



Update on COVID-19 Operations

April 2, 2020

Dear Friends:

We would like you to know what's happening at Greyhound Friends while we all contend with the COVID-19 pandemic and containment measures. We continue to operate within the most current limitations and guidelines, with the safety and well-being of our community and our greyhounds as the top priority.

Here's what this means in practical terms:

- With Florida tracks shutting down earlier than planned, we remain available to take in dogs provided that transport, intake, and vetting regulations remain unchanged. We will have 6 new dogs at the kennel this week. We are also available to work with any Massachusetts groups experiencing an overflow of incoming greyhounds.
- At our kennel, we are taking extra precautions to minimize possible exposure of staff, volunteers, and visitors, as well as dogs:
 - No visitors are allowed in the building without an appointment.
 - Visitors who make an appointment to see dogs and discuss adoption remain outside the kennel; we bring dogs out to them and observe physical distancing guidelines.
 - Staff and volunteers are scheduled to work in shifts with minimal overlap.
 - Extra cleaning and sanitizing measures have been implemented, over and above our already stringent regular protocols. Hand sanitizer, soap, and wipes are available throughout the facility and frequent use is required, especially at the start and end of work shifts.
 - Incoming and outgoing dogs get thorough baths as an extra precaution. We are following the developing literature on dogs and COVID-19.
 - No staff or volunteers have reported any symptoms or possible exposure; if that happens, these individuals will be asked to stay home for a minimum of 14 days, as recommended.
- We are postponing Spring events, including the May 16 Open House. In the coming weeks we will continue to assess the prospects for gatherings and follow official guidance in making new plans.
- We are hopeful that a Fall Open House can be held on September 12 (rain date: September 13). Please save that date and join us in hoping that by then all will be safe and healthy. Plans for other events are currently on hold. However, we are working on some virtual events to stay connected with you.

While we wait for restrictions on in-person interactions to be lifted, we are committed to providing excellent care to the dogs in our custody, as well as staying in touch with you, our friends and constituents, as best we can. You can reach us by emailing info@greyhound.org any time.

We are profoundly grateful for your continued interest and support.

Terri Shepard, CDT
Kennel & Operations Manager