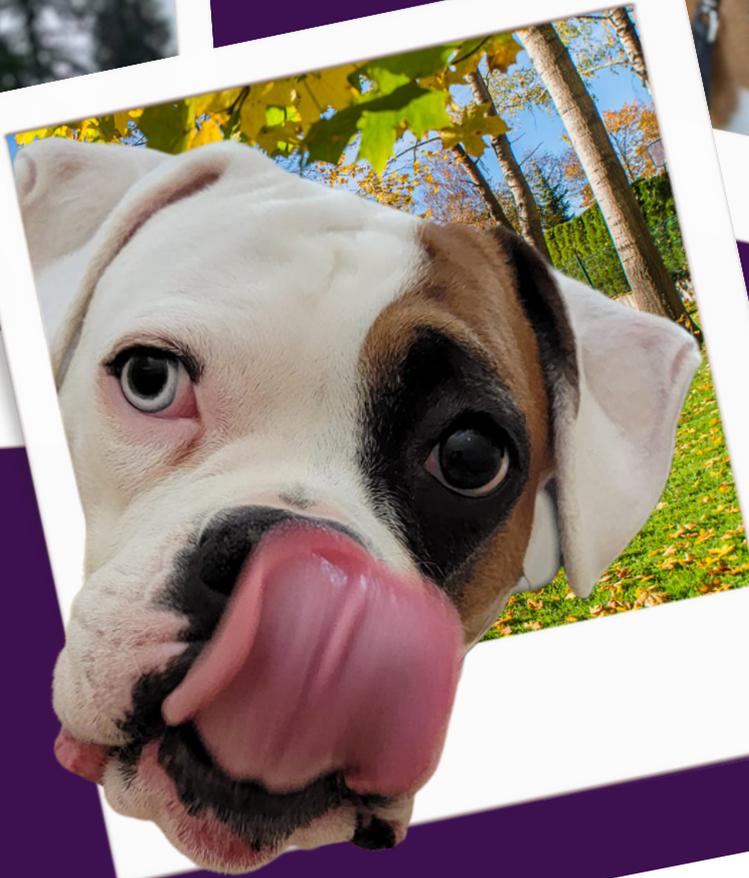




# MustLuvBoxers

## RESCUE



# 2021 Annual Report



# A Message from our President & Founder, Holly Adams:



Dear Friends of Boxer Rescue,

2021 was another challenging year for MustLuvBoxers Rescue. COVID-19 continued to be a fact of life, still affecting all of our volunteers, supporters, and their friends and families as well as our service providers in many different ways.

Like last year, Boxer rescue continued to happen because there is never a shortage of dogs who need help finding their new forever homes. In 2021, we rescued 117 dogs! MLBR continued to experience a high number of dogs needing special care, advanced veterinary diagnostics, and/or surgeries to help prepare them for adoption. The **dogs under our care depended on us to continue the mission** and we answered their call.

I am happy and grateful to attest to the **dedication of every one of our volunteers and rescue supporters** who stepped up to continue our rescue process. We made it through another year thanks to them.

Since our incorporation as a 501(c)(3) non-profit charity in December of 2013, Team MLBR has **rescued over 700 Boxers**. Our success and efforts on behalf of Boxers in need are a direct result of the passion, dedication, and generosity of many, many individuals, businesses, and organizations, and **we are incredibly grateful** to them for partnering with us.

Sincerely,

*Holly*

Holly Adams, MLBR President and Founder



# Mission Statement

MustLuvBoxers Rescue is a registered Washington non-profit, Federal Charitable Organization 501(c)(3); all donations are tax deductible. Our organization strives to rescue, rehabilitate and rehome unwanted and abandoned Boxers within Washington state and surrounding areas.

Along with our rescue efforts, it is our goal to inform people about the realities of pet guardianship and provide education and resources to pet owners. We will promote spaying/neutering and encourage responsible care of Boxers to enhance the lives of owners and their companions alike. We will always strongly support and promote rescue whether it is from a shelter or an individual--anywhere there is a Boxer in need of a loving home--and we will continue in this endeavor until none are left behind.

## MLBR's 2021 Impact-at-a-Glance



**117** dogs rescued

**\$82,061.82** raised  
in donations

**18,806** people who followed  
MLBR on Facebook

**115** dogs adopted

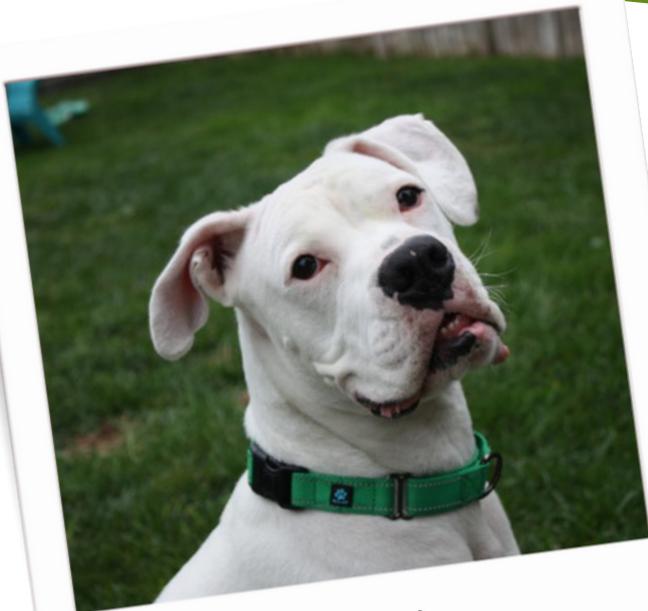
# Adoption Program

Each year we rescue dozens of dogs & prepare them for their forever homes, as well as prepare new owners to care for their new pets. The program involves preparing Boxers to be rehomed (including medical or behavioral preparation); photographing & advertising available dogs on our website & social media; & managing applications for adoption. We only adopt our Boxers to applicants with stellar applications who have passed our rigorous home checks. Adoption fees help to offset the costs of caring for the dog during their time in MLBR.



## DIAMOND

Gena and her dog, Dexter, fostered Diamond in 2020 and adopted her when she came back to the rescue in 2021. Since adopting Diamond, Gena says that her family "finally feels whole again."



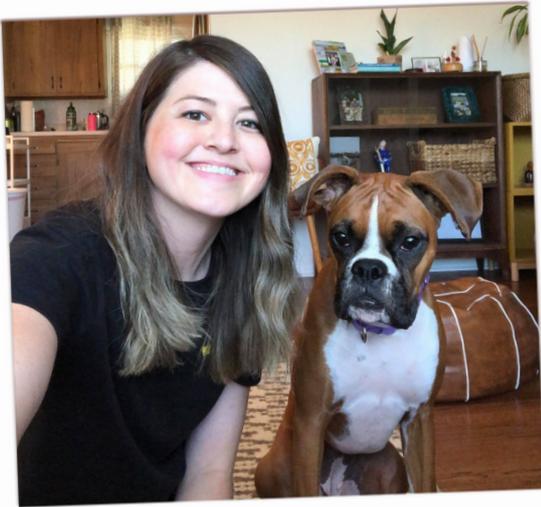
## REX

Rex, age 2, loves to be with people and play with toys. He is deaf and learned sign language! His foster family trained and prepared him for adoption.

## Foster Program

In between being rescued & adopted, Boxer dogs stay with one of our foster families. We provide foster families with food, bedding & all other necessary supplies. Foster families care for the dogs by feeding them, walking them, playing with them, taking them to medical & behavioral appointments, etc. Fosters also get to know the dog's temperament, energy levels and behavior, which helps us match each dog with a perfect adoptive owner.

# Foster-to-Adopt Program



**Socks**  
**Foster-to-Adopted on 6/28/21**  
**by Lisa in Seattle, WA**

Our Foster-to-Adopt program is designed for those who would like to adopt a Boxer, but just aren't quite sure they are ready, or that they've found the Boxer that is the right fit for them.

After being fully vetted through our application process, we invite these potential fosters to our private foster group on Facebook. Then when a pup comes into the rescue that they are interested in, they can indicate their desire to foster that pup. We strive to match them with the Boxer who has the characteristics the person or family are looking for.

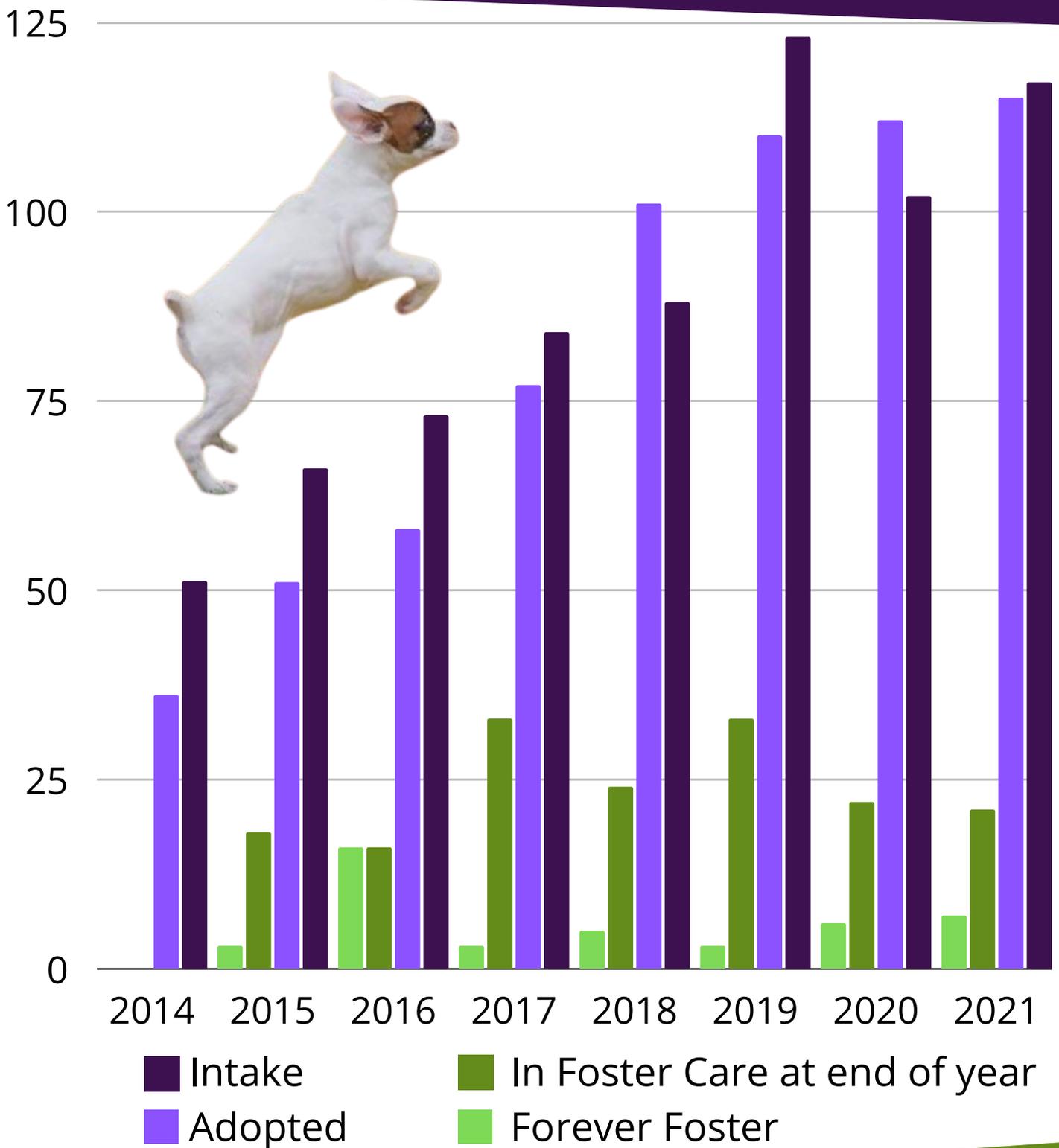
This gives people the opportunity to "test-drive" the dog to see if they are a good fit. The best part: the rescue still covers the cost of food and any pre-approved vet care needed during the period of time the dog is in foster status. All people have to do is provide a safe and loving home for the pup, get to know them, and let MLBR know when or if they are ready to adopt. If for some reason, the first pup they foster isn't "the one," then they continue fostering until that pup gets adopted by another person or family.

We continue this process until the person or family finds the pup that is meant to be with them forever.



**Coco Bella (formerly Coco Bean)**  
**Foster-to-Adopted on 8/7/21**  
**by Tiare & Todd in Beaverton, OR**

# Intake & Adoption Statistics: 2014-2021



## Quick Stats for 2021

Intake: **117**  
Adopted: **115**

Forever Foster: **7**  
In Foster Care at end of Year: **21**

# Forever Foster Program

Some of our rescue dogs are placed in the Forever Foster Program because they are unlikely to be adopted due to advanced age and/or serious health issues. MLBR supplies crates, bedding, food and medical care to the Forever Foster volunteers who foster these dogs.

The majority of Forever Foster dogs are senior dogs. The rescue typically adds one to two new dogs to this program each year.



## Behavioral Training Program

MLBR works with a trusted network of dog trainers to make sure that Boxers who come into our rescue with behavioral issues are rehabilitated in preparation to be adopted. By working with dogs to improve behavior, we dramatically increase the odds of their adoption. We also help newly adoptive owners of Boxers decide which behavioral training is best for their dog, offering them referrals and discounts for accessing the services of a trustworthy and experienced dog trainer.



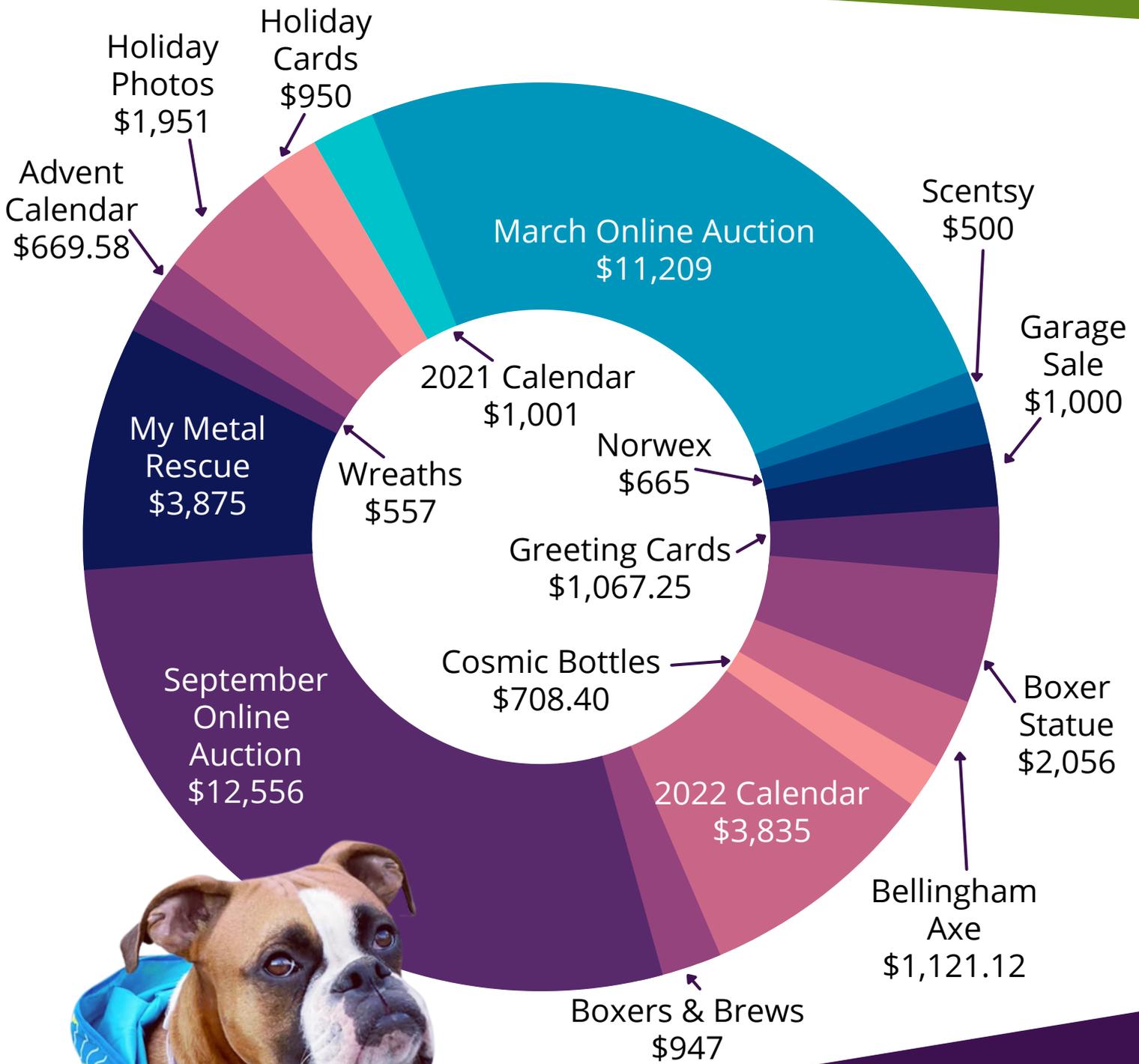
## Medical Program

Some of our rescued Boxers require expensive medical procedures where they can help them live long, healthy lives. We work with a network of trusted animal hospitals to ensure that our Boxers receive the finest care. We also carefully select our fosters who house these dogs and make sure they have the training and resources necessary to care for them and their health issues.

## Post-Adoption Support Program

We run a private, social-media-based support group for adopters to get advice from trainers, volunteers, and fosters about how to best care for their dog. While most of the support happens online, adopters can also receive in-person assistance with their dog in their own home. Adopters have access to this support group for the life of their dog.

# Fundraising Report



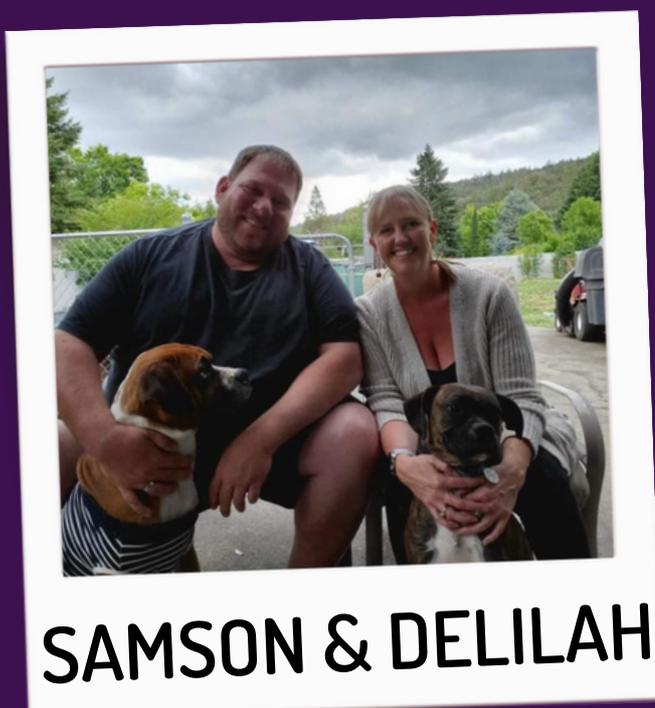
**In-Person, Auction, and Product Fundraisers in 2021 Raised **\$44,668.35!!****

# Thank you to all our Donors & Sponsors!

MLBR received **\$82,061.82** in donations in 2021! We are especially grateful to Bridget and Ray Urstad, who donated \$32,000; and Tracy Miller, who donated \$1,000. Both donations will go towards the rescue center!

In 2021, MLBR received funding and sponsorships from Mud Bay, a regional pet supply store; and TagsForHope, an online company that sells pet ID tags, harness, collars and leashes. We are so grateful for our corporate supporters!

Last, but not least, we are grateful to every individual who donated to MLBR in 2021. Small donations from individual donors are the lifeblood of our organization! Thank you to everyone who supports our mission.



**SAMSON & DELILAH**

Samson & Delilah--or Sammy & Del, as they are affectionately called--are best friends and super sweet pups. They were adopted together in June 2021 and have settled in nicely to their new home!

# Social Media News

In 2021, we had 18,806 followers on Facebook, 3,483 on Instagram and 1,398 on Twitter. Our posts include promoting available dogs, adopter updates, requests for fosters and sharing funny or cool dog-related things we see on the web.

We are always excited when our followers help share posts about the dogs we rescue. For example, a couple posts about dogs available to adopt reached 11,000+ people. An educational post about signs of heat stroke in dogs reached 20,275 people, resulting in 244 shares, 297 reactions and 21 comments! Our followers also showed up when we posted about a missing alumni; 16,912 people were reached and 235 shared. Thankfully, the pup was found and returned safely to her owner. We also went viral with a cute video we reshared of a man copying his dog's pawprints on a portable printer. We were blown away when our post reached 24,585,315 people and had 394,193 reactions!

All of these interactions contribute to our success on social media, which furthers MLBR's digital outreach. We have consistently growth on all of our social media platforms since our rescue first opened in 2013 and hope to continue on that path for years to come.



## Grants Updates

In 2021, we received our first-ever grant from TagsForHope in the amount of \$1,500. The grant went towards veterinary care for Hope, a boxer puppy with a bilateral cleft palate who we rescued at just one day old. Thanks to the medical care and her foster family, Hope is thriving today!



In 2021, MLBR also earned a Platinum Seal of Transparency on GuideStar, the world's largest source of information about nonprofit organizations. This rating puts us in the top 0.1% of charities, nationally, in terms of transparency. This is the first year that we have earned this distinction!

# Important Financials for 2021

## Income

Adoption Fees	\$41,345.50
Donations	\$82,061.82
Fundraising	\$69,126.21
Investments	\$15.26

**Total Income** **\$192,548.79**

## Expenses

Fundraising Expenses	\$12,163.17
Business/Operating	\$6,805.52
Board & Train	\$9,623.26
Food & Supplies	\$10,803.72
Miscellaneous	\$800.00
Transport	\$5,768.50
Veterinary Care	\$76,204.25

**Total Expenses** **\$122,168.42**

**Net Income** **\$70,380.37**

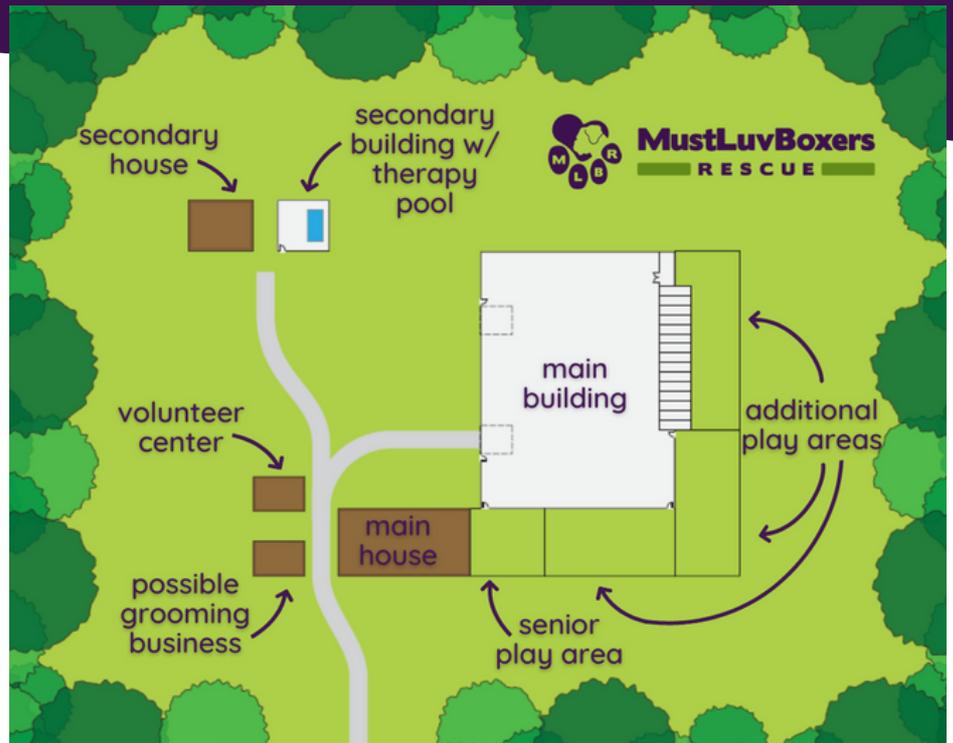


**LUNA & BRUTUS**

Luna, 2, and Brutus, 4, are a bonded foster pair who can play all day! They have endless love and kisses to give.

# Rescue Center & Senior Sanctuary

In 2021, we launched a capital campaign to build a Rescue Center and Senior Sanctuary. MLBR's **ultimate goal** has always been to have an actual rescue center where we can house seniors & the more challenging dogs we are often asked to help.



The rescue center and senior sanctuary will have a building for **training and events**; with space for 15 indoor/outdoor **kennel runs**. It will also have a **therapy pool**; as well as buildings for offices and **volunteer work**; and perhaps a grooming business or other revenue source. Of course, we'll have **lots of outdoor play space** for our bouncy, happy Boxers to run and frolic! Not only will the rescue center serve as a central location for MLBR operations and events, it will also allow us to **increase our capacity** so that we can save more and more dogs in need.

**Our goal is to raise \$700,000** over the next couple years to fund the rescue center. We are accepting donations in the following ways:

**Venmo:** @MustLuvBoxers-Rescue or use the QR Code

**Give Lively:** [tinyurl.com/MLBR-RescueCenter-Donate](https://tinyurl.com/MLBR-RescueCenter-Donate)

**PayPal:** paypal.com

**Check:** Please mail to

MustLuvBoxers Rescue  
27231 Manor Place NW  
Stanwood, WA 98292

Holly Adams  
@MustLuvBoxers-Rescue



venmo

\$47,594

\$700,000

We've already raised over \$47,000 for the Rescue Center!

# MLBR Leadership

## Board of Directors 2021

Holly Adams, President  
Chris Zanassi, Vice President  
Beth Bearden, Treasurer  
Bridget Conner, Secretary  
Sandra Waller, Director  
Kerri Butts, Director  
Averyl Dietering, Director

We are so grateful to Carmen Shepherd and Laurie Harmon, whose board terms ended in 2021.

## Volunteer Leaders 2021

### **Intake/Medical/Foster Coordinator:**

Holly Adams

**WA Area Foster Coordinators:** Sandra Waller, Nikki Fisher

**OR Area Coordinators:** Kimm & Robert King, Medford

**CA Area Coordinators:** Bridget Conner, Melissa George

### **Adoption & Reference Check**

**Coordinators:** Peggy Haywood, Linsey Turski

**Transport Coordinator:** Kristi Koontz

**Trainers:** Jessica Guerrero, Stephanie Nilles, Alison Eberhard

**Fundraising Coordinator:** Sandra Waller

**Events Coordinator:** Kerri Butts

**Social Media Coordinator:** Chris Zanassi

**Instagram:** Rickie Richardson, Cari Major

**Twitter:** Natalie Eckert

**Facebook Assistants:** Tami Swartz, Larry Adoff, Dena DeMello

**Graphic Designers:** Laura Mendoza, Brian Falconer, Deron Hayes-Hirschy, Anthony Madonia, Kimberly Matej, Ashlee Walthall

**Newsletter:** Kimberly Funk

**Photographer:** Janelle C

**Website:** Greg Hurley, Holly Adams, Savannah Welna

**Blog & Pinterest:** Kara Dyko

**Craigslist CA:** Jody Hauger Scott

**Rescue Group Data Base:** Nancy Trejo

**Grants Writer:** Averyl Dietering



**MustLuvBoxers Rescue depends on people like you to help us in our mission to rescue, rehabilitate and rehome unwanted and abandoned Boxers in need.**

### **ADOPT**

Want your own wigglybutt to love? Visit our website to view our available boxers, learn about the adoption process and fill out an adoption application.

### **FOSTER**

Fosters are the backbone of MLBR! If you are interested in fostering, visit our website to fill out a foster application.

### **DONATE**

As an all-volunteer rescue, every penny donated directly benefits Boxer dogs in our program. We take donations via our website, Paypal, Venmo, our Amazon Wish List, our online store, our Give Lively campaign for the Rescue Center and via check.

### **EDUCATE**

Want to learn more about the Boxer breed? Visit our website to read our blog & sign up for our newsletter. Share with your friends & family to educate them about Boxers!

### **VOLUNTEER**

Interested in transporting rescue dogs, helping out at events or helping us grow our social media presence? Contact us to tell us how you'd like to share your talents!

### **SHARE**

Website: [mustluvboxersrescue.com](http://mustluvboxersrescue.com)  
Facebook: [facebook.com/mustluvboxersrescue](https://facebook.com/mustluvboxersrescue)  
Twitter: [@mustluvboxers](https://twitter.com/mustluvboxers)  
Instagram: [mustluvboxersrescue](https://instagram.com/mustluvboxersrescue)  
Pinterest: [pinterest.com/rescueboxers/](https://pinterest.com/rescueboxers/)  
YouTube Channel: [MustLuvBoxers Rescue](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

### **CONTACT US**

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