

Gold Ribbon Rescue

2019

ANNUAL REPORT





Mission

Gold Ribbon Rescue (**GRR**) is an all-volunteer organization that rescues and cares for displaced, abandoned, and homeless Golden Retrievers regardless of their age or health. Gold Ribbon finds safe, loving homes through a comprehensive adoption process. Through our Permanent Foster program, we provides lifetime foster care for Goldens that cannot be adopted.

Gold Ribbon provides public education on responsible dog ownership and information on training, health problems and local dog activities while serving as a forum 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.

Board of Directors

Margo Biba

President, Medical Director

Michelle Goldberg

*Vice President/Secretary, Matchmaker,
Behavior and Education*

Tim Tierney – Treasurer

Jackie Mulkey

Member At Large, Intake Director

Paula Ellis

*Member at Large, Matchmaker,
Fundraising*

Dawn Hinckley

Member at Large, Adoption Director

Dawn Marie Rae

*Member at Large, Infrastructure
and Communications*

President's Message

To Friends of Gold Ribbon Rescue

This year, we celebrated our twenty-first year of rescuing Golden Retrievers. It has been wonderful to look back at all we have accomplished – including rescuing more than 3000 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 the following 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 125 Golden Retrievers in 2019. We could not have done this without the generosity of our supporters: volunteers and donors along with our many wonderful vets. Everything that Gold Ribbon Rescue does is a result of our shared commitment for animal rescue. With your help, we have accomplished so much; 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 save in 2020 and beyond.

From the bottom of my heart, I thank you.

Margo Biba



Key Accomplishments

Rescue. Rehabilitate. Rehome.

In 2019, we supported the intake, care and adoption of 125 Golden Retrievers. 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 **GRR** Extraordinary Golden Fund (EGF), enables us to provide medical and behavioral care to dogs who have significant needs, such as broken bones, tumors, hip surgeries, behavioral issues and a host of other items. With this special Fund, **GRR** is able to deliver on our commitment to help all Golden Retrievers, regardless of their need. All EGF Golden Retrievers have medical costs of \$2500 or more.



Our Fab Four.

In June 2019, we received a call from a shelter in South Texas about four tiny puppies in desperate need of care. Within hours, a **GRR** volunteer hit the road for the long drive to pick up Glory, Star, Liberty and their brother Justice.

News wasn't great as our vet confirmed all had Parvo. Desperate to save them, we frantically researched innovative treatments and contacted multiple veterinarians and rescue groups. A fecal transplant procedure was key in resolving the deadly Parvo. Just as we were relaxing, thinking the crisis had passed, they became ill with Distemper. Puppies with Distemper rarely survive. Again, innovation was required so their treatment was centered around high dose oral Vitamin A, plus high dose Vitamin C via IV for six treatments, in addition to traditional veterinary care.

The good news is that all survived except puppy Justice. Today, Star, Glory and Liberty are happy, healthy dogs thriving in their forever homes. **GRR's** strength lies in our willingness to research, question, be open minded, gain knowledge and be willing and able to do whatever it takes to save a dog.

China Golden Initiative

We believe all dogs deserve a chance – this is our promise and core philosophy. Gold Ribbon Rescue partnered with international rescue groups to save lives of Golden Retrievers in China as every year thousands of dogs are killed in China's slaughterhouses, and that includes Golden Retrievers. In 2019, fifteen Golden Retrievers made the long journey from Beijing – crossing many time zones – to Texas. Today, all 15 dogs are thriving, enjoying toys, proper nutrition and medical care in their loving adopting homes. We plan to continue this initiative in 2020. To learn more about our China dog initiative, click [here](#).



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.



Rescue Trends

In our twenty-one years of operation, more than 3000 dogs have been helped on their journey home. During the height of the recession, our numbers soared to nearly 200 dogs in a single year. The improved economy and, more importantly, education, has led to a gradual decline in dogs abandoned or euthanized in shelters. While there is still more work to be done, this great success has led to fewer homeless Golden Retrievers – and longer waits for families who strongly support adoption. Golden Retriever rescue groups across the United States are seeing a similar trend.

Gold Ribbon Rescue is supporting the trend to take in a small number of Golden mixes each year. While these dogs may not be pure Golden Retrievers, they have golden hearts and are otherwise at risk. Golden Retriever rescue groups across the United States are joining together in international rescue initiatives. We see this trend continuing, as more and more people open their hearts to international Golden Retrievers. Gold Ribbon Rescue has conducted rescue initiatives to Turkey, Mexico and China over the past five years.





If there are no
dogs in heaven,
then when I die
I want to go where
they went.

Will Rogers



How Can You Help?

Everyone everywhere can play a role in supporting our work. Here are just a few ways that you can help:

- Spread the word about the importance of spay and neuter
- Educate others about puppy mills and responsible breeders
- Train and socialize your dog from the very beginning; educate others about the importance
- Learn how to report neglect or abuse in your community
- Help an elderly or ill neighbor to keep their pet in their home by lending a hand
- Donate – in whatever way works best for you





By the Numbers

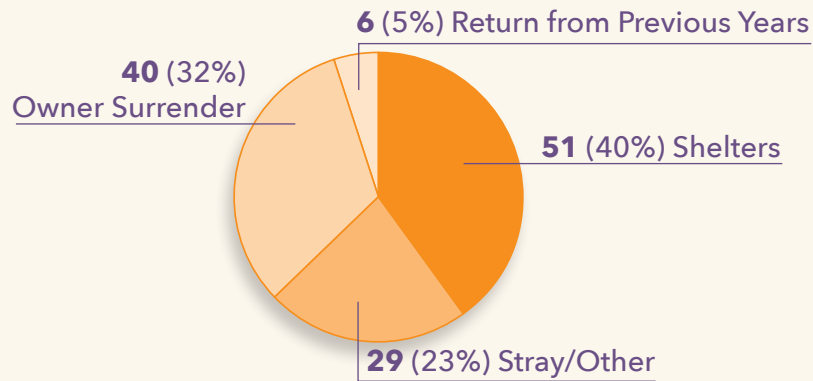
2019 Income

Adoption/Application Fees	\$37,172
Donations	\$156,657
• General	\$67,429
• EGF	\$42,058
• China Dogs	\$47,170
Events/Calendar	\$17,255
Membership Dues	\$12,850
Misc	\$8,365
Total Income	\$232,299
Cost of Goods Sold	\$600
Gross Income	\$231,699

2019 Expenses

Administrative	\$28,868
• Credit Card Processing	\$3,664
• Insurance	\$5,368
• Storage, Telephone	\$2,172
• Web/email Hosting, Software & Services	\$11,488
• Legal & Accounting	\$2,115
• Postage & Printing	\$3,320
• Misc	\$741
Golden Care Costs	\$199,926
• Medications	\$10,185
• Dog Training	\$9,967
• Veterinarian Care	\$127,288
China Dogs	\$46,735
• Microchip/Collars/Supplies	\$2,677
• Shelter Fees	\$2,364
• Misc	\$710
Fundraising	\$1,024
Other	\$1,332
Total Expenses	\$231,150
2019 Net Revenue	\$549

Intake: 126 Dogs



Where Your Donations Go

- ❁ \$40 Basic Wellness Exam
- ❁ \$150 Rabies, DHLPP and Bordetella vaccinations, Heartworm and fecal testing
- ❁ \$250-\$350 Neuter or Spay Surgery
- ❁ \$750 Heartworm Treatment
- ❁ \$1500 Hip or other Surgeries

Age Range

