



www.WestieRescue.com

WESTIE RESCUE 2020 YEAR IN REVIEW

As **Westie Rescue** enters 2021, I would like to wish you and yours a wonderful New Year and share with you a few of our accomplishments in 2020 which would not have been possible without the generous support of caring friends such as you.

Last year was very busy for the volunteers of **Westie Rescue MidAtlantic** who helped West Highland White Terriers (Westies) in VA as well as DE, MD, NC, (southern) NJ, (eastern) PA, SC, Washington DC, and WV and also worked with other rescue groups across the United States. A highlight for our program was finding a home for the **1200th Westie**. It's hard to believe that many little ones have come to us for help over the years.

The Covid-19 pandemic impacted our operations in ways which no one could have possibly predicted. Westie owners faced extreme financial difficulties and had to give up their dogs due to not being able to afford needed medical treatments or, sometimes, even dog food. Other Westies came to us because their owners died or moved into assisted living thus requiring their best buddies to seek new homes and lives.

This year our volunteers aided 47 Westies in finding open arms and hearts willing to give them loving homes. Volunteers drove over 22,800 miles to pick up Westies and transport them to medical treatments and then to new homes. One trip covered 1,100 miles with three pickups and two adoptions along the way. **Westie Rescue MidAtlantic** also participated in rescues as far away as Missouri and Kansas for Westies who desperately needed a second chance.

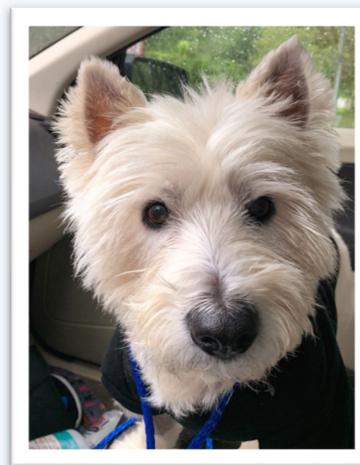
We also assisted 33 Westie owners in finding the right resources for medical treatments and training so those Westies could stay in their current homes.

In 2020, events where potential adopters could meet Westies and their owners, like the Virginia Scottish Games and Scottish Christmas Walk, were cancelled. Luckily, interest in adopting Westies continued with people submitting online adoption applications which went from a trickle to a flood. Our one-stop website (www.WestieRescue.com) has been getting over 1,000 visitors and up to 25 applications per day. The website also serves as a resource for Westie owners who are seeking information about the breed or specific help with their dogs. The **Westie Rescue USA** section helps Westies in need, potential adopters, and rescue volunteers *from all over the U.S.* to find each other.

So, what does **Westie Rescue** do with the dogs they take in? Volunteers up and down the East Coast pick up Westies from shelters, owners, and other locations; transport them to Veterinarians for a checkup; and then take them into their own homes for evaluation as well as some good ole loving. In the meantime, we look at the adoption applications on file to find the best match for each dog. We have around 300 people on our waiting list. Some are repeat adopters who have previously given Westies loving homes and a second chance at a great new life when the little guys needed it most.

Westies who come into our program receive a full health check, are spayed or neutered, and have an update of their preventative shots. Some also require extensive veterinary care to identify and resolve complex issues. In addition, our volunteers evaluate the dogs for behavior and training. All these things happen so the Westie is on the right path to a wonderful new life.

Such was the case with **Charlie**, who came to **Westie Rescue** earlier this year from a home where he was unwanted. He arrived with a huge sore area around his



lower ribcage. After X-rays, the Veterinarian discovered that he had a barbecue skewer inside him which was broken off just under the skin. Emergency surgery was needed to repair the damage. He spent weeks having daily bandage changes to ensure he was healing correctly without any infection. Charlie's

intensive care set a record for our program with medical bills *exceeding* \$8,000. His recovery was a miracle brought about by the dedication of the wonderful Doctors and staff at Greater Annapolis Veterinary Hospital. Today, Charlie lives in New England, where he takes walks along the Bay Shore to see and sniff everything in "his" domain while checking for local critters. Charlie's new home reports he is happy, fully recovered, and is a great addition to their lives. See Charlie's updates and full story on the website:

<http://westierescue.com/2020/11/16/charlie-updates>.

The list of Westies rescued, rehabilitated, and re-homed in 2020 include: Aiko, Annie, Bailey, Bella, Bo, Bonnie Blue, Brodie, Cammi, Charlie, Chloe, Coco, Cody, Cotton, Dori, Emily, Emmy, Finn, Harley, Knox, Mac, MacTavish, Maize, Marz, Mini, Olivia, Ollie, Pickle, Quinnie, Rose, Sadie, Sally, Skipper, Snowball, Stella, Sugar, Timmy/Baxter, Toby, Valentino, Walter White, Willow, Winston, and many more.

This year we helped multiple bonded pairs of Westies find new homes together.

Quinnie & Harley



Willow & Winston

Olivia & Valentino



In 2020, we even got in a few Westie puppies who were just too much for their owners, as these little busy rascals never come with an "off switch."



Finn

Cammi



As mentioned earlier, **Westie Rescue** greatly appreciates your support to our program in 2020,

At this time, we still need your assistance in order to pay the remaining 2020 veterinary expenses of \$7,100 so that we can help the next Westies in need.

Please remember, all donations go directly to help abandoned, neglected, and lost Westies, as well as dogs whose owners no longer can afford to provide their Westies with basic necessities, such as food.

Donations can be made online at www.WestieRescue.com

From all of the volunteers at **Westie Rescue**, we wish you the best in this upcoming year.

Yours,

Stephen

Stephen Di Giulian
President
Westie Rescue MidAtlantic

P.S. Your generous gift of \$50 or more will go a long way to provide medical care for Westies while they look for their forever homes. Will you please help us continue aiding these little ones?