

Westie Rescue

2025 Annual Review

As 2025 fades into history, Westie Rescue wants to let you know what was accomplished **with your help**.

Owner surrender of Westies increased 15% in 2025. Over 50% of the Westies in our program each year come from older Americans without plans for their beloved pets before becoming unable to care for them. We are encouraging people, especially seniors, to plan ahead for their pets' care in case something happens where they can suddenly no longer care for them.

As a result of receiving more adoption applications in 2025, every Westie who came into our program found a new



home full of adventures. Westie Rescue rescued,



rehabilitated, and rehomed 86 Westies aging from 3.5 months (**Jamie** who is now frolicking in Aiken, SC) to a 16-year-old (**Aria** who loves her "snacks galore" home in Stafford, VA).

In the past year, we had multiple Westies who needed additional care due to skin issues, socialization issues, and training challenges. Most rescued Westies were happy friendly dogs who found themselves in need of new homes due to changes in their humans' lives. One month we had 13 Westies in our care seeking new homes. Most stayed only a few days to get a health check and updated shots.



Westie Rescue is a non-profit, all-volunteer rescue organization which assists West Highland White Terriers needing new homes.

Our volunteers also coordinate with other rescue groups to ensure Westies everywhere in the United States get the help they deserve.

*Stephen Di Julian
President,
Westie Rescue,
with **SCOBY***



Others like Stan and Dave, hung out in foster care about 4 months getting specialized veterinary and home care for severe skin issues.

As all pet owners are well aware, the cost of basic, as well as specialized, veterinary tests and care continues to increase each year. However, with the help of over 704 generous donors, Westie Rescue was able to pay off over \$110,500 in veterinary expenses. It was such a relief to close the year with every medical invoice marked "**PAID**! Your monthly and one-time donations allowed Westie Rescue to start 2026 ready for the 1,500th Westie and his/her pals, who will be arriving soon.

Westie Rescue depends upon your financial support to continue being a safe harbor for Westies. Your donations make it possible for us to keep the light burning for each and every Westie needing assistance in getting fresh start in a loving new home.



Go to the Westie Rescue website to see ways to donate.
<https://westierescue.com/support-us/make-a-donation.html>

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As part of our public awareness program, Westie Rescue goes on the road to various Scottish events and hosts a website. Our volunteers provide information about the breed's characteristics; why even great dogs sometimes need new homes; tips on training and grooming; and how to head off severe health issues by getting veterinary attention early. In 2025, Westie Rescue participated in the Alexandria (VA) St Patrick's Day Parade, New York City Tartan Day Parade, Montpelier Center (VA) Celtic Festival, Virginia Scottish Games, Harper's Ferry (WV) Highland Games, Radford (VA) Highland Games, and Alexandria Scottish Christmas Walk Parade.



With the help of our expanded volunteer base, we were able to liberate 11 Westies from breeding farms (aka puppy mills) in the eastern United States and get them into real homes rather than outdoor crates.

KIMMY

Other Westies found way out of shelters due to the efforts of Susan P, our volunteer internet sleuth and coordinator. Susan scours the entire country for Westies who show up on shelter websites, Facebook, Petfinder, etc. She contacts the shelters directly to confirm the Westies are still there. Then, she contacts the local Westie Rescue or (if no WR is in the area) a terrier rescue to follow up on the dog.

Her extraordinary effort provides an unique service which saves additional lives from euthanasia each week. In 2025, she was instrumental in saving 90 Westies and Westie mixes (**Want-2-Bs**). **BEFORE**

2025 STATISTICS

Westies Helped In 2025

MidAtlantic Region	68
North Atlantic Region	5
Florida	13
Total Westies	86
(Females 47% , Males 53%)	

Public Assistance

522+ Calls and Emails providing information or assisting with Westie issues (medical, training, behavior, socialization)



AFTER



2025 Westie Rescue Expenses

- 90.2% - Direct Health Expenses
 - Veterinary care & medications
 - Specialized skin shampoo, etc.
- 9.8% - Administrative Expenses
 - Website (domain fee, web hosting fee, and website development and maintenance), software updates, events (tent space fees, information handouts, and supplies), dog transportation (road tolls), and office expenses (bank account, credit card processing, USPS PO Box, postage, and supplies)

New Collar,
New Leash,
New Life

UPCOMING

As we walk into 2026, Westie Rescue would like to say **Thanks** to each of our donors, supporters, adopters, foster homes, and all the Volunteers who make our program a success.

Plans for the new year include a website refresh and a new Westie Rescue information tent (after 25 years of sun fading and wear and tear, the current one has decided to retire).

The Westie Rescue calendar of events is up on the website. First up will be the **St Patrick's Day Parade** in Alexandria, VA, **Saturday March 7th**. Visit WestieRescue.com and click on **EVENTS** for details.

All over the United States, Westie Rescue groups are seeking volunteers to help within their own region, state, or city. **Can the next Westie in need depend on YOU?** You can go to WestieRescue.com to fill out a volunteer application.