



As another year ends, we are on a mission.

We have a few dogs who have been with us for a while and our mission is to find each one of them a forever home for the holidays. These are sweet, wonderful, deserving dogs who would love to find their forever families this year.

2022 has been a difficult year for rescues and shelters and **AFH** is no exception. Adoptions have been slower this year than in previous years and shelter intake has soared. We get emails begging for help for hundreds of animals every single day. We help as many as we can, but unfortunately, we have to say no to most of them. The good news is that we can do more with your help. If you have room in your home and heart to be directly responsible for saving lives, please consider becoming an **AFH** foster.

Fostering can be short term (just a few days) or long term (several months) and you get to choose what works best for you. You can choose to foster a single puppy, a litter of puppies, a pregnant dog, a mom and puppies, an adult dog, a medical case, or a senior dog. We also have an occasional need for hospice dogs, and these dogs are the most difficult ones to place because of the emotions attached to caring for them. **AFH** provides everything you will need and you provide the love. It is just that easy!

As we approach 2023, we are determined to work even harder, and we hope you will become a part of our efforts to save more abused, neglected, and abandoned puppies and dogs.

Please email volunteer@aforeverhome.org if you would like to join our team.

Finally, your financial support is the only reason why we have been able to save tens of thousands of puppies and dogs over our 20 years. Please consider a donation in any amount to help us continue our work.

Visit <https://to-afh.org/Donate> to make a donation.

However you celebrate the holidays, we wish you and your furry family members a healthy, happy holiday season and a Happy New Year!

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Editor: Patti Stinson

Graphic Designer: Tina Hicks



Are you looking for a new furry family member? We have many wonderful dogs waiting for forever homes. Once you've fallen in love, the next step is to fill out an adoption application to get the ball rolling.

Go to www.aforeverhome.org to see our available pets.

UPDATE ON OUR NEW WHEELS

OUR NEW VAN has been ordered and we are anxiously awaiting its arrival! Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control, we are going to have to wait a little longer. Because of a huge backlog and limited supplies, the dealer has advised us that delivery will be in the Spring. We are still accepting donations to help us cover the cost. You can donate at <https://to-afh.org/Donate> — just indicate “AFH Van”. •



Groups



A Forever Home Rescue Foundation

Community home



A Forever Home Rescue Foundation

Private group · 3.6K members

Join group

HAVE YOU JOINED OUR FACEBOOK GROUP?

DO YOU KNOW AFH has a Facebook group for our volunteers, adopters, and friends? There's no spam, no politics, no debates—just pictures and stories about our dogs! We love seeing our dogs in your homes, with you on vacation, and living their best lives. •

Join at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/aforeverhome>



WEDDING BENEFITS AFH

KATHLEEN VANDERSLICE got married on 10/21/22. She and her wonderful husband Jon wanted to do something to help **AFH** in honor of their **AFH** dog, Mr. Flynn (formerly Harry). This wonderful couple put QR codes on guest tables so their guests could donate to **AFH**! We are grateful to be beneficiaries of their generosity and wish them a lifetime of happiness! •

Volunteer SPOTLIGHT

LESLIE BLOXAM

Basically, I just love dogs! I've always had them and always will. We adopted our first **AFH** puppy, Milou, in 2014. In 2020, we adopted Bing from **AFH** after retiring and losing our loving Jindo rescue named Seoul. I was so impressed with **A Forever Home** and touched to learn that everyone was a volunteer. Helping to unite these pups with their forever families brings me so much joy. After losing my parents this past year, getting involved with **AFH** has helped me heal. ●



DIANE AND HILARY SOFASTAI

“Saving one dog will not change the world, but surely for that one dog, the world will change forever”. My mother and I have fostered over 30 puppies and doggies since we joined **AFH** in July of 2021. Welcoming them into our lives has been an overly joyous and rewarding experience—from making sure that they all have a comfy, safe, and warm place to sleep to the numerous vineyards/breweries, hikes, and assorted field trips and activities we’ve gone on to show these little guys off. We’ve not only acquired a “foster fail” that stole our hearts but have countless memories of all the little lives we’ve had the pleasure of sharing our home and time with. My mother is quick to add that it’s not only been a pleasure to share our homes with these pups, but the numerous fun, loving, and unforgettable adoptive families that have found us and continue to share their experiences and memories with their new family members. What does **AFH** mean to us? A happy home for every dog, **A Forever Home.** ●



JULIE AITKEN

I have always loved dogs and saw a friend posting pictures of her foster dogs. I realized she was working with **A Forever Home** so I reached out and became a foster as well. My goal was to foster to adopt. I am single and living in a condo. I wanted a dog that would suit my lifestyle and fostering was my hope. My first foster eight years ago was a return dog named Sara. She was only with me for just over a week. I helped find her an amazing home and I fell in love with fostering. It took me almost two years and many dogs later to find my foster fail. Tasha and I continue to temp foster as many dogs as we can. Working with **AFH** all these years I have seen firsthand the great work they do for dogs. Helping dogs from all over the east coast and even from Thailand—dogs that are pregnant to dogs that have major medical issues. **AFH** does all they can to protect and help find these dogs wonderful homes. ●



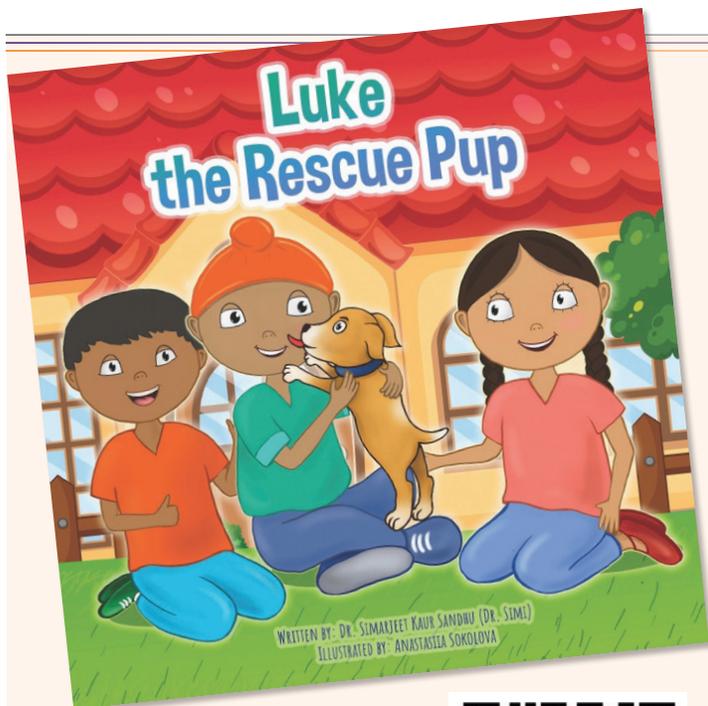
Volunteer SPOTLIGHT

ISABEL K.

For two years before I heard about **AFH** I had been attending a dog training camp. In 2018, at one of my brother's soccer games, I started talking to Maribel from **AFH** about how much I love dogs and she invited me to come to an adoption event. As soon as I arrived, I knew it was the place for me.

I started to use the skills I learned from dog training camp right away and I go to adoption events every week, sometimes bringing my parents and sometimes a friend who also enjoys spending time with the dogs. Nothing is better than seeing a happy family take home their amazing new dog.

I couldn't be happier that in-person events are happening again and I'm happy to be able to interact with other volunteers who have become my friends. I am happy to once again be able to use my skills to handle and train some of our wonderful dogs until their forever families find them. ●



WONDERFUL GIFT IDEA!

In November 2020, author Dr. Simi adopted Luke from **A Forever Home Rescue Foundation**.

In 2022, she wrote a book about Luke to raise awareness for the importance of adopting rescue pups.

As a way to support **A Forever Home**, Dr. Simi is donating 50% of all proceeds from her latest book.

TWO WAYS TO BUY:

1. On Amazon by scanning **QR code** or
2. Purchase a signed copy directly from the author by emailing **luke.sandhu20@gmail.com**

PRICE: \$20 + \$3.99 shipping

(extra shipping for International or West Coast customers)



Donations from Amazon will be less due to Amazon fees

Books will be delivered within 2-3 weeks when ordered directly from the author

IN MEMORY

Debra and Don Smith wrote to tell us about losing **ROSIE**

Perhaps the first thing you would notice about Rosie was her obvious sharp intelligence, quickly followed by her deeply sweet good nature and zest for life. That intelligence was on display from her very first puppy training class. She seemed to delight in obeying when she wanted to and showing when she didn't that she clearly understood what was wanted and had considered it before politely declining. Never has a dog invited more anthropomorphizing! For 16 years, she had a great energy for walk and play, and when sated, a great capacity for love and snuggling. For three years, Rosie lived with us in Vienna, Austria—a city known for its love of dogs. She frequented many restaurants and businesses, and in one case, delightedly joined a restaurant hostess in seating customers—with seemingly a full understanding of her role. More than once vets commented on her strong heart (“the heart of an athlete”); near the end, her eyesight and hearing dimmed and with pain in her limbs, that strong heart beat on. ●



AFH Volunteer Valerie Lackey wrote to tell us about **PIPER**

We recently said goodbye to our little six year old Piper. She had a gallbladder mucocele that had not ruptured but probably was leaking. Piper was jaundiced and had elevated liver values. She stayed overnight with an emergency vet on fluids, antibiotics, and anti nausea meds. Unfortunately, her values worsened and her blood sugar dropped. She was given dextrose for support. Her only options were death or surgery but because of the blood sugar drop and great risk for sepsis I chose not to move forward. The surgeon agreed. There is a one in four chance that the patient (dog or cat) has the risk of dying during the surgery or right after. Had she been more stable, I would have done the surgery because she was so young. John and I will miss Piper greatly! She was 3.6 pounds of super sweetness and we are grateful to have had her in our lives for three years. Part of my soul went with Piper but she will live on in our hearts. ●

Alice Park wrote to tell us about **HAMBONE**

I adopted Hambone when he was 10 years old. He would have been 17 next month. Hambone was the silliest, sweetest long-haired dachshund and basset hound mix. He was with me through three apartments, the purchase of my first home, my dad's death, my grandma's death, many successes, many failures, and everything in between. He taught me so much about patience, guilt, forgiving yourself, thinking about the future, and most importantly, unconditional love. He saw me grow so much and he had a lot to do with it.

We are here before our dogs are born and we continue after they are gone; they must think of us as timeless, immovable, like mountains or gods. I can only try to live up to the person Hambone imagined me to be.

Hambone, if love alone could have kept you alive, you would have lived forever. Rest In Peace my beautiful, silly boy. The best nap partner, the worst guard dog, and the most loving companion I could have asked for. We both came into each other's lives right when we needed it. ●





IN MEMORY

Paul Garvey wrote to tell us about **KIKO**

My best friend Kiko passed away on 8/28/2022 right before her 13th birthday. She was my loyal fishing partner and trusty sidekick who went everywhere with me. I got Kiko in my 20s and am now 41. Kiko saw me through the trauma and turmoil of my 30s, and without her I'm not sure I would have made it. I suffer from major depressive disorder, and at times Kiko gave me not only a reason to get out of bed but also and moreover one to exist. She was more than just my best friend. In the sense that I have never cared for anyone or anything as much as that dog, Kiko was the love of my life. Since Kiko passed sadness fills me, but if this pain I feel is the price I pay for almost 13 years of genuine joy and love with Kiko, then I happily pay it because it was worth the heartache. My gratitude for Kiko outweighs all this pain. In fact, I feel like the luckiest guy in the world for the opportunity to have spent almost 13 years with the gentle, beautiful soul that was Kiko, whom I will always miss and love. ●

ROSENTHAL AUTOMOTIVE HELPS HOMELESS DOGS



AFH was surprised and delighted when Tony Estrella from Rosenthal Automotive in Reston Virginia reached out to us. He told us about their new initiative called **Rosenthal Cares** and told us that we would be the recipient of a **\$5,000 donation!** Long-time **AFH** volunteer Jessica Miltenberger met Tony to accept the donation on our behalf.

We want to send a big thank you to Tony and everyone on the Rosenthal team for their generosity! ●

From Left: **Wendy Morningstar**, *Director of Operations*, Rosenthal Auto; **Jessica Miltenberger**, *Senior Volunteer*, **AFH**; **Greg Pugh**, *Director of Operations*, Rosenthal Auto; **Jerry Griffin**, *VP & General Counsel*, Rosenthal Auto.



amazonsmile

You shop. Amazon gives.

For the Holidays, shop at Amazon through our website to **generate a donation to AFH at no cost to you!**

Simply start your Amazon search at www.aforeverhome.org, scroll down to **Support AFH by shopping at Amazon**, and click to start your search.

The next step is to enter: smile.amazon.com in the address bar and start shopping!



COCO

Age: 2 years | **Breed:** Australian Shepherd Mix

Gender: Female (Spayed)

Coco is a mommy dog who started her life as a chained dog in Mississippi. Now freed, she is a sweet girl who will talk to you if you talk to her. She gets along with other dogs and is super friendly. She loves long walks, riding in the car, and new adventures. Her curiosity is endless. She also loves squeaky toys and playing chase or tug of war. She can't wait to find a loving forever home. Could it be yours? ●

LOOKING
FOR OUR
FOREVER
HOMES



TRIXIE

Age: 2 years

Breed: Hound Mix

Gender: Female (Spayed)

Trixie was found in rural Mississippi with her sister Dixie. Trixie is a very playful girl. She loves running in the back yard and enjoys playing with other dogs. She is sweet and loving. ●



ANNA/STELLA

Age: 23 months | **Breed:** Hound/Pit Bull Terrier Mix

Gender: Female (Spayed)

Stella is a smart, energetic, well trained, Hound/Pitbull mix who was born 11/17/20. She was saved by **AFH** and is looking for her forever home! She loves to go for walks, play fetch and actively seeks out belly and ear rubs. She's potty trained, crate trained, and know some tricks like sit, lay down, drop, and shake. She's great with kids. Her foster home has three kids who are 4, 11 & 13 years old who will throw a ball to her. She likes taking naps but would do best in a home where she could expend energy going on walks, playing with other dogs, or having a back yard to run in! ●



DEUCE aka LONG LEGS

Age: 18 months | **Breed:** Retriever Mix

Gender: Male (Neutered)

Deuce is a big energetic boy. He is toy/play motivated and wants all the attention from all the humans. Deuce only needs a ball and someone to throw it to make him happy. Deuce is crate trained and house trained. This boy is looking for an active family that is willing to embrace all he has to give. Would you be willing to make him a part of your family? ●

HOW YOU CAN HELP A FOREVER HOME RESCUE FOUNDATION

A Forever Home Rescue Foundation is a 501(c)(3) animal rescue organization located in Northern Virginia. Our goal is to rescue, rehabilitate, and rehome abused, abandoned, neglected, and unwanted puppies and dogs.

THERE ARE MANY WAYS THAT YOU CAN HELP A HOMELESS PUPPY OR DOG.

DONATE once or set up recurring donations through **JustGiving**— [http:// to-afh.org/Donate](http://to-afh.org/Donate)) or through **Paypal**— (Paypal@foreverhome.org).

Recurring donations help us budget more efficiently and even \$10 a month makes a huge difference to a homeless, abandoned, or abused puppy or dog.

DONATE just by walking your dog
Download the app: to-afh.org/WoofTrax

KARMAKARMA offers you the chance to make an impact through micro-donations.

Go to www.karmakarma.com and register. Once you log in, click on "**Get Karmapoints**" to see how to get points and/or click on "**Make an Impact**" and then "**Animals**" to navigate to **A Forever Home Rescue Foundation's** page to make a donation.

INCLUDE AFH in Estate Planning
Leave a lasting legacy.
Email info@foreverhome.org for information.

DONATE your used car
Email info@foreverhome.org for information.



HANDS-ON VOLUNTEER HELP

Email volunteer@foreverhome.org if you can help with any of the volunteer activities below.

FOSTERING Without fosters, the rescue ceases operation. Fostering can be long- or short-term and **AFH** provides all supplies and pays for all approved veterinary care. You can choose what dog(s) you want to foster too!

DRIVE a dog or dogs from our rescue/shelter partners to their **AFH** foster parents.

VIRTUAL HOME CHECKER/INTERVIEWER

Home checks are done virtually.

DO YOU HAVE A SPECIAL TALENT OR SKILL?

We would love to talk to you about using it to help us help homeless puppies and dogs.

SHOPPING

Shop at **Amazon** through our website. Simply go to www.foreverhome.org, scroll down to **Support AFH by shopping at Amazon** (on the right side of the screen) and click the link. You have just generated a donation for **AFH** at no cost to you!

Once on Amazon, enter smile.amazon.com in the address bar and start shopping! If you are not already enrolled in Amazon Smile, you will be prompted to sign up.

DONATE an item through our Amazon wish list. After following the steps above, go to <https://to-afh.org/WishList> and select and pay for any item. It will automatically be shipped to us!

You can select **AFH** to be the beneficiary of a percentage of your **eBay** sales! Just select **A Forever Home Rescue Foundation** when you are creating your listing and indicate what percentage of the sale gets donated to us.

SHOP WITH ANY OF OUR PARTNERS:

- Barkbox: www.BarkBox.com/AFHRBBX1
- Jeanne Taylor Pet Portraits: to-afh.org/JTPetPics
- Hale Pet Doors: to-afh.org/Hale
- Bissell: to-afh.org/Bissell
- Shop through to-afh.org/GivingAssistant and donate all or part of your cash back to **AFH**.

If you or someone you know is looking to buy or sell a home, you can refer them to us by emailing Homes@foreverhome.net. For every home referral successfully closed through this program, **A Forever Home** will receive a \$500.00 donation in your name.