

Final Refuge Dog
MollyM

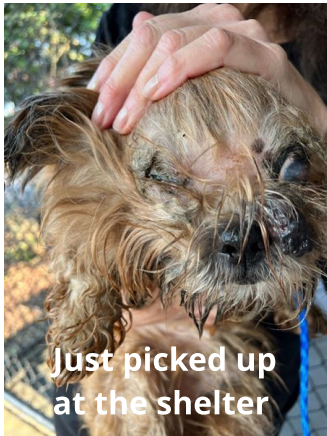
OLD DOG HAVEN

HELPING SENIOR DOGS LIVE THEIR
GOLDEN YEARS IN A LOVING HOME

www.olddoghaven.org

January 2023

MEET FINAL REFUGE DOG OFFRAMP!



Just picked up
at the shelter

Offramp? Why such a quirky name? It actually refers to his unusual gait, walking in circles, slanting down to one side - like he was going down an offramp.

At least that is how he used to walk.

He is now doing much better thanks to the love of his foster, Jill Czadek, the care of several vets, and his own plucky spirit.

When Jill took him in, he was severely underweight at only 11 pounds, his hair was sticking to his eyes, he had a very large growth protruding from between his eyes and a damaged shoulder.

Offramp's first surgery was to remove the painful bulging left eye and the growth. The smaller right eye was not touched, but the vet discovered he can't see out of it.

Offramp may be blind, but that doesn't stop him one bit. He has almost completely scent-mapped Jill's house and backyard, and fortunately rain doesn't bother him at all.

Jill describes him as "a very independent boy", he refuses to play with his two foster sisters, because he has a penchant for Jill's lap. If she's busy, he will take up his favorite spot on the easy chair.

Offramp will need surgery in the next couple of months to be neutered and to have a growth removed from his right leg, but no doubt he will deal with those challenges in the same way he always does, with bags of courage and determination.



Backyard exploring



My favorite spot!

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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Greetings and my best to you all!

As we begin a new year, looking back on the end of 2022, I am truly overwhelmed with gratitude towards all our supporters. Those who love old dogs and Old Dog Haven gave so generously of their time, talent and finances, and the last two months of the year were amazing.

Current fosters opened their homes again and again, and new folks went through the process to become permanent (Final Refuge) fosters and welcomed old dogs in desperate need of medical care, good food and love. Donors showed their commitment and made it possible for us to continue to provide the very best veterinary services to the more than 300 dogs in our care.

I'd like to highlight one of the services that Old Dog Haven provides that we don't often mention: the answering of phone calls and emails.

Every day throughout the year, in addition to calls and emails requesting information about ODH, we also receive very sad calls and emails from folks, who are no longer able to care for their dogs, others are trying to get care for a deceased family member's old dog, or there are those who lost their dog or found a dog. Other contacts come from people who are struggling with end-of-life issues for their older pups. Many of these folks know what they need to do, but need additional support and someone to listen. The easiest calls are from folks who want to thank us for caring for old dogs and share about an old dog they have adopted through our posts that has become a valued member of their family. Then there are also the calls that cannot be explained like, "Will you foster a rabbit?"!!

I am very glad that we can provide support to folks who turn to us via phone and email, and I am **very** grateful to our staff who listen to the same tragic story day after day and still provide a caring and helpful response.

As we move forward into 2023, thank you for your ongoing support and love of old dogs.

Wishing you peace, health and kindness in the New Year,

Deeanne Matz, Executive Director

ODH DOG STATS YEAR TO DATE

192 Dogs taken in

206 Dogs posted for adoption

398 Dogs helped

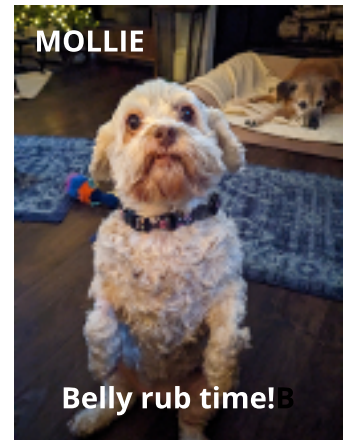
MEET FOSTER FAMILY THE AAGAARDS



ODH Final Refuge foster family the Agaards share their ODH fostering journey! As told by JaNeen in conversation:

"In 2015 we adopted our first ODH dog, Mika, a yellow lab. We started just with the one, but we then we realized we enjoyed it so much that we began to foster more than one dog at a time, now we have three ODH dogs, as well as one of our own!"

There's MOLLIE, whom we took for Final Refuge care in November 2021. When we got her, she had some chronic ear issues, needed eye surgery and dental work. She's had all that done now, and she's come out of her shell and is a lot more playful than she was. She really loves belly rubs and isn't shy about letting you know – she'll stand up and beg for one!



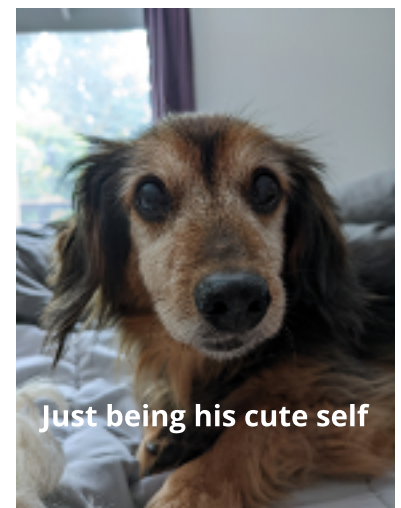
Then there's SANDY. We got her in June 2022. She was a stray, she doesn't like people touching her, because she gets startled easily, but she's really friendly when she gets to know you. She's happier though playing with toys - toys that squeak though - so that can get a bit annoying!

(Note the squeaky toy!)

Our most recent foster dog is SHADOW. We got him in September 2022. He's a long-haired dachshund. He had some teeth issues and kidney disease, so we put him on special food, and he's doing a lot better now. He's definitely the most chilled of our dogs, a quiet old man really, but he's very cute, he's got such a great way of walking, he kind of prances and his ears flop around.

All the family pitch in to help. When my husband gets home from work he's playing with them down on the floor, when Torben gets back from school he's out taking them for walks. Paige is at college, but she looks after them when she's home and even does a part time job at a dog boarding day care facility. I'm at home at the moment, so I'm involved the most, but my training is in nursing, so looking after all these dogs feels natural.

Still, it's heartbreaking when they pass on. Some of our friends ask how we manage to deal with that, but there's just this incredible sense of peace, because you know you've helped them, and they left this world happy. So I really can't imagine not being a foster parent...yes, I'm sure we'll all be doing this forever...."



10 QUESTIONS ABOUT FINAL REFUGE DOG DUSTY

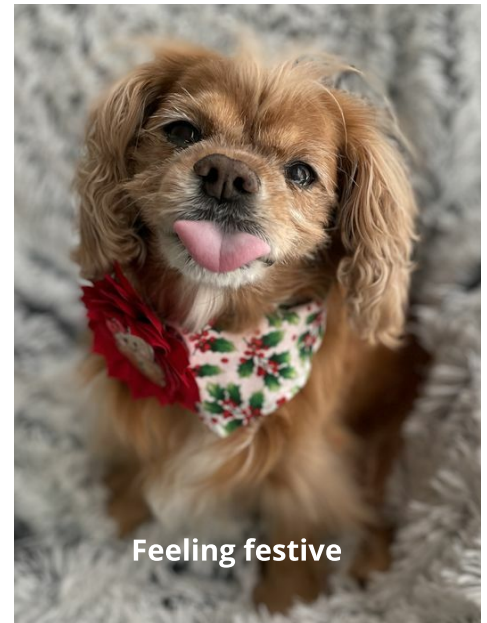
Donna Taylor answers questions about Final Refuge dog Dusty! Thanks to Donna, Dusty will remain safe and loved for the rest of his life along with Donna's other ODH dogs, Iris, Evy and Milly.

Age? 12.

How did Dusty enter ODH? He was an owner surrender to a shelter.

Biggest health challenges? Heart disease.

Most endearing quality? He's very patient and gentle and loves everyone - people, other dogs, cats.



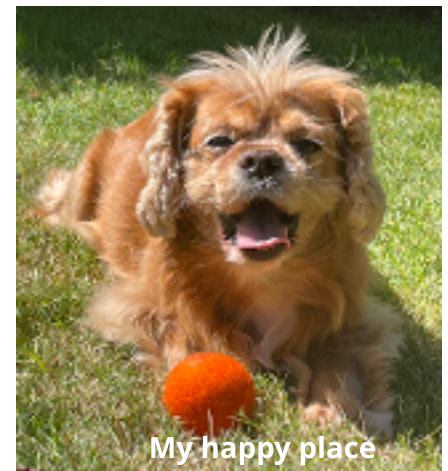
Least Favorite Food? Green beans.

Favorite Game? Chasing a ball! (but not technically 'fetch', as he's not very good at bringing it back!)

Favorite hangout? On the back of the couch by the window where he can bark at passersby.

Pet Peeve Not getting treats on demand.

Priceless moment? Watching him greet his Final Refuge pack mates with a lick on their nose and his little stub tail wagging.



What is the most important lesson you've learned from Dusty? You're never too old to enjoy life!



THANK YOU TO RECENT FUNDRAISERS!

The following businesses and individuals held events to benefit Old Dog Haven. Thank you so much for choosing to help old dogs!



Pet Pros held their **Pawliday Campaign** in December. They allowed ODH to conduct 3 Meet & Greets at 3 of their locations in Renton to raise money.



Normandy Park

Wally Pets Supplies in Wallingford did a Santa photo shoot with all proceeds going to ODH.

Similarly, **Soggy Dog** in Normandy Park, WA provided a venue for Santa pics with proceeds going to ODH.



Walk This Way Dogs hosted a benefit for ODH with partial proceeds from a raffle going to ODH.



The Everett Assembly of the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls raised funds for ODH, and also donated dozens of fleece beds for our 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!

2023 OLD DOG HAVEN CALENDARS

While supplies last, we still have some wonderful **2023 Old Dog Haven Calendars** available with your donation of **\$40** or more online or by mail.

Go to our website: <https://olddoghaven.org/donate-now/>

Pay by mail:

Please make a check out to **Old Dog Haven** and mail it to: Old Dog Haven, P.O. Box 1409, Oak Harbor, WA 98277-1409.

Be sure to select the **"Please send me a 2023 ODH Calendar"** on your check. Thank you! (Contributions are tax deductible)

If you live in Western Washington, you may also find calendars at the locations listed here:

<https://olddoghaven.org/old-dog-haven-2023-calendar/>



They sell out quickly, so do check ahead to see if these locations have calendars left before making the trip!

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	office@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

ODH BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF

- Board Members: Rita Chan, Kriscinda Hansen, Leslie McLean, Kelly Marlo, Dawn Ford
- Executive Director, Office Administrator, and Website Coordinator: Deeanne Matz
- Director of Veterinary Services/Dog Manager: Judith Piper
- Veterinary Services Coordinator, South Sound: Kim Wake
- Placement and Social Media: Tina Nabseth
- Financial Director and Microchip Coordinator: Noel Kjosness
- Fostering Coordinator: Shirley Stallings
- Events/Benefits Coordinator: Aaron Davis
- Veterinary Notes Assistant: Linda Whitbeck
- Veterinary Advisor: Victoria Peterson, DVM
- Database Administrator and Vet Services Assistant: Lee Piper
- Instagram: Ashley Bradford

TRANSPORT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We currently need transport volunteers for the **Vancouver to Tacoma** area. If you're able to help, please email office@olddoghaven.org. Lots of good vibes and cute dogs as a reward. Thank you!