three girls. I found Lucky Dog Animal Rescue, and immediately signed up to become a Foster and Adoption Coordinator.

We fostered our first dog Jenny in February 2020 right before the pandemic. We had Jenny for less than 24 hours; she was adopted at the adoption event the next day, and I cried while watching her go home with her forever family. Seeing the dogs open up as they adjust to their foster or forever home makes my heart so happy. I'm proud to say that I have been an Adoption Coordinator for over 200 dogs and a foster for 40+ dogs and kittens.

The most special of those dogs was a dog named Kenny. Kenny was rescued by Lucky Dog after Hurricane Laura in the summer of 2020. He had his freedom ride to the DMV in September of 2020, and this was just the beginning of his 583 day journey to find his forever home. I had the honor of being Kenny's Adoption Coordinator and eventual foster. Kenny arrived extremely shy and shut down, and was diagnosed with multiple anxieties that required medication. So shy and anxious that his first few months in foster he couldn't even be

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

- KAREN A. ANDERSON, AMERICAN ANIMAL COMMUNICATOR AND AUTHOR



put on a leash without him pancaking against the ground. Thanks to his behaviorist, fosters, and the team at Lucky Dog, Kenny started to gain more confidence and even learned how to walk on a leash and play with other dogs!

We fostered Kenny for 49 weeks - just three weeks shy of the day that I told my husband that I was planning to foster fail (aka adopt) him. But Kenny had other plans in mind! Kenny schmoozed his way into the hearts of a couple who had a one-and-a-half-year-old lab / hound mix just like him. I don't typically cry when my fosters get adopted, but there were so many tears shed that day. It was a bittersweet day - I knew that they were a great fit for Kenny (they came with an entire pack of string cheese to meet him), but I was also extremely sad at the fact that Kenny wouldn't be a part of our routine anymore. He became a fixture in our household that all of our friends and family loved - my mom had just bought him his own bed for when we visited. He was my husband's work-from-home coworker that frequently snored through zoom meetings and phone calls. He was part of the welcoming committee when we had friends over, and everyone who met him fell in love with him.

I give a lot of my spare time to Lucky Dog Animal Rescue, and I'm frequently asked why I volunteer so much; I'm often confused for a full time LDAR employee. The answer to that question is simple: I do it for Kenny and for other dogs like him. The shy dogs who need a champion for them. The behavioral dogs who need an advocate. Dogs like Kenny who are looking for someone with a big heart and an even bigger amount of patience to help these dogs thrive. As a foster and Adoption Coordinator, it's easy for us to see the potential in the dogs that we work so hard to advocate for. The hardest part is getting potential adopters to see that these hidden gems have so much love to give. A love that is my fuel to keep doing what I do every single day for Lucky Dog.

- Rachel Dailey - Adoption Coordinator

OUR VOLUNTEERS

My Lucky Dog experience began in 2017 as a dog handler when on breaks from grad school. I always considered myself a dog person – mainly because I'd never really interacted with cats. While in grad school, I volunteered at a shelter, walking and socializing dogs. One evening, the shelter manager was in a bind; there was a momma cat and her one-day-old baby with nowhere to go. She asked me to take them. Was I nervous? Absolutely. I had no idea what I was doing. But from that day on, I was hooked. Call me a cat convert.

When I returned from grad school, joining the Lucky Dog cat team was an obvious choice. A small, close-knit group of people with one common goal – facilitating the adoption of cats and kittens in need. And it's more than just adopting out kittens: it's educating folks on cat care and vetting, helping adopters create a safe home environment for their new additions, and enhancing wonderful families along the way.

Since then, my role has expanded. I was already a regular at helping cats and kittens get adopted, but I wanted to be more involved in how the animals were able to make their freedom ride – fostering. I screened potential cat fosters and took on some of my own. I've often heard the phrase: fostering saves lives. It wasn't until I visited Lucky Dog's shelter partner in Florence, SC that I really saw how Lucky Dog embodies this saying. When Lucky Dog "tags" an animal, ensuring that they are in the pipeline to join our rescue, I didn't see the extreme urgency. I knew that they would come up at some point. But what I didn't see was the trail of animals waiting patiently and desperately hoping to join our pack. Every open cage and kennel after a transport provides a chance to save one more life.

After over 25 fosters, I finally "foster failed" with my Syd. She was one of those animals hoping to take the place

of one leaving for transport – and I am so happy that not only did someone volunteer to foster the cat that left an empty crate for Syd, but also that her first foster secured her for a chance at a spoiled life in the DMV. Over the last five months, she's proved to be a stellar mother figure to our subsequent fosters.



That's not to say there aren't hard days. Lucky Dog intentionally works with poorly resourced shelters – every animal needs a home. Transports are stressful; animals get sick. Not every home is the perfect fit. But the happiness an adopter feels when they've adopted their perfect kitty is immeasurable. I'm grateful for the lives (human and otherwise) that I've been lucky enough to change, the friends I've met along the way, and my quirky and amazing Syd.

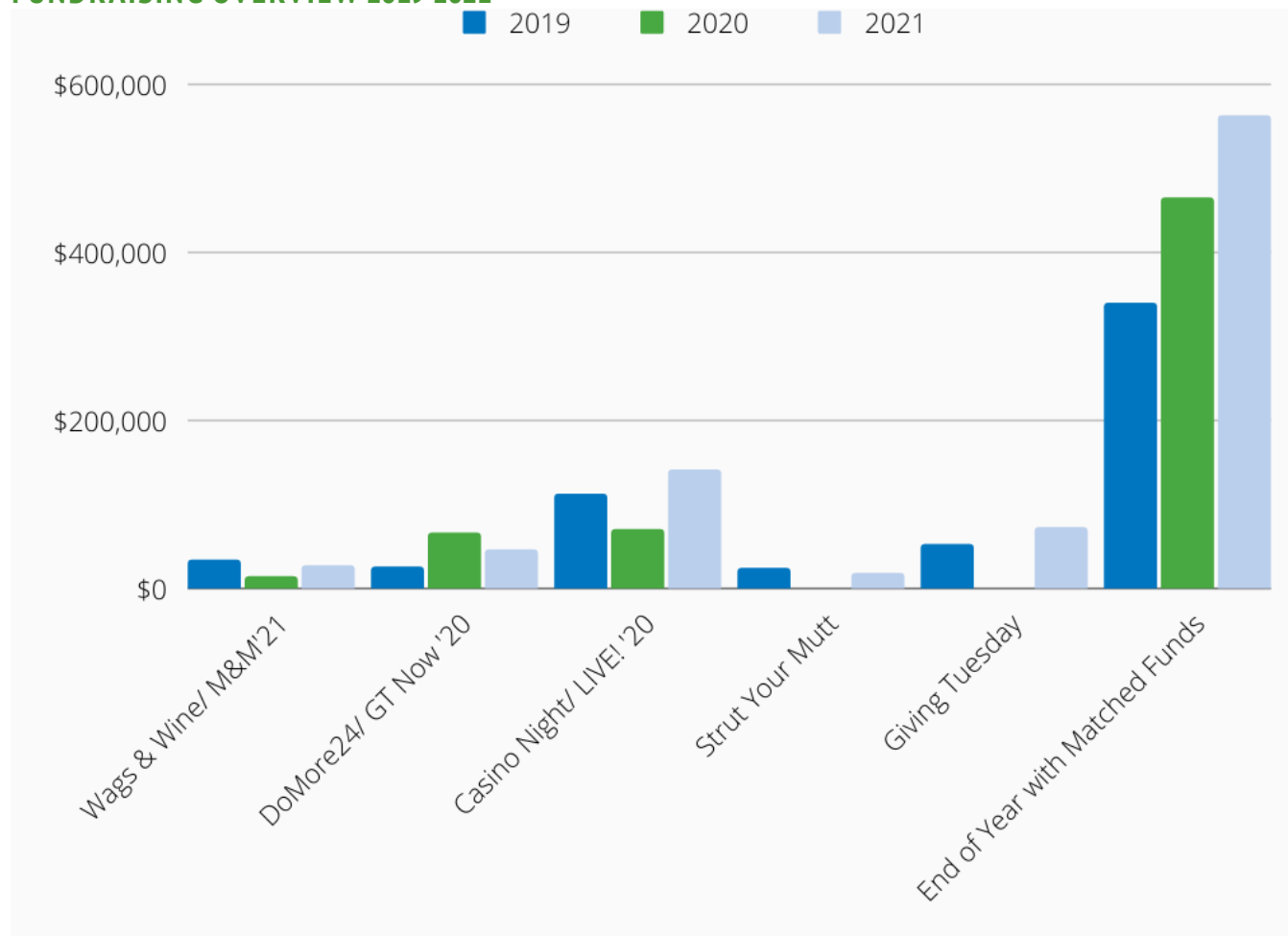
- Amy Caplon, Adoption Coordinator



2021 FINANCIALS

2021 was a year of continued change and growth for Lucky Dog. We balanced working in a virtual model and in-person model and continued to endure challenges to increase our total annual rescues. With a continued emphasis on community expansion, we established many new virtual events and new partners and programs, plus returned to in-person events while maintaining safety for everyone. With increased lifesaving rescues comes increased veterinary, transport and critical care expenses. Our veterinary budget continues to be a major annual expenditure; saving thousands of at-risk animals and providing their vital veterinary care is expensive and we can only do it because of the support of our community. We want to give special thanks to our supporters, donors, partners and all of our volunteers -- you made 2021 our MOST successful year to date in raising vital funds to save lives.

FUNDRAISING OVERVIEW 2019-2021



"ADOPTED PETS ARE THE BEST PETS YOU CAN HAVE. MOST ADOPTABLE PETS COME FROM LOVING HOMES THAT SIMPLY CANNOT CARE FOR THEM ANYMORE. OR THEY ARE STRAYS WHO'VE BEEN ON THEIR OWN WITHOUT THE LOVING CARE THEY DESERVE."

- JOSH DUHAMEL, AMERICAN ACTOR



NEW MAJOR GRANTS

Lazin Animal Foundation: \$700,000 for Parvo ICU in SC

J.R. Peterson Foundation: \$105,00 for Ringworm Ward in SC

The Jefferies Foundation: \$65,000 for general operating costs

J.R. Peterson Foundation: \$60,00 for a new van

Petsmart Charities: \$17,175 for adoptions & event support

Petco Foundation: \$15,000 for transport support

Pedigree: \$15,00 for virtual adoption and training support

The Rachel Ray Foundation: \$14,000 for neonatal kitten funding

Best Friends Resiliency Grant: \$5,000 for operating expenses

Grey Muzzle: \$2,500 for a senior cat pilot program

Booboo Foundation: \$2,000 for general operating costs

Best Friends Animal Society: \$1,000 cat shelter supplies

2021 CAMPAIGN RESULTS

Do More 24: \$45,511

Strut Your Mutt: \$16,719

Clear the Shelters: \$13,885

Giving Tuesday: \$74,648

2021 GIVING TUESDAY

Giving Tuesday: \$84,648

END OF YEAR WITH MATCHES!

End of Year Fundraising: \$312,215.85



2021 INDIVIDUAL MONTHLY DONORS:

\$9,337 monthly | \$112,047 annually

UPDATED PUBLICATIONS AND PROGRAMS

Annual Report

Furthered our LDAR Partners Page

2021 DONORS

Lucky Dog would not exist without our incredible donors. 2,497 additional dogs and cats would not be in loving families without their support. Monthly donors provide critical life-saving funds that we rely on each and every month, supporting every facet of our rescues. Our Legacy donors provide funds for larger-scale impact, and our everyday campaign donors allow us to target immediate and critical needs. Donors who make increased gifts throughout the year create opportunities for future growth. Every donation is important; each is mission-critical. We are grateful to all of our donors – saving 2,497 lives and providing necessary medical care would not have been possible without the support of each of you. In a year of so much continued uncertainty, one thing was certain -- our Lucky Dog community banded together to support rescuing as many lives as possible. This success was only possible with the immense support of our Lucky Dog community, and, in particular, generous support by the Verstandig Family Foundation. 100% of donations received directly goes to the rescue, transport, and medical care of our Lucky Dogs and Cats.

\$250+ DONORS

- | | | |
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SOUTH CAROLINA PROPERTY PURCHASE

Since our founding in 2009, Lucky Dog has operated without a kennel or facility of our own. We have looked to work with shelters who can house animals until they are ready to transport, and we have scrambled to find local vets to provide spay/neuter surgeries, treatment for heartworm, parvovirus, and ringworm, and address all of the needs that our Lucky Dogs and Cats have prior to transporting them to DC. Throughout this time, we have always had a dream: what if we had our own space where we could safely house dogs and cats until their transport north? A place where we could treat the deadliest puppy diseases – like parvo virus – and see animals safely through heartworm treatment. A place where we could not only ensure our animals got spayed and neutered, but where we could also offer these services to members of the greater community.

In 2021, we took the first step towards fulfilling that dream. We purchased 20 acres in Florence, South Carolina, and started working towards the creation of our South Carolina Rescue Campus.

This property is truly special, and we got to work immediately both putting it to use and preparing for next steps. We completed the retrofit of one building into a ringworm treatment ward with funding from the J.R. Peterson Foundation, and began planning for construction of a transfer kennel, vet clinic, and Infectious Disease Center. Down the line, we hope to add a cat building and heartworm treatment building as well.

We can't wait for the property to be ready to fully open in 2022!



