



Gold Ribbon Rescue
2018 Annual Report

Dogs are
not our
whole life,
but they
make our
lives whole.

—Roger A. Caras



Our Mission

GRR's mission is to find safe, loving, lifetime homes for Golden Retrievers in need, regardless of age, medical conditions or circumstances. Everything that we do as an organization supports this goal.

- Gold Ribbon Rescue provides public education on responsible dog ownership, supplying information on training, health problems and organizing local dog activities for Golden Retriever fanciers to meet.
- Recognized as a rescue organization by the Golden Retriever Club of America, Inc., Gold Ribbon Rescue focuses on Golden Retriever welfare and needs throughout the Central Texas area. We are an all-volunteer, 501(c)(3) organization.



Rescuing, Rehabilitating, and Rehoming
Golden Retrievers in Central Texas





Dog is God
spelled
backward.

—*Duane Chapman*

Board of Directors

Margo Biba, *President*

Michelle Goldberg, *Vice President*

Tim Tierney, *Treasurer*

Paula Ellis

Jacki Mulkey

Dawn Marie Rae

Dawn Hinckley



Friends, Old and New

To Old and New Friends of Gold Ribbon,

This year, we celebrated our twentieth year of rescuing Golden Retrievers. It has been wonderful to look back at all we have accomplished—including rescuing more than 3,100 Golden Retrievers.

I often reflect upon why GRR has survived these many years as many rescues sputter and close due to lack of funds, disagreements or burn out.

I strongly suspect that these key points have allowed GRR to thrive:

- Careful fiscal management and the ongoing generosity of our donors.
- Celebrating and accepting our volunteers' diverse personalities and skill sets.
- Utter determination, love, and the goal of working toward the greater good in rescuing these wonderful, beautiful dogs.

I am proud that we were able to rescue 129 dogs in 2018. We could not have done this without the generosity of our supporters, volunteers and donors along with our many wonderful veterinarians. Everything that Gold Ribbon Rescue does is a result of our shared commitment for animal rescue.

With your help, we have accomplished so much; but, there is still much more to do—so we remain firmly focused on the future. I'm excited to be watching all of the Golden Retrievers we saved in 2018 and beyond. From the bottom of my heart, I thank you.

Margo Biba, President





Our Golden Programs

Rescue. Rehabilitate. Rehome.

In 2018, we supported the intake, care and adoption of 129 Golden Retrievers and Golden mixes. Each dog coming into our program receives a thorough intake assessment, medical care, and behavioral support, as necessary, while being cared for in a foster home.

Our Permanent Fosters

There are a few Golden Retrievers who are best served by living out their lives in permanent foster homes. These sweet dogs enjoy life to the fullest while remaining under GRR care. In 2018, GRR permanent fosters included: Wheeler, Velvet, Skeeter, Athena, Marley, Kix, Bentley and Radio.

Our Extraordinary Golden Retrievers

Through our Extraordinary Golden Retrievers Fund (EGF), we are able to provide care for dogs that have significant needs, including hip surgeries, repairing broken bones, removing tumors, ear and eye surgeries, knee surgeries, allergy testing, behavioral needs and a host of other services. With this fund, we are able to deliver on our commitment to helping all Golden Retrievers, regardless of medical needs. In 2018, we had 21 EGF Golden Retrievers: Athena, Buddy, Holly Dolly, Francesca, Chula, Angie, Sonny, Happy, Radio, Avery, Kix, Raven, Florence, Jade, Kingsley, Troy, Bentley, Marley, Gia and Max. Below are stories of three EGF Golden Retrievers.

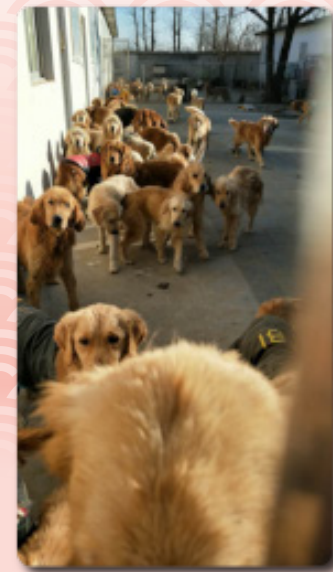


Holly Dolly GRR received a phone call from a local vet saying they had a Golden who had an obstruction from eating a toy and she needed immediate surgery. Unfortunately, this was the second time Holly needed surgery and the owner could not afford to pay for a second surgery. The vet asked if GRR could help or they would have to euthanize the dog. GRR said “of course” and met the owner at the vet clinic where he surrendered ownership to GRR. Surgery was performed immediately and a 4 inch long stuffed teddy bear along with 8 inches of intestines were removed for a cost \$3,466. After a recuperation period, Holly is now fine. Today, Holly’s adopting family reports she’s happy, incredibly sweet and enjoying life. The family monitors Holly carefully and keeps a very neat house so she doesn’t have access to small pieces of plastic or other items.

Radio This boy came to GRR with an incurable MRSA ear infection deep inside the ear canal which had swollen 3 to 4 times its normal size. He experienced vertigo, anorexia and had difficulty standing or walking. It hurt when Radio moved his jaw or tried to eat and he cried when the ear was touched. Radio was rushed to a surgeon for ear ablation surgery where the entire ear canal and damaged tissue was removed and then the ear was sewed shut. The cost was \$2,463. Radio had a slow recovery and still has mobility and fused spinal issues. He is wobbly and struggles to get up at times, but with medication, we’re seeing improvements. While we don’t know what Radio’s lifespan will be, we do know that he’s enjoying a good life with happy days in his GRR Permanent Foster home living his life under GRR care.



Max Due to a very painful, damaged leg, Max was surrendered to GRR by his owner. Max is totally gorgeous and has the sweet personality to match. But his leg needed medical care as the paw was curled under so he supported himself on his wrist. Specialist tried physical therapy and splinting the leg but neither resolved straightened his leg. So on January 14, Max’s leg was amputated. By amputating the leg at the shoulder, Max will have less weight to carry on his three good legs and it will prevent future issues such as sores and self-mutilation. Max is recovering nicely and enjoying a pain-free life with his foster family who plans to adopt him soon.



Looking Ahead: China

We believe all dogs deserve a chance—this is our promise and core philosophy. So in 2018, Gold Ribbon Rescue started planning an international rescue effort to save lives of Golden Retrievers in China. Every year thousands of dogs are killed in China's slaughterhouses, and that includes Golden Retrievers. Working with six US Golden Retriever Rescue Groups, we laid the foundation to rescue dogs in early 2019. These Golden Retrievers will make the long journey from Beijing—crossing many time zones—to Texas. To learn more about our China dog initiative, [click here](#).



Dogs do
speak, but
only to those
who know
how to listen.

-Orhan Pamuk



When an
85 pound
mammal
licks your
tears away,
and then
tries to sit
on your lap,
it's hard to
feel sad.

- *Kristan Higgins*

All Volunteer Powered

As an all-volunteer organization, we can devote almost all of our resources to the direct support of the dogs. It takes many hands and talents to sustain our operation. More than 100 volunteers across Central Texas contribute their talents, time, and passion. People from all walks of life come together with a shared love of dogs and a desire to help them on their journeys home. Volunteers are involved in every aspect of our operation—intake, fostering, training, adoption interviews and home visits, transport, matchmaking, fundraising, events, marketing, web support, and more. Much more. You are truly the heart of Gold Ribbon Rescue and we wouldn't exist without you. Our gratitude is boundless.





Money
can buy
you a fine
dog, but
only love
can make
him wag
his tail.

—Kinky Friedman

How You Can Help

Less than 21% of our operating expenses come from adoption fees. This means that Gold Ribbon Rescue significantly relies on generous contributions from individuals. Whether financial, or gifts of time and talent—there are many ways to contribute to our effort.



Financial Support — Through General Donations and the Extraordinary Golden Fund, you are helping provide direct medical care for dogs. These donations cover routine care such as vaccinations, spay/neuter, and heartworm treatment and special care such as hip surgeries, repairing broken bones, removing tumors and behavioral needs. To learn more, [click here](#).

'In Honor of' or 'In Memory of' — Lets you remember or honor a special person, a special animal or a special occasion. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Planned Gifts — Leave a lasting legacy that may also offers benefits to you or your heirs. Talk with your tax or financial advisors about the best approach for your unique situation. To learn more, [click here](#).

Volunteer — Have a particular skill? Or just want to spend time helping dogs? We need you! [Click here](#) to learn more or contact volunteer@grr-tx.com.

Foster — There is no greater gift than providing a dog in need with a caring home and the support it needs to become adoptable. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Membership — Gold Ribbon Rescue members are Golden aficionados. We love all things Golden: getting together at meet-ups, talking and learning from each other, setting up doggie play dates, and finding the perfect Golden t-shirt, mug or holiday decoration. Best of all, we know that our annual membership helps care for more rescue Golden retrievers. [Click here](#) to learn more.

By The Numbers

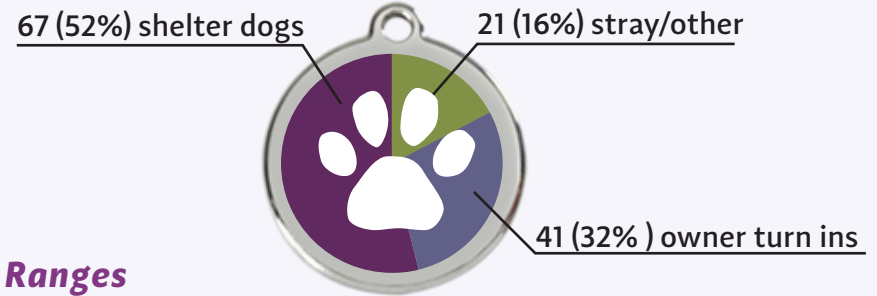
2018 Income

Adoption/Application Fees	\$ 41,535
Calendar	\$ 6,527
Donations	\$ 124,916
Events	\$ 5,194
Membership Dues	\$ 14,915
Other	\$ 5,101
Total Income	\$ 198,189

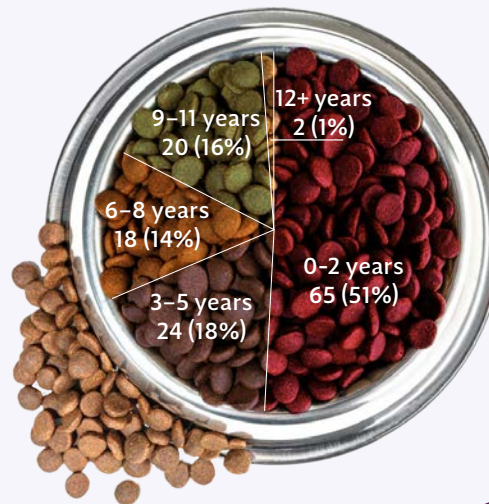
2018 Expenses

Administrative	\$ 20,528
• Credit Card Processing	\$ 2,922
• Insurance	\$ 5,378
• Storage	\$ 1,619
• Telephone	\$ 417
• Web	\$ 8,105
• Legal	\$ 100
• Accounting	\$ 750
• Postage	\$ 1,237
Golden Care Costs	\$ 157,330
• Dog Supplies	\$ 494
• Medication	\$ 14,233
• Dog Training	\$ 8,565
• Veterinarian Care	\$ 132,608
• Microchip	\$ 912
• Other	\$ 518
Fundraising	\$ 5,809
Education	\$ 1,219
Other	\$ 1,193
Total Expenses	\$ 186,079
2018 Net Profit	\$ 12,110

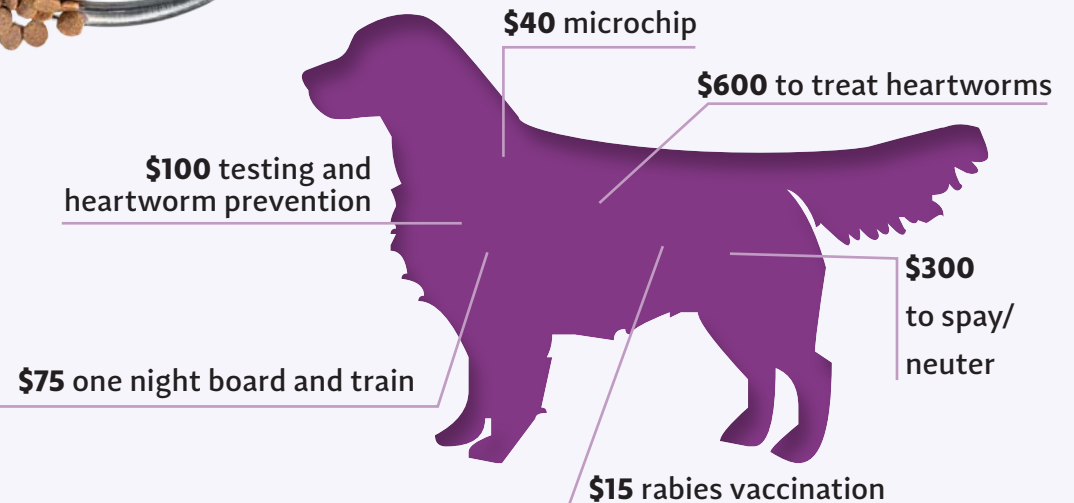
Intake: 129 dogs



Age Ranges



Where Your Donations Go



Gold Ribbon Rescue



20 Years

Thank you!

