

Letter from the Director

Dear friends,

This year we celebrate 40 years of adoption and advocacy work for greyhounds, sighthounds and other dog breeds. Our adoption and education mission was critical in 1983, when greyhound racing in the United States was an industry providing little protection for its discarded dogs. Through the decades the industry has changed, along with popular awareness and growing interest in greyhounds as pets.



Terri Shepard with a greyhound friend

Today, there are far fewer US-bred greyhounds than there are adopters. But outside the US, the dismal plight of greyhounds and their sighthound cousins (galgos, podencos, lurchers, salukis) is only recently gaining the recognition it merits. The same goes for the countless hounds overwhelming shelters in the central and southern US states. **Today our mission to save sighthounds and other purpose-bred, working dogs everywhere is just as relevant, just as urgent as ever.**

Our current partners in Ireland, Portugal, Spain, China, and Qatar do an incredible job helping these unwanted dogs. The dogs they send us are wonderful examples of the breeds we fight so hard to protect. Amazingly resilient and loving, these fortunate survivors seem to revel in their new lives, bringing much joy to their adoptive families.

Every dog that is purpose-bred for use by humans is especially deserving of protection: basic animal welfare and freedoms, and a loving, responsible home. Many of our dogs come from horrific conditions, although by the time they come to us, our rescue partners have already invested time and resources in their physical and emotional healing. We get to witness the happy homes stories first-hand; but the awareness of continued suffering is ever-present. For every dog going home, there are hundreds still waiting for rescue.



We vow to keep going, with the help of all who support animal welfare, protection, and well-being. We will continue

Come Celebrate with Us: Greyhound Friends Turns 40!

With over 10,000 dogs moved into loving homes, we are still here for dogs who need us. Together with the friends who sustain this work, we have much to celebrate. Please join us on June 24: a scannable code for the ticket and sponsorship link is on the back page.



Letter from the Director, continued...

to advocate, educate, and serve the dogs who need us, until there are loving homes for all.

Greyhound Friends' board, staff, volunteers, adopters and supporters make this organization function. **Your continued support makes this life-saving, healing work possible.** Each role makes an important contribution, and we appreciate the hard work and financial support provided by all who help carry out Greyhound Friends' mission.

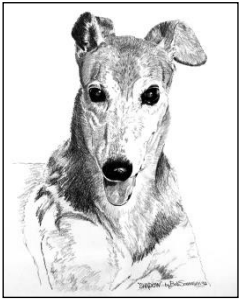
We have a lot of work ahead of us, but together we will continue to raise awareness and make a difference, one deserving, fortunate dog at a time.

Theresa Shepard

Theresa Shepard, CDT
Executive Director

Here for Dogs Who Need Us: A Brief 40-Year History in Pictures

Greyhound Friends is the lasting legacy of a woman and a dog: on Mother's Day in 1983, Louise Coleman brought home Boston Boy, a greyhound who was being "retired" after a winning career at a top local track. His trainer was eager to find him a home, but at the time greyhound adoption was virtually unknown, and few people knew or cared what happened to the dogs who no longer raced.



Boston Boy – soon renamed Shadow

That began to change, one dog at a time, as Louise soon discovered greyhounds' plight, their history, and the special traits that make them such desirable pets. She began to take in and adopt out more ex-racers, soon finding every surface in her apartment filled with dogs. She sought help from friends and two years later, Greyhound Friends became a Massachusetts charitable corporation.



Early days



The old kennel, 1980s

Having outgrown its city apartment space, Greyhound Friends soon relocated to a small rented kennel on a former working farm in Hopkinton.



The land as a working farm, before Interstate Rte. 495 construction began

Greyhound Friends is a unique place: a modern kennel building is now situated among acres of woodland and fields. The undeveloped land is a haven for local wildlife, and bird song often greets visitors.

The Saddle Hill Road property was purchased in 1998, and the current kennel building was constructed in 2003, funded in part by a bequest from Helen Rosenberger. Over 10,000 dogs have now passed through Greyhound Friends' doors to find their homes with New England adopters.



Memorial Garden view

Greyhound Friends is also a community: neighbors, friends, staff, adopters, supporters, volunteers, greyhound and sighthound aficionados, dog lovers, animal welfare



Publicity helped introduce greyhounds as desirable pets



Pat Hall at a meet & greet event

advocates nearby and far away have formed lasting connections to and through the organization.

Adopters have formed close friendships and networks for group walks, socializing, and information

exchange around greyhounds' particular qualities and needs. Numerous former staff and volunteers have gone on to study veterinary medicine after working with the kennel dogs. Local scouting groups and two Eagle Scouts have chosen



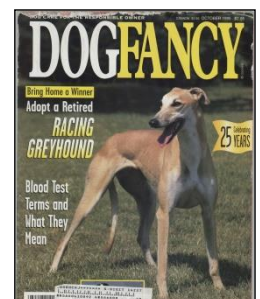
Eagle Scout project: Memorial Garden

Greyhound Friends for special projects. The Educational Outreach Team has visited dozens of schools to teach young people about kindness toward animals, introducing many to greyhounds for the first time. The community is vast, deep and strong.



Kennel visitor with Jen Hutchinson

Greyhound Friends is a catalyst: a small, local, grass-roots effort with an urgent and meaningful mission that has drawn many others to the cause. From one woman and one special dog – then dozens and hundreds more – grew a network of advocates, groups and individuals sharing knowledge,



Continued on next page...

Brief History in Pictures, 1983-2023

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skills and resources to help dogs in need. In the 1990s Greyhound Friends branched out into affiliates Greyhound Friends West (based in western Massachusetts), Greyhound Friends of New Jersey, and Greyhound Friends of North Carolina, which then evolved into separate, independent groups.



The late Barbara Wicklund (L) with Greyhound Friends of NJ

At the same time, Greyhound Friends' successful awareness raising in the US provided a practical model to groups



International presenters at Dewey Beach gathering

overseas facing similar obstacles in their own countries. Again, collaboration and resource sharing worked to strengthen the impact of many advocates

previously struggling to gain traction. Today Greyhound Friends continues to partner with sighthound rescues internationally, with active collaborations in Ireland, Portugal, Spain, China and Qatar.

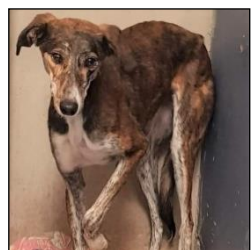
Greyhound Friends is here – and continues to be here – for dogs who need us. Louise's departure in 2018 led to restructuring the

organization, updating the adoption kennel, and reopening under new leadership, with a renewed commitment to the core mission: placing greyhounds and other



Greyhound Friends kennel today

dogs in responsible, loving adoptive homes, educating the public about the greyhound breed, and generally promoting animal welfare through educational and outreach programs.



Irish lurcher – courtesy of MADRA, Galway

A new crop of volunteers joins veterans in dog care, advocacy, and adoption work. New supporters infuse resources, bringing the mission to life. **Together, we are here for dogs as long as they need our help.**

Upcoming Events in 2023

Following the June 24 gala to celebrate our 40th, this year Greyhound Friends will again host a **“Dog Day of August” event on August 26**, bringing together local dog lovers. Other Hopkinton adoption groups will be invited back, along with vendors offering products and services for dogs and dog lovers.



The Fall Open House is scheduled for September 23 and will feature our traditional silent auction and raffle, field runs, contests, vendors, and a Remembrance Ceremony.

Please save the dates and plan to join us!

Tree of Life Memorials Are Available



A beautiful **Tree of Life** greets visitors in Greyhound Friends' reception area. Sculpted by metal artist Eduardo Amaral, the tree is a lasting and meaningful memorial.

To remember a loved one with their name on a hand-wrought leaf to be installed on the tree, please email greyhoundfriends.office@gmail.com for details. Leaves are \$300 each and all proceeds support adoption, of course.



Greyhound Friends Earns Guidestar's 2023 Platinum Seal

Greyhound Friends continues to earn the highest-level recognition from charity watchdog Guidestar. We are committed to transparency in our financials and operations, so **donors can give with confidence** and know how their contributions are put to use.



2022 Adoptions: Every Picture Tells a Story

Every one of these adorable faces has a story, from rough beginnings to blossoming personalities to happy endings. You'll see many more this year if you follow Greyhound Friends on Facebook and Instagram. Don't miss a single happy tail!

Easy links are on the website, www.greyhound.org.

On Facebook, you'll find us at www.facebook.com/GreyhoundFriendsIncMA/

On Instagram we are @greyhoundfriends



Please Stay In Touch!

Print mailings are expensive, so we send only 1-2 each year to keep operating costs down. Sadly, only a fraction of our longtime friends are on the email list for more regular contact. **Please join (or update your information)** so we can better stay in touch with you between mailings. To complete a secure form just scan the QR code or go to <https://bit.ly/2PwItD3>.



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Find us online at <https://greyhound.org> (or scan the QR code). From there, easily follow us on Facebook and Instagram.



Greyhound Friends is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. Financial and in-kind contributions are tax-deductible.

a garden grows...

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A FESTIVE GATHERING
40TH ANNIVERSARY GALA DINNER MUSIC

SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 2023
4:00-7:00 PM
167 SADDLE HILL ROAD, HOPKINTON

purchase tickets program ads & greetings sponsors invited

PLEASE SCAN QR CODE OR
GO TO THE EVENT LINK AT
WWW.GREYHOUND.ORG