

Letter from the Director

Dear friends,

Exciting things are happening at Greyhound Friends! As the number of adoptions has grown during the past year, so has the interest in the organization. Many new volunteers have joined the work for sighthound welfare and adoption.

Greyhound Friends is unlike surrounding shelters in that we are sighthound specific, and most of our dogs come in from other countries where animal protection is lacking. While we do not handle the number of animals that some other shelters do, our adoption work saves the life of every dog we bring in. Plus, it adds an important ripple effect by raising awareness for sighthounds on a global level.



Terri Shepard and friend

In July we were able to adopt out all the dogs in our kennel.

That was perfect timing as August saw work on key upgrades to the facility, needed to keep it running for many years to come. You can see pictures and details of the work in a separate article here, as well as acknowledgments of the

many local businesses and individuals who donated time, materials, and funds to make the work happen without dipping into our regular operating budget.

The kennel reopened in late August with the arrival of **ex-racing greyhounds from a new partner in Australia**, Racing2Rehome! Four greys from Ireland soon followed, and a transport from Portugal is currently in the works.

But funds are running very low after the summer lull, and **as we ramp up adoptions again, your support is especially needed now.** Your gifts ensure a better life for all the lucky dogs that come to Greyhound Friends. You can see the happy results in our social media posts and “pupdates” of beautiful dogs living their best lives with our amazing adopter. Please be generous with your gifts: the dogs depend on you!

Theresa Shepard

Theresa Shepard, CDT
Executive Director

The Wonderful Greyhounds of Oz



Australian ex-racers Bowser, Socks and Jinx arrived safely in August.

A new collaboration with Racing2Rehome, based in southeastern Australia, has opened a new source for adoptable greyhounds in need of good homes. Racing and breeding produces more dogs there than can be adopted in the country. So Australian adoption groups have embraced exporting ex-racers – and footing some of the cost.

Partnering in this first transport with Greyhound Friends of NJ allowed us to bring in three Aussie dogs when the sender’s logistics called for a larger transport. Our isolation unit (required by the state to house imported dogs until a vet check clears them) has only three kennels, limiting the number of dogs we can receive at one time.



Bowser has gone home.

While the flight from Melbourne is a long one, the dogs handled it well. Acclimated to the crates beforehand, they could relax and nap. Still, **it’s hard to say who was happier and more relieved when they finally landed and the crates were opened: the dogs or the people there to greet them.**

One Australian arrival has already been adopted! We are working on future transports to get more ex-racers home.

Kennel Upgrades Completed in August



With the help of Kristine Fox, a local volunteer who recruits contractors and suppliers to improve shelters' physical facilities, we have recently updated or replaced several

obsolete systems in our kennel. These projects included upgrading a portion of the HVAC system with new equipment; removing old, inefficient garage doors at the back of the kennel and replacing them with new doors and windows; adding insulation; and pouring epoxy floors throughout the kennel and adjacent rooms.



Greyhound Friends' kennel was built over 20 years ago, and these updates will ensure that it will remain operational and efficient for many years to come.

We are immensely grateful to the following local businesses for donating labor, materials, and funds:

*KAC Insulators Sika Just Exterior of New England
C & L Power Solutions LLC MI-Box Southern Mass.
Premier Garage of Foxboro Torginol Paints Inc.
Snowbird Garage Doors Company Lavallee Systems
Specialist Plastering and Remodeling Long Subaru*

The remaining costs were covered through a fund reserved for capital improvements in a bequest from former board member Peter M. Bloom. As a result, **no operating funds were used to fund this much needed work.**



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Find us online at <https://greyhound.org> (or scan the QR code).

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



Upcoming Events, Fall 2024

Volunteers and their “ambassadors” are staffing tables at several fall events to spread the word about sighthounds as pets. If you are in the area, please stop by and say hello.

The Pet Rock Festival on October 6, 12-5pm at the Lancaster MA fairgrounds, is New England's largest animal welfare gathering, with music, activities, vendors and shelters from all over the state.



Long Subaru's Love a Pet event on October 19, 10am – 2pm in Webster, MA, brings together families and local shelters to showcase adoptable pets.

To stay informed about current Meet & Greet events, please follow Greyhound Friends on Facebook and Instagram. Direct links are on our website, at <https://greyhound.org>.



We send only 1-2 newsletters each year to keep operating costs down. But you can see updates – and happy adoption stories! – more often by email. **Please sign up (or update your information)** so we can

keep in touch between mailings. To complete a quick form just scan this QR code with your phone and follow the prompt, or find the link on the greyhound.org website.



Greyhound Friends Earns 2024 Top-Rated Charity Designation



Friends' positive reviews and stories have earned us the 2024 Top Rated Charity seal from greatnonprofits.org. These endorsements are greatly appreciated!

Your kind support saves lives, one dog at a time.



A donation in any amount is valued and helps dogs in a meaningful way. Or, as a Monthly Sustainer, you can opt to give a little at a time to keep adoptions going year round.

Simply use the Donate button at greyhound.org, and as always – **thank you from the dogs.**