

Annual Report of Lucky Penny Rescue Network Inc.



Reporting Period: January 1st 2022 – December 31st 2022

Report Author: Kate A. Houston-Powers

Co-Founder and President of Lucky Penny Rescue Network Inc.

Contact Information

Email: LPRN.Laredo@gmail.com

Scope of This Report

The 2022 Calendar Year was one of change and new challenges for Lucky Penny Rescue Network, we secured 501c3 status in March 2022, launched a trap-neuter-return program for community cats and had a change in our Board of Directors. We rescued eight (8) dogs from the euthanasia list at our high-kill city shelter and one (1) kitten from the streets. Of the eight dogs, six (6) successfully transitioned to forever homes in Ohio, one (1) remained with the President of Lucky Penny Rescue Network due to a diagnosis with severe long-term medical complications, and one (1) was euthanized due to aggression towards humans. Sadly, the kitten who was found alone in a parking lot, attempting to suckle from an exposed tree root, succumbed to his medical challenges.

As part of our goal for transparency, Lucky Penny Rescue Network Inc. will produce annual reports detailing all activities within the calendar year of January 1st – December 31st. All reports will be made publicly available on our website once approved by the Board of Directors for public release.

For any questions about this report, please send an email to the report author, President, Co-Founder and Director of Lucky Penny Rescue Network Inc. Kate A. Houston-Powers at LPRN.Laredo@gmail.com.

Overview of Activities

Lucky Penny Rescue Network Inc. is a small-volume in-home foster based dog rescue. We rescue one dog at a time, typically fostering each dog for 4-6 weeks until they are medically cleared for transport, and we have an annual income below \$10,000. We do not pay salaries, benefits or compensation of any kind to any member of the Board of Directors or volunteers.

Financial Costs, Categories of Expenses and Donations

Lucky Penny Rescue Network Inc.'s total financial donations between January 1st and December 31st 2022 were \$7,358.04. Of that, we spent \$4,100.17 on medical bills, and \$1,480.50 on food and equipment such as harnesses, leashes and toys. In addition, \$318.63 of food was donated from our Chewy wish list. A full breakdown of our expenses is included below.

Total Expenses Between January 1st - December 31st 2022: \$5,580.67

Categories of Expenses:

- Of the \$5,580.67 in total expenses, \$4,100.17 was spent on veterinary services for the animals in our rescue. Those services begin with intake processing which is typically a hands-on exam by a licensed veterinarian and fecal test with de-wormer medication if needed. All dogs then have a second examination the week before transport, which involves a hands-on exam, checking of vaccine status, confirmation of microchip and confirmation that any medical issues the dog is being treated for have resolved, by a licensed veterinarian. After a successful exam, a health certificate is issued for each dog stating that they are fully vaccinated at levels required for their age and are free of infectious diseases. The health certificate then accompanies the dog on transport to their receiving rescue, Companion Pets of Cleveland. While exams and de-wormer are our usual veterinary expenses, we also have non-standard expenses depending on what the dog requires, such as puppy series vaccinations, emergency c-section surgery, and/or hospitalization. In 2022 we had to hospitalize multiple dogs in our care due to an increased occurrence of tick disease.

- The remaining \$1,480.50 in expenses was spent on name tags, collars, harnesses, leashes, and dog food purchases.

Total Donations Between January 1st and December 31st 2022: \$7,358.04

Lucky Penny Rescue Network Inc. receives financial donations via multiple pathways. A breakdown of the companies used to collect donations to Lucky Penny Rescue Network Inc. can be found below along with total donations received from each:

PayPal: \$2,905.25

VENMO: \$879.02

Facebook: \$2,322

Personal Check: \$1,251.77

Chewy Donations:

In July 2022 Lucky Penny Rescue Network was approved as a 501(c)(3) eligible rescue by Chewy which meant that our supporters could begin to send donations directly to us from Chewy. These donations are primarily food, but also include toys and equipment such as leashes and harnesses. In total, we received \$318.63 worth of food, toy and equipment donations from Chewy customers.

Salaries, Wages, Benefits, Compensation

Lucky Penny Rescue Network Inc. does not pay salaries, wages or benefits to its Directors or volunteers. No form of compensation is paid to the Board of Directors, volunteers or anyone associated with our rescue operations.

All donations made to Lucky Penny Rescue Network Inc. go directly to the costs associated with operating the rescue.

Table 1: Finances Between January 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022

Rollover Funds from 2021 (\$)	1,104.70
Donations In (\$)	7,358.04
Expenses Out (\$)	5,580.67
Deficit (\$)	0
Funds Remaining End of 2022 (\$)	2907.07

Table 1. outlines the financial operations of Lucky Penny Rescue Network Inc. for the calendar year between January 1st 2022 and December 31st 2022. Table 1. displays the total amount, in dollars, of donations received and expenses paid out across the operating periods. Table 1. also details if there was a deficit (meaning expenses paid out were higher than donations coming in) and whether any funds were left over at the end of the reporting period and were thus rolled over into the next reporting period. In Table 1 the funds remaining at the end of 2022 reflect a total of \$1,005.07 in the Trap-Neuter-Return account for Bo’s Project, an initiative we fundraised for during 2022 and plan to begin in 2023. The remaining money (\$1,902.00) remains in the main account for dog rescue. Year-on-year we have seen a 52% increase in donations between 2021 and 2022, as well as a 20% increase in costs. The

increase in costs is almost entirely driven by our focus on more medically needy dogs for rescue in 2022, rather than an increase in the base cost of services.

Board of Directors Changes

On November 27th 2022, Co-Founder of Lucky Penny Rescue Network Inc, Charlene Summers, resigned from the Board of Directors. Charlene's resignation was immediately accepted. On December 7th 2022 Co-Founder Kate A. Houston-Powers bought Charlene Summers' financial interest in Lucky Penny Rescue Network Inc, using personal funds, thus buying Charlene Summers out of Lucky Penny Rescue Network. At the December 2022 Board of Directors Meeting for Lucky Penny Rescue Network Inc, Robert Stevens, Director and Founder of Companion Pets of Cleveland, our rescue partner in Ohio, was unanimously voted onto the Lucky Penny Board of Directors, thus filling the vacant spot left by Charlene Summers' resignation.

The Animals of Lucky Penny Rescue Network Inc in 2022

Below is a brief summary of the animals we have worked with during the reporting period.

Pierre: October 2021 – January 2022



When we rescued Pierre, we believed him to be a young (around 1-2-years-old), toy poodle. Pierre came into our rescue from the euthanasia list on October 19th, 2021. When Pierre first came into rescue, he had some medical needs stemming from neglect which needed to be addressed - his coat was overgrown and matted, he had an infection from an open wound, and he had broken teeth as well as a crooked jaw. We took Pierre straight to our vet who recommended crate rest and started him on pain medications and antibiotics. We shaved down his coat and gave Pierre time for rest and recuperation. Happily, Pierre's broken teeth did not cause him any problems and gave him a beautiful, unique smile. After being in foster care for 5 weeks, Pierre was finally healthy and confident enough for a professional groom, which revealed the fun, happy little dog in this photo.

Unfortunately, the very morning that Pierre was due to have his pre-transport health check on December 10th, 2021, 6 weeks after being released from the shelter, Pierre collapsed. We rushed him to our veterinary clinic where he was hospitalized immediately. Pierre's body was in crisis and he required 4 days of hospitalization. Pierre survived that crisis, but sadly continued to have prolonged and severe medical complications. It is believed that Pierre developed an autoimmune complication after an infection with Tick Disease, which subsequently caused his immune system to attack his red and white blood cells and platelets. In late January 2022, we were continuing to struggle to stabilize Pierre's bloodwork and he started to have seizures. After multiple consultations with our veterinary team and frank discussions around quality of life and burden of care, we made the decision that Pierre would be adopted by his current foster home which was with the Director of Lucky Penny Rescue where he will live until his condition overwhelms him. After a further 6 months which involved additional bouts of hospitalization, and seizure activity, Pierre's bloodwork finally stabilized within normal limits for both

white and red blood cells and platelets. Pierre continues to require medication and repeat veterinary visits but continues to be stable and rules the roost in his forever home, where he can live his life as a sometimes grumpy, but always happy, old man.

Ozzy: February 4th – March 12th 2022



Ozzy is a 2 year old terrier mix with possibly the most beautiful golden coat we have ever seen. Ozzy found himself at the city shelter in Laredo Texas, on January 25th 2022 and on February 4th, in collaboration with Companion Pets of Cleveland, we plucked Ozzy off the euthanasia list and took him into rescue.

Ozzy came to us as many shelter dogs do, a little shut down, very timid, and in need of a good bath. Happily, Ozzy started eating on his second day in foster care, and within a few more days his tail started to wag. Ozzy had left the shelter with a dose of kennel cough, and so was put on 21 days of treatment including antibiotics and cough medicine. Happily, Ozzy responded well to the medications and within a week his cough had completely resolved. Ozzy completed his medical treatment and in the process, came completely out of his shell.

Over his stay in foster care Ozzy transformed from a timid dog into a snuggle bug, who loves nothing more than resting on your lap having his coat brushed. Ozzy travelled up to Companion Pets of Cleveland on the weekend of March 12th. Shortly after arriving in Ohio he was neutered. Ozzy was adopted by his Ohio foster family who just couldn't bear to part with him. We are so delighted for sweet Ozzy!

Spud: March 10th – May 14th 2022



Spud is a 3 year old Chihuahua with fantastically large ears. We released Spud from the euthanasia list at the Laredo City Shelter in early March 2022. When Spud came to us he had multiple wounds all over his little body which were in various levels of healing, he was underweight to the level we could see all the bumps in his spine when he curled up, and he was very, very scared. We immediately got Spud under the care of a veterinary team, made sure he had the medications he needed to heal, and started the long journey to gain his trust.

As we rushed Spud to the vet clinic immediately after release, he looked like a little potato all curled up in the crate and we kept saying to him "it's going to be okay little potato, it only gets better from here" and after that the name Spud stuck with him.

Happily, after almost 2 months in foster care and under excellent veterinary treatment, the last of Spud's scabs dropped off, he reached a healthy weight and became much more confident. He was house trained, socialized to household noises, other dogs, cats and children, and became leash and harness trained.

In early May of 2022 Spud left Lucky Penny Rescue Network and travelled to Companion Pets of Cleveland via a volunteer transport network. Spud was adopted into a wonderful and very experienced home and is loved deeply by his forever family.

Bo: April 9th – April 15th 2022



Bo was a 4 week old (ish) kitten who was brought to us after a friend of the rescue found him in a parking lot, alone, in the hot Texas sun. When she moved him away from passing cars under the shade of a tree, he appeared to try and suckle from an exposed tree root. After checking on him for hours to ensure Mama wasn't coming back, she noticed Bo's condition was deteriorating rapidly and so he was scooped up and taken to us. Sadly, Bo was very sick – he was heavily infested with fleas and had a nasty upper respiratory infection. We managed to get him all cleaned up and antibiotics into him within 2 hours of his rescue. He fought valiantly over the next few days and we were hopeful that he'd pull through. However, heartbreakingly, late at night on April 15th during an overnight check, his foster noticed that he was fading very very quickly and sadly, just moments later, Bo died. When his foster realized what was happening she wrapped him up in his favorite blanket and sung him a lullaby in the hope it brought him at least a little comfort. Our experiences with Bo galvanized us to launch our TnR project, which we called Bo's Project, so we can try and prevent suffering like Bo's from being so common in our community.

Roxy: May 27th – July 9th 2022



Roxy is a 3 year old terrier mix who we rescued from the Laredo City Shelter in partnership with

Companion Pets of Cleveland in early May. When she came to us, Roxy looked like she might be pregnant so we took her to our vet for a complete work-up. Sadly, we discovered that Roxy was post-partum and it was estimated that she may have had puppies only 2-3 weeks prior. As Roxy had been in the shelter for 16 days, our best theory is that Roxy either had puppies and was dumped then picked up by animal control as a stray, OR she had puppies as a stray and was picked up while foraging for food and no-one realized she was a Mama. What we do know for sure is that Roxy did not enter the shelter with puppies and she was picked up as a stray roaming the streets alone.

Roxy was exhibiting some nesting and maternal behaviors and she had an upper respiratory infection so we got her on antibiotics and gave her all the quiet space and time she needed to come out of her shell and recover. Happily, within a few weeks her body had contracted back to its original size, her maternal behaviors had all disappeared and her respiratory infection had cleared up. We then went to work establishing a routine with Roxy, house training her, training her on a collar, harness and leash, and working with her on basic commands. Roxy is a great combination of very smart and very keen for human attention, so she did great with this and looked forward to her daily training sessions.

Roxy was medically cleared by our vet on July 6th and on July 9th she travelled up to our rescue partner, Companion Pets of Cleveland in Ohio. Shortly after arriving in Ohio Roxy was spayed, and she was ultimately adopted into a wonderful forever home with someone who works from home and treats Roxy as a true companion, taking her everywhere.

MacDuff: July 2nd – September 10th 2022



MacDuff is a roughly 1 year old terrier mix who we rescued from the euthanasia list at the Laredo City Shelter on July 2nd 2022, in partnership with Companion Pets of Cleveland.

When MacDuff came to us he was very sad, very tired and unbeknownst to us at the time, very sick. A few days into his foster stay, we noticed MacDuff was peeing dark brown fluid that we feared was blood it looked so bad. We immediately bundled MacDuff into the car and took him to our veterinary clinic. Once there, MacDuff was diagnosed with Anaplasmosis, a bacterial infection which is carried by ticks. MacDuff was very sick and required hospitalization.

Throughout it all, MacDuff was a gentle soul, earning the love of many of the veterinary staff who

interacted with him during his hospital stay. Happily, MacDuff made a full recovery from Anaplasmosis and over the next 10 weeks that he spent with us, he went from the strength-to-strength. MacDuff changed from the sad dog hiding in the corner who would hoard half of his food so he could have food later if we suddenly stopped feeding him, to a dog who happily ate every bite of food, who would play with toys and snuggle on the couch to watch Netflix (Great British Baking Show was our favorite).

MacDuff went on transport up to Companion Pets of Cleveland, leaving Laredo Texas on September 10th 2022. He arrived in Ohio on Monday September 12th 2022 and while he had a day or so of feeling unsure in his Ohio foster home, he adjusted and came out of his shell. MacDuff was adopted into a wonderful home, where he has chipmunks to chase and a human who loves him dearly. We are so happy for gentle MacDuff.

Chance: August 12th – December 19th 2022



Chance was approximately 3 years old when he came into our rescue care. He was a lab-terrier mix and was euthanasia-listed at our city shelter after being picked up as a stray. Chance came into rescue on August 12th, 2022.

When we picked Chance up from the shelter he was lethargic and shut-down. At first we didn't know if this was fear of people or an illness, so after monitoring him for a few days we took Chance to our vet. It was there we discovered that Chance had tick fever, or Anaplasmosis to be exact. In addition to making Chance feel very sick it was also affecting his eye which was red, itchy and inflamed. After a month of treatment, Chance's tick fever cleared but unfortunately his eye issues came back twice and we started to worry that he may be showing signs of glaucoma.

Sadly, when Chance was feeling better after his Anaplasmosis infection, his behavioral issues began to emerge. Chance was an extremely anxious dog. He never felt safe around humans, and as his daily contact with us increased so too did Chance's anxiety. He would pace and vocalize, he would hide from us, and try to escape from us at every opportunity. We couldn't get a collar or harness on him without him growling and snapping at us, and medicating his continuing eye issues went from difficult, to impossible, to dangerous.

Over the next 4 months we worked extensively with our veterinary team and tried multiple different anti-anxiety medications for Chance. When it became clear that one med on its own wouldn't work, we started to combine medications to find a dose that would let Chance be calm for long enough to experience us without feeling fear so he could learn positive associations with humans. We also neutered Chance to see if that might help with his desire to bolt from us at every opportunity.

Sadly Chance's fear of humans was overwhelming, and despite all of our interventions his behavior

continued to escalate. Chance became aggressive and unpredictable during veterinary visits and ultimately became unpredictable at home too. Chance started to stand square and growl at us with curled lips whenever we entered his rescue room, tried to feed him, medicate him, or approach him in any way. Chance lunged at us multiple times, and ultimately attacked his foster mama.

Chance was clearly communicating to us that life with humans was terrifying to him. He was dangerous to be around. We had to balance the safety of the people and animals in his foster home, including a child; we also had to balance the safety of the general public if Chance managed to escape, which he had managed to do a couple of times; and we had to balance our ability to safely transport him to Ohio and ultimately adopt him out. All the while, Chance's eye issues continued to flare up and we were becoming unable to treat them.

After substantial consultation with multiple vets and medical professionals who had interacted with Chance during his 4 months in rescue, and in consultation with our rescue partner in Ohio, we made the decision to euthanize Chance. We will never know what happened to Chance, whether he was born on the streets and we were the first people he ever came into contact with at 3 years old; whether he had been horribly abused by humans; or whether he had a medical imbalance in his brain that we were unable correct. We suspect Chance had a little bit of each. Ultimately, whatever motivated Chance's behavior, life in a home and with humans was terrifying to him. He was suffering, and we felt it was our responsibility as the people who loved him and who were responsible for him, to free him of that suffering. We had Chance cremated and scattered his ashes on the wind so that he could run free and be wild once again.

Archie – September 15th 2022 – January 14th 2023



Archie is an 18-month-old little hound mix, who we released from the euthanasia list at the Laredo city shelter on September 15th, 2022. Archie, however, had been in the shelter since July 22nd 2022. We first saw Archie on July 25th and tagged him for rescue but when the shelter were out-processing him, they discovered he had a microchip that had been missed during his intake processing. Archie's microchip had information on it, and that information was valid, and so began a process that spanned two months of communication with Archie's previous humans. Ultimately, Archie was surrendered to the shelter, but by that point he had been there too long, and his time was up. During his entire stay we were the only people to have shown interest in Archie, so the shelter reached out and asked if we could still take him. We jumped at the chance, and Archie came into our rescue's care in September 2022.

Archie took us on quite the medical journey. A few weeks into his foster stay with us he began to limp and demonstrated a painful response to his neck being touched. X-rays revealed that Archie had a fractured growth plate on one of his elbows, and our vet suspected ligament damage in his neck. With no history on Archie, and no externally observable injuries, we had no idea what caused these issues.

But, given Archie’s age we were hopeful he’d fully recover. Archie was placed on crate rest, followed by restricted activity, followed by an extremely gradual return to normal activities with repeated x-rays and medical evaluations for the next 4 months. Happily, in early January Archie was cleared by our vet for transport and adoption, and he made his way up to Ohio.

Archie was the first dog ever transported on our own self-organized volunteer transport network (established January 2023 and featured in next year’s annual report), and he was an absolute star for the entire journey. Once in Ohio, Archie went home on a foster-to-adopt contract with someone who has worked closely with Companion Pets of Cleveland for a long time and who has followed Archie’s journey from day one. Archie’s adoption was finalized a few weeks later, and he is living the high life with a family who loves him deeply. Archie’s new vet agrees with our vet’s assessment that Archie should have no long-term issues due to his previous injuries, and he should go on to live a full and complete life.

Report Conclusion

This is the second annual report of Lucky Penny Rescue Network Inc. a not-for-profit small organization in Texas. At the time of submitting this report, Lucky Penny Rescue Network Inc. is federally recognized as a 501(c)(3) non-profit in good standing. In our efforts to achieve transparency of our operations, we will produce annual reports for each year of operations (each year runs from January 1st – December 31st).

This report was reviewed by all members of the Board of Directors for Lucky Penny Rescue Network Inc. and was approved for public release at a Board Meeting on April 27th 2023.

Signed By:

Kate A. Houston-Powers

Kate A. Houston-Powers

Robert Stevens

Robert Stevens

Keaton J. Powers

Keaton J. Powers

Any questions regarding this report should be directed to: LPRN.Laredo@gmail.com