



Final Refuge dog Rainbow
Photo by Julie Austin

OLD DOG HAVEN

HELPING SENIOR DOGS LIVE THEIR
GOLDEN YEARS IN A LOVING HOME

www.olddoghaven.org

January 2022

MEET FINAL REFUGE DOG SOPHIE



Sophie, a beautiful pomeranian mix, was surrendered to a shelter after she was diagnosed with diabetes. This little one had lost almost half of her body weight in six months and had received no treatment. Sophie was in critical shape, and the shelter asked Old Dog Haven (ODH) for help.

ODH found a Final Refuge family for Sophie and immediately sent her to an emergency specialty center. Sophie was treated for diabetic ketoacidosis and pancreatitis. The treatment was covered by the ODH Maranda Fund, and it saved her life! Sophie is now on insulin for her diabetes and has a human FreeStyle Libre sensor to monitor her glucose.



This little dog is a HUGE fighter with a wonderful personality. Her Final Refuge family wanted her to have a chance at a healthy, happy life, and she got it, thanks to your support. Her Final Refuge family shares, *"Sophie is now incredibly playful and every day has more energy, often leading the pack on walks! She absolutely loves car rides and going on adventures."*

"Sophie has a very big personality and is extremely smart. She's also a very funny girl and is always making us laugh... we love her quirkiness! Sophie sleeps in some of the funniest positions and wiggles like crazy when she's happy, weaving in and out of our legs as she happily barks. Every day she changes our lives — she's been through so much and is so resilient, she's taught us so much about our own strength. We love her more and more every day."

Like Sophie, many of the senior dogs that arrive into ODH need veterinary care that can be costly. YOU make that care possible. Thank you!!!

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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



My heartfelt welcome to 2022 -- for all of you who are part of Old Dog Haven! We truly could not help all the wonderful old pups without you: fosters, volunteers, donors, all the wonderful vets and those of you who share what we do with others. With each new year, we take a look at what we can do to build on the strengths of Old Dog Haven and continue our mission to provide loving, permanent homes to unadoptable senior dogs.

Working with old dogs and those who love them is truly a blessing for all of us. The resilience of old dogs and their ability to overcome adversity never ceases to astound me. We often use the word 'transformation' when referring to the changes we see in our pups. They come to us often after severe neglect or tragic circumstances that left them in ill health, terribly afraid and closed off; unable to give or receive love. Then with patience, excellent vet care, and lots of love, we are privileged to watch them blossom and transform into the most amazing creatures who often give to us much more than we give to them.

Thank you for being on this journey with us and helping so many old dogs live their very best last chapter.

DeeAnne Matz

HOW YOU CAN HELP

The **Maranda Fund** helps dogs like Sophie (page 1) who need major, one-time veterinary procedures that would give him or her a good chance for a happy life, in excess of what we would consider normal veterinary expenses.

If you'd like to help dogs like Sophie get the extra care the Maranda Fund provides, you can:

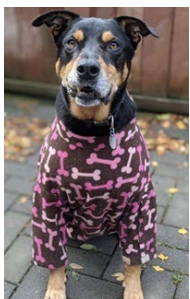
- Go to our website: <https://olddoghaven.org/maranda-fund>
- Pay by mail: Please mark your donation "for Maranda Fund" and mail it to:

Old Dog Haven
P.O. Box 1409
Oak Harbor, WA 98277-1409

We are an IRS-approved 501(c)(3) charitable organization (TIN 65-1249528). Contributions are tax-deductible.

Thank you for your support!

CONGRATULATIONS TO RANGO!



Rango is a senior rottweiler mix who had to find a new home due to his owner's illness. He was placed in a temporary ODH foster home while we looked (and looked) for a permanent Final Refuge home for this dear boy. Rango had to have a very special home that understands his breed and where he can be the only animal.

After getting to know Rango, his temporary foster home decided they wanted to be his forever home, so now Rango never needs to worry about moving again!! What a great way to start the new year. Many thanks to Rango's fosters, Laurie and Robert, for their kindness and for joining the ODH family!

MEET FOSTERS JACINDA KAYE AND AMY HALL

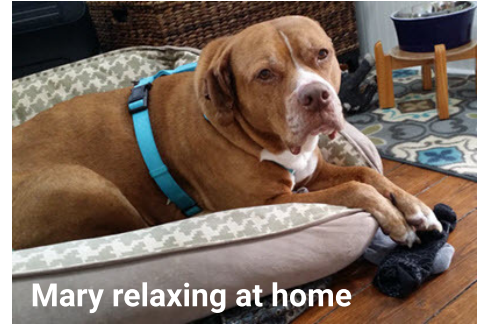
ODH Final Refuge fosters Jacinda and Amy share their fostering journey with us! As told by Jacinda:



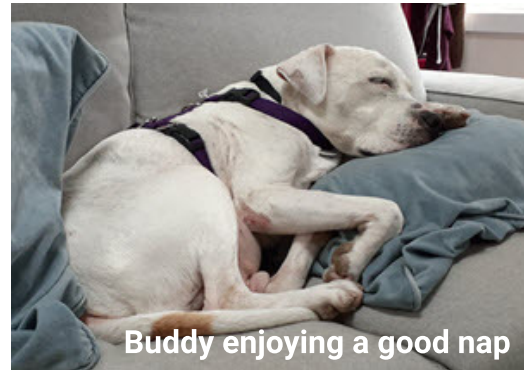
Jacinda's sister and Mary

"We are a forever foster home because Old Dog Haven makes the world a better place!! We are honored to be part of the ODH family -- donors, sponsors, fosters, volunteers, staff, transporters, event organizers, fundraisers, veterinarians, shelters who keep them safe until transfer, and those who cheer us on via social media. I hope I haven't missed anyone because everyone is vital to giving senior dogs health, happiness, and love in their last chapter."

"Our first ODH foster was Mary who we were lucky to have with us for four years, and who was 80 lbs of sweetness. She is missed for her zest for life, her healing hugs, eagerness for her weekly therapeutic bath, and notifying us when her sun pad needed to be moved to a better sun spot."



Mary relaxing at home



Buddy enjoying a good nap

"Buddy joined us in May 2021. He arrived lethargic, with skin and ear infections, and weak legs. Due to Old Dog Haven's excellent vet care checklist, it was found that he had a tick-borne disease which was treated and is now being monitored. Lab tests also identified chronic liver disease which we hope to slow with medical management."

"Buddy spreads joy as he greets everyone like he's known them forever with a front paw dance. He has a gentle soul, loves to be hugged, always on alert for a nap in the sun, and needs a kiss on his forehead and blanket tuck at bedtime. Giving Buddy a fantastic last chapter gives us great joy, and we are beyond grateful for everyone in the ODH family that makes this happen!"

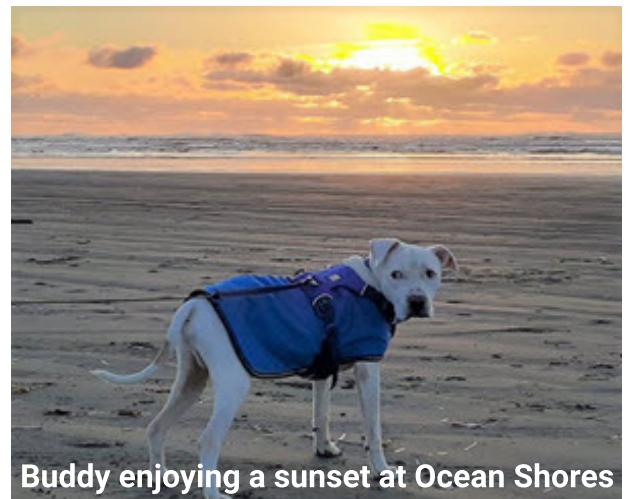


A special moment between Jacinda and Buddy

Update (the next day):

"This morning Buddy went into liver failure; luckily we already had a vet appointment. He was peaceful and his favorite vet doctor who loved him helped him. We are devastated but are comforted when we think about the joy he had at Ocean Shores this past weekend. It seems like he choreographed his end days. We could not have loved him more."

Like Jacinda and Amy, ODH fosters often experience unexpected loss. This time is both deeply heartbreaking and also the final chapter of a journey we travel in the name of giving these dogs a spectacular end of life. Jacinda and Amy, thank you for giving Mary and Buddy a final home filled with joy, love, warm beds, and sunsets at the beach.



Buddy enjoying a sunset at Ocean Shores

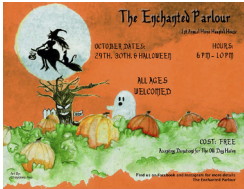
THANK YOU TO RECENT FUNDRAISERS!

The following businesses and individuals held some very fun, creative events to benefit Old Dog Haven during the holiday season. Thank you for choosing to spend your time and expertise to benefit old dogs!

If you recently did a fundraiser for Old Dog Haven and it's not listed here, we sincerely apologize. Feel free to send a picture to office@olddoghaven.org for a future newsletter!



Enchant Vertical Dance had a Halloween-themed charity recital at the historic Jewelbox Theater in Seattle to benefit Old Dog Haven.



Teresa Katzer and her kids, who are huge animal lovers, put on a Halloween home haunt in Lake Stevens, WA, to benefit Old Dog Haven. They collected generous donations for the old dogs along with some canned food and toys!



PetPros kindly selected Old Dog Haven as a recipient of their Paw-liday Giving Campaign.



The **Canine Resource Center** supported Old Dog Haven by having a "movie night" and costume contest with their clients' dogs, kids, and family. Entry was a donation for Old Dog Haven!



PetZen Animal Wellness in Gig Harbor, WA held a Final Refuge dog sponsorship and donation drive for Old Dog Haven. They used Old Dog Haven bookmarks to decorate their tree!

REMEMBERING DAN FLUAITT



Barb and Dan (holding ODH foster Poppy)

ODH mourns the passing of dedicated foster dad Dan Fluaitt.

Dan and Barb (Haas) have had an untold number of foster dogs for ODH. They started after adopting a pomeranian – appropriately named Diablo – from ODH. They then took in their first Final Refuge dog in 2012.

Dan and Barb usually had several fosters at a time, all much loved and cared for. So many dogs are glad that Dan was "dad." Shanelle – a Papillon ODH foster – stuck constantly by his side through the last few months of hospice and is really missing him. Our sympathies go out to Barb and all the family.

10 QUESTIONS ABOUT FINAL REFUGE DOG IVY

Incoming Executive Director (Dee) answers questions about Final Refuge dog Ivy, whom she and her husband Francesco foster. Thanks to Old Dog Haven, Ivy will remain with Dee and Francesco, safe and loved, for the rest of her life.

Age? 10 (vet's best guess!)

How did Ivy enter ODH? Ivy was a stray turned in to a shelter.

Health challenges? Ivy came to Old Dog Haven flea infested, with no fur on her body or legs. Her skin was red and inflamed with sores from chewing and infections.

What's Ivy's favorite thing about her Final Refuge pack? She lives with two little poodle girls and loves them because sometimes they leave food in their dishes – she does a great pre-wash job!

What's Ivy's most endearing quality? There are so many! What really melts my heart is she will sit next to you, look up at you and then totally flop onto your lap for tummy rubs.

What's Ivy's favorite game? After dinner when the pack is settled in (and so are the humans) she loves to go over to her Dad, look up mournfully and then whine (ever so softly) as if she needs to go out. Then when Dad takes her out, she waits insistently for the treat we usually give after they go out. We suspect she doesn't REALLY have to go out then.

What's on Ivy's bucket list? We call dog beds "buckets" in our house so my answer is a bit odd! Well, there's the bucket (dog bed) in the living room, the bucket in my office, and the bucket in Dad's office – all very comfy! With good views of her humans. For a more traditional bucket list – she'd like her very own squirrel, please.

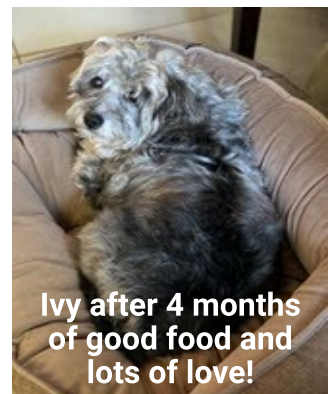
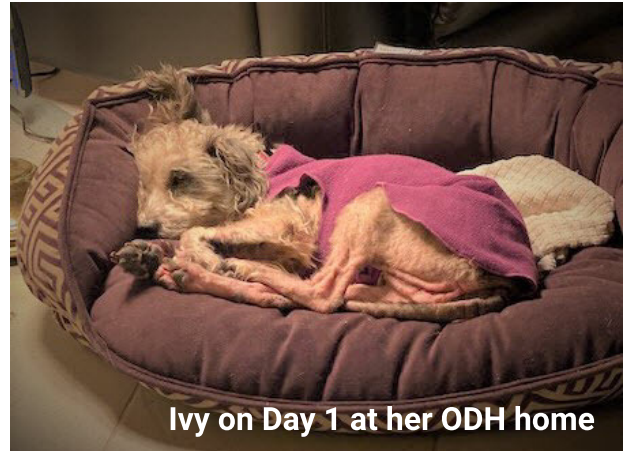
What's the most surprising thing about Ivy? When Francesco first saw Ivy's picture (in need of a FR home), he said Milo (our resident dog who just passed away) wanted us to help her. The surprising part is that from day one, she had some of Milo's mannerisms – in particular, at mealtimes she made the same odd yodeling noises that Milo did. Francesco also believes that

Milo prepped Ivy on the layout of the house because from day one she knew where everything was. So, odd as it sounds, it really felt like Milo sent her to us.

What is the most important lesson you've learned

from Ivy? Ivy has taught us that you really can't judge by appearances and love can do amazing things. When we first saw her, she was a real mess, scared, scrawny and naked. Within three months her hair was already growing back (vet had said that might not ever happen) and now she is fluffy to the max and the most loving and affectionate pup I've known!

One more... Squirrels: Friend or foe? Ivy loves to chase them and bark – though she doesn't really try to catch them! They are not afraid of her... they are sort of like her outside friends!



FINAL REFUGE VS. ADOPTABLE: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

When you look at our website (www.olddoghaven.org), you'll notice that some dogs are listed as Final Refuge, whereas others are listed as adoptable. We're often asked the difference! Here's a quick comparison:

FINAL REFUGE		ADOPTABLE
Already in an ODH foster home.	LOCATION	Posted on behalf of a shelter, rescue group, or owner.*
Typically more frail and/or with chronic health issues.	HEALTH	Generally healthy with a better life expectancy.
8 and up, but usually on the older side.	AGE	8 and up.
With ODH permanently. No longer in need of a home!	STATUS	In need of a home!
ODH dog, permanent foster, forever foster.	ALSO KNOWN AS	ODH referral, cross-post.

* Or very occasionally, a temporary ODH home.

HOW CAN I BECOME A FINAL REFUGE HOME?

First, review the guidelines below to get an idea if your home might be a good fit. We desperately need Final Refuge homes! However, unfortunately not all homes are a good fit for our dogs. Your Final Refuge dog needs to:

- have access to frequent potty breaks – usually no more than 4-5 hours without a break unless there is a dog door.
- not be left alone for long without other dogs or perhaps dog-friendly cats for companionship.
- be in a geographic area where there is emergency/specialty veterinary care.
- have a Final Refuge family who can get to various vet appointments during regular weekday hours.
- be in a settled home where you anticipate staying for at least the next couple years.

For other things to consider, check out <https://olddoghaven.org/how-to-help/fostering>.

If you live in western WA and the above sounds good, please email applications@olddoghaven.org for an application.

If your home is not a good fit for Final Refuge fostering, that's ok! Please consider adopting. More info in the next section!

HOW CAN I ADOPT A SENIOR DOG?

To search for a dog to adopt, we recommend that you start this exciting process in the following ways:

If you are in western WA:

- Check out the Adoptable Dogs page of our website: https://olddoghaven.org/dog_category/adoptable-dogs
- Search <https://www.petfinder.com>, which is an excellent resource for searching for adoptable dogs in rescue groups and shelters in your area.

Otherwise:

- Search <https://www.petfinder.com>! There are adoptable dogs, of all ages, in need of homes in your area!

We understand that the adoption process can sometimes be frustrating. Please keep trying!!! Your home is **NEEDED**. Wonderful dogs are euthanized across the country every day, simply due to the lack of available homes. Shelter staff and volunteers handle a large volume of inquiries, so don't be discouraged if communication takes some time.

If the dog you had your heart set on has already been adopted, it just means that **YOUR rescue dog is still out there, patiently waiting for you to find it**. Trust the process. Thank you so much for your persistence and kindness.



Kira is adoptable!

8 years old

<https://olddoghaven.org/dogs/kira-2>



Sadie is adoptable!

10 years old

<https://olddoghaven.org/dogs/sadie-11>

ODH DOG AND FOSTER HOME STATS FOR 2021

In 2021:

- **150** dogs were taken into ODH Final Refuge homes.
- **135** dogs were adopted through ODH's placement services.

Year-end totals:

- **284** dogs in ODH care.
- **172** active foster homes.

ODH BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF

- Board Members: Rita Chan, Dawn Ford, Forrest Giberson, Kriscinda Hansen, Kelly Marlo, Leslie McLean
- Executive Director: Deeanne Matz
- Director of Veterinary Services/Dog Manager: Judith Piper
- Marketing Director: Joe Myers
- Placement and Social Media: Tina Nabseth
- Instagram: Ashley Bradford
- Financial Director: Noel Kjosness
- Foster Administrator: Shirley Stallings
- Events/Benefits Coordinator: Aaron Davis

ODH CONTACT INFORMATION

Website	www.olddoghaven.org
Phone	(206) 280-7614
Mailing address	P.O. Box 1409, Oak Harbor WA 98277-1409
General issues and volunteer opportunities	office@olddoghaven.org
Inquiries about fostering	applications@olddoghaven.org
Help with placing your dog and social media	placement@olddoghaven.org
ODH Instagram	instagram@olddoghaven.org
Corporate giving, fundraisers, PR inquiries, art, and marketing	development@olddoghaven.org
ODH participation at your event and benefits	events@olddoghaven.org
End-of-life decisions and grief counseling	ardethdv@comcast.net
Address changes and donor inquiries	donations@olddoghaven.org
Website questions or issues	ODHWeb@olddoghaven.org
Donation cans and calendar vendors	outreach@olddoghaven.org