

New Rattitude, Inc.

National Rat Terrier Rescue
and Adoption



2024 ANNUAL REPORT

River (MI)
Adopted April 2024

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NewRattitude.org

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Sprout (GA)
Adopted December 2024

Mission

NEW RATTITUDE, Inc., a non-profit charitable corporation incorporated in 2008, is a 100% volunteer-operated, nationwide group dedicated to the rescue and adoption of abused, abandoned, neglected, sick, or unwanted Rat Terriers and Rat Terrier mixes.

In private foster homes, the dogs are nurtured, socialized, trained, supported medically, and provided with professional veterinary care while we work diligently to find them new, permanent adoptive homes where they will be safe, loved, and properly and humanely cared for the rest of their lives.

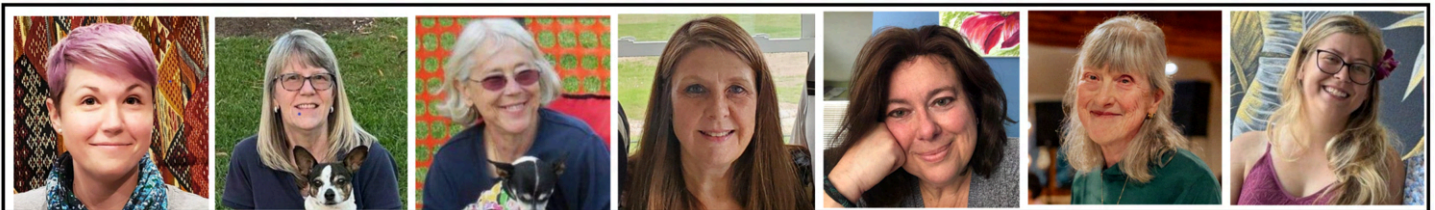
Each dog brought into our network receives a veterinary check, all required vaccinations, heartworm test and monthly preventative, and spay or neuter. Other medical care is sometimes necessary, such as treatment for heartworm disease, infection, allergies, broken bones, or surgery to correct a variety of ailments. Each dog is dewormed, microchipped, and given a martingale collar, along with a collar tag printed with a unique ID number and our toll-free Lost Dog Hotline.

New Rattitude is licensed by the Georgia Department of Agriculture, registered with the Georgia Secretary of State as a charitable organization, and recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as an approved 501(c)3 non-profit organization.



Stella (VA)
Adopted
November 2024

2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Molly Miller
President

Lisa Rohn
Vice President

Susan Beard
Secretary

Sue Kangas
Treasurer

Bethany Adams
Director

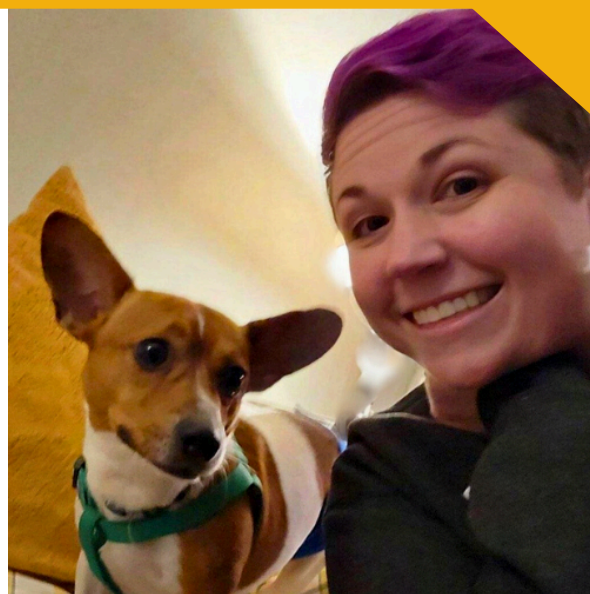
Terry Beale
Director

Carissa Miller
Director

From the President

As we reflect on 2024, I am so proud of the incredible efforts of our volunteers laid out in this impressive annual report.

Thank you to all of the volunteers on the ground and behind the scenes working to save Rat Terriers and find their forever families. We are always looking for more amazing volunteers to join our ranks. In addition to fostering, New Rattitude has many opportunities to volunteer in other ways supporting our mission. We have roles such as short term fosters (for dogs awaiting transport), editor and publicist for adoption profiles, post-adoption follow-up contacts, adoption applications screeners, and more. Check out the volunteer membership application here: <https://newrattitude.org/membership/> and consider using your talents to support us in 2025.



Thank you to those that support us through donations and fundraisers. You are a key part of New Rattitude's work because you make it possible for our foster Rat Terriers to get the basic, or sometimes lifesaving, care they need. Without you, we cannot rescue more dogs, so please look for opportunities to contribute throughout the year. New Rattitude donations make the perfect birthday gift for you or almost anyone in your life!

Lastly, we want to honor the memory of one of New Rattitude's founders, Susan Beard. Please read more in the special section on [page 22](#) of this report memorializing her contributions to the organization since the very beginning. Susan was one-of-a-kind, brought so much good to the world, and she is greatly missed.

Looking forward to 2025, we have opportunities to save more Rat Terriers and find their perfect homes. New Rattitude's strength is in its volunteers and supporters, so thank you from the bottom of my heart for supporting this wonderful organization and cheering us on.

Molly Miller

Molly Miller, President

2024 Accomplishments

Our labor of love begins and ends with the heart and soul of New Rattitude—our volunteers. New Rattitude is a national organization, completely run by volunteers. Our network of foster homes is supported by a “staff” of other members who manage a variety of necessary tasks, including administration, application screening, fundraising, transportation coordination, publicity, technology, and so on.

Outside of New Rattitude’s membership, we have another amazing support network of volunteers who help us drive dogs from shelters to foster homes, between foster homes, or from foster homes to adoptive homes, or assist with home visits to ensure our foster Rat Terriers are placed in safe and suitable environments.

We are also grateful for those who support New Rattitude by contributing generously, participating in our fundraisers, and by spreading the word to let other dog lovers around the country know about New Rattitude and our efforts!

Our volunteers are not paid, but they are priceless. We couldn’t carry out our mission without them.

So, what did we collectively accomplish in 2024 through this network of dedicated volunteers and supporters?

- Eighty-six (86) Rat Terriers were rescued.
- Eighty-five (85) Rat Terriers were placed into loving adoptive homes.
- Cumulative rescues and adoptions since New Rattitude’s 2008 incorporation total 2,785 and 2,843 respectively!
- Eight new volunteers were approved for membership, including four new foster parents.
- Adoption applications processed totaled 377 —an average of 31 per month.
- New Rattitude’s Transport Team coordinated 40 transports, carrying 48 dogs. Twenty-three were ground transports carrying 31 dogs; 17 were air transports carrying 17 dogs and involving 21 aircrafts.
- Our partnership with [Pilots N Paws®](#) that allows our rescued Rat Terriers to fly to foster home spots all over the country is a game changer! Pilots N Paws is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that connects rescues with volunteer pilots and plane owners willing to assist with animal transportation. Pilots donate their time, use of their planes, and their fuel to transport animals to places where they will be fostered and/or adopted. We are so grateful for their help!
- We paid for 125 vaccinations, 57 heartworm tests, 58 spays and neuters, 19 other surgical procedures, 15 dental cleanings and extractions, three heartworm treatments, and numerous x-rays, blood panels, and other diagnostic and laboratory tests.
- We sponsored the 19th annual Rat Terrier Jamboree in Sweetwater, TN in late April.



**Ripple (MI)
Adopted June 2024**

These achievements and more were made possible by all of you! Thank you for believing in our mission and for trusting in New Rattitude to carry it out.

We Are New Rattitude!

Foster Homes

In 2024, 32 individuals in 15 states opened their hearts and their homes to a lost or abandoned Rat Terrier whose only ticket out of the shelter was rescue. Safe in their foster homes, these dogs were nurtured and loved, and taught the basic skills that every good dog needs to know. They learned to trust; their self-confidence grew; and when they were healed and ready, carefully selected homes were found where these precious reclaimed souls would be cherished "forever."

Bethany Adams (MI)	Pat Graham (GA)	Nancy Mullins (MI)
Terry Beale (TN)	Melody Hassell (LA)	Jessica Neff (FL)
Frank Bennett (VA)	Amy Heitshusen (GA)	Carrie Pascale (VA)
Maddison Boike (TX)	Sue Kangas (MI)	Wanda Pezant (LA)
Hailey Cole (CA)	Patti Jeffries (GA)	Lisa Rohn (MD)
Laurie Dempsey (VA)	Vickie Kauffman (GA)	Candace Seal (AZ)
Lisa DeSoto (VA)	Karen Marfurt (MI)	Mindy Shapiro (NC)
Sue Diveley (VA)	Denise Merricks (VA)	Paige Sliney (NC)
Nicole Dossey (WA)	Carissa Miller (MI)	Cassandra Stutesman (IL)
Dan Frisbie (SC)	Molly Miller (VA)	Cassandra Zwart (VA)
Denise Gilroy (ID)	Kate Moore (FL)	



Foster Mom Cassandra Stutesman (IL) and Jolene, adopted September 2024

Administration and Adoption Program Support

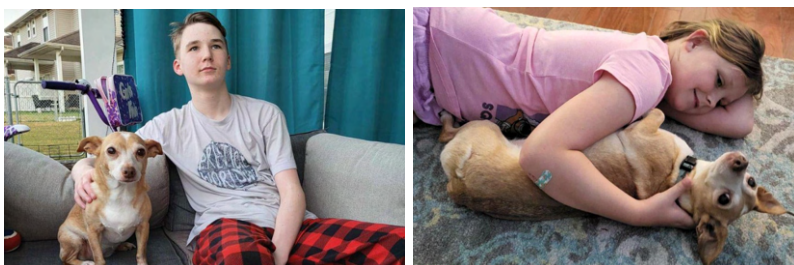
Many hands are needed to complete the myriad of tasks necessary to keep an organization such as New Rattitude running smoothly.

In 2024, these dedicated member volunteers filled one or more positions (some in addition to fostering) in various administrative roles, adoption and membership application screening, adopter and foster parent support, transport coordination, record keeping, marketing, correspondence, social media, fundraising, website management, and more.

Bethany Adams (MI)	Jenny Ferreira (CA)	Lillie Kaplan (GA)	Kathy Puckett (MD)
Kimberly Auxier (TX)	Lucia Florido (TN)	Vickie Kauffman (GA)	Jaime Restorff (TN)
Tami Baber (NC)	Genie Folsom (WA)	Penny Linke (SC)	Lisa Rohn (MD)
Terri Banner (NC)	Debbie Fountain (DE)	Kim Markham (GA)	Brenda Russell (ME)
Terry Beale (TN)	Kelly Fox (WI)	Stephanie Mathson (MI)	Mindy Shapiro (NC)
Susan Beard (NC)	Jena Gammon (LA)	Carissa Miller (MI)	Paige Sliney (NC)
Debbie Collins (AL)	Carly Gill (GA)	Molly Miller (VA)	Rachel Spainhour (NC)
Candy Conrady (GA)	Denise Gilroy (ID)	Debora Milner (FL)	Catherine Spannagel (IL)
Nina Cross (PA)	Patricia Graham (GA)	Kate Moore (FL)	Anggie Thompson (NC)
Laurie Dempsey (VA)	Doreen Habben (IN)	Ashly Morrison (NC)	Amber Williamson (FL)
Nicole Dossey (WA)	Patti Jeffries (GA)	Nancy Mullins (MI)	Beth Van Slyke (WA)
Martha Dowling (SC)	Jen Kahler (PA)	Wendy Petkus-Mazeika (PA)	Emily Wackler (TN)
Amy Farmer (WA)	Sue Kangas (MI)	Tiffany Pinciaro (MA)	Aimee Walrath (NY)
			Molly Wolfe (OH)

New Rattitude's 2024 Canine Clinic Dogs

Some of the dogs rescued by New Rattitude have severe illnesses or other serious medical issues that are much more costly than the money brought in by adoption fees. To help nurse these dogs through their medical needs so that they can eventually be healthy and adoptable, we find sponsors to help with the costs. In 2024, sponsors helped with the supplemental vetting costs for these dogs in [New Rattitude's Canine Clinic](#).



Rosie was adopted in May 2024 and resides in Virginia.

Rosie- Injured Tail

Rosie was left outside a vet's office with half her tail missing. New Rattitude responded to their call for rescue help.

Rosie needed surgery to repair her tail, but stayed energetic and happy despite everything. New Rattitude received enough donations from supporters to cover her \$669 surgery and Rosie wagged her once-injured/now-repaired tail to show her thanks!



Biscuit was adopted in July 2024 and resides in Virginia.

Biscuit -Heartworm Disease

Three New Rattitude foster dogs had to undergo heartworm treatment in 2024. "Heartworm positive," means a dog has been bitten by a mosquito carrying the disease from another infected dog. Left untreated, the result is irreversible heart and lung disease, preceded by shortness of breath, cough, and fluid build-up.

Treating heartworm infection is very expensive (about seven times the cost of annual heartworm preventative!) and requires months of treatment and multiple veterinary visits. Thank you to all the donors that sponsored Biscuit's life-saving treatment. You are our heartworm heroes!

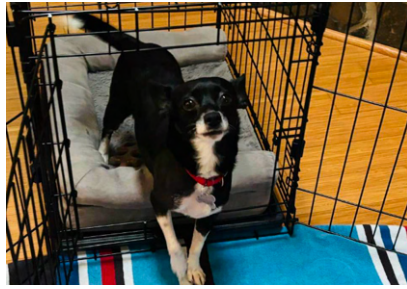


Sweetie is still on medical hold, but we hope she will be available for adoption sometime in 2025; her foster home is in Moncks Corner, South Carolina.

Sweetie - Blocked Salivary Gland

Our "Sweetie" can't catch a break. Last winter she was left in a vacated home where she was without food and water for an unknown length of time. New Rattitude was contacted and swooped in for the rescue. Sweetie had mastitis and high liver enzymes and is heartworm positive. Her time in foster care has been a constant series of vet visits, procedures, and tests. Her most recent ailment required surgery to remove a damaged salivary gland.

After spending nearly \$5,000 to diagnose and treat Sweetie's various ailments, this \$4,000 surgery was a big hit to our rescue budget. Once again, our supporters came through with financial help and Sweetie has made a nice recovery from her surgery.



Pepper - Broken Leg

This poor little Rat Terrier mix girl was picked up as a stray in Charlotte, North Carolina with a broken leg. She was fortunate to be rescued by New Rattitude and transferred to a Florida foster home where she had successful surgery to repair the fracture. The procedure included some plates and screws to

help the bones heal and keep them in place. After the surgery, Pepper had six weeks of healing with no running, jumping, or playing. Finally, she got the “all clear” to return to normal activities and fun!

Thank you, supporters, for making this new life possible for sweet Pepper!

Pepper was adopted in January 2025 and resides in Florida.

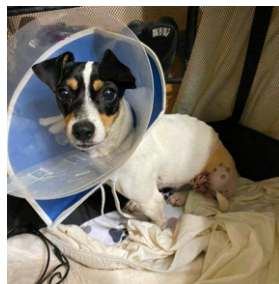


Ziggy - Broken Pelvis and Femur

After being struck by a car and spending a month in a North Carolina county shelter with a broken pelvis and femur, one-year-old Ziggy was rescued by New Rattitude and given the needed surgery. The cost of his surgery was nearly \$5,700; with follow-up care the cost was \$6,400.

We received loving donations for Ziggy from all over the country. He had no clue how many people supported him and cheered him on to wellness! See the related feature story on [pages 18-19](#) for full details of Ziggy’s amazing rescue story, including an update on how he’s doing today!

Ziggy was adopted in June 2024 and resides in Virginia..



Marla - Shattered Pelvis, Broken Femur

2024 was the year of car accident injuries. Like Ziggy, one-year-old Marla was hit by a car and suffered a broken left femur and a shattered pelvis. Another similarity to their stories was that she was taken to a county shelter that didn’t have the budget for expensive medical treatment. She would have been euthanized within hours if New Rattitude hadn’t stepped in to save her.

Unlike Ziggy, due to the severity of Marla’s injuries, her leg couldn’t be saved. Despite having her left rear leg amputated, Marla healed well from her surgery and now runs as fast as the wind on her three legs! More good news - she was adopted to a quiet, loving home with two other gently playful dogs (also adopted from New Rattitude).



Marla was adopted in November 2024 and resides in Virginia.

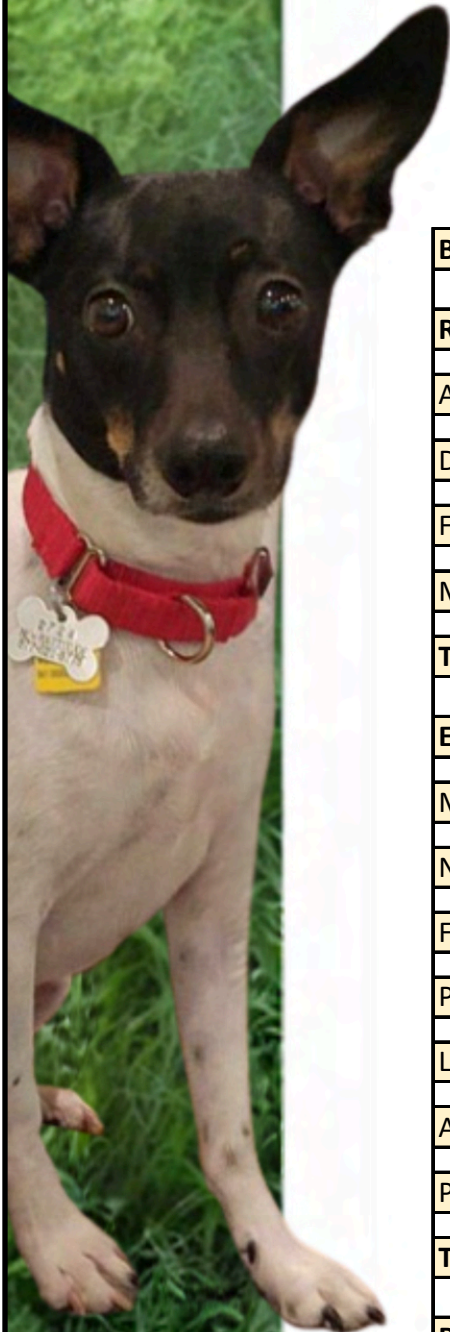
Financials

New Rattitude, Inc. 2024 Annual Financial Statement Overview of income and expenses for the calendar year ending December 31, 2024

New Rattitude, Inc. is tax-exempt under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code, EIN 26-3103215. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Our Form 990 submissions to the IRS can be found at [Guidestar.org](https://www.guidestar.org).

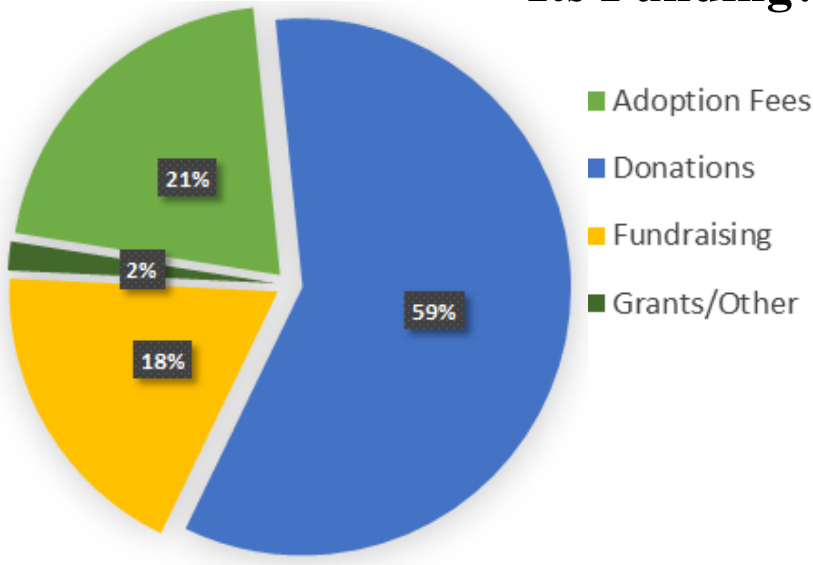


Beginning Balance as of January 1, 2024		\$ 209,413.19
Revenues:		
Adoption Fees		\$ 17,300.00
Donations		\$ 48,679.19
Fundraising		\$ 15,392.73
Miscellaneous		\$ 1,437.64
Total Revenues		\$ 82,809.56
Expenses:		
Medical Expenses	\$ 79,912.48	
Non-Medical Foster Parent Expenses	\$ 3,865.41	
Fundraising Expenses	\$ 5,486.37	
Program Expenses	\$ 1,977.48	
Liability Insurance	\$ 1,853.00	
Administrative expenses	\$ 1,187.01	
PayPal fees and bank service charges	\$ 1,635.83	
Total Expenses	\$ 95,917.58	
Revenues minus Expenses		\$ (13,108.02)
Ending Balance, December 31, 2024		\$ 196,305.17



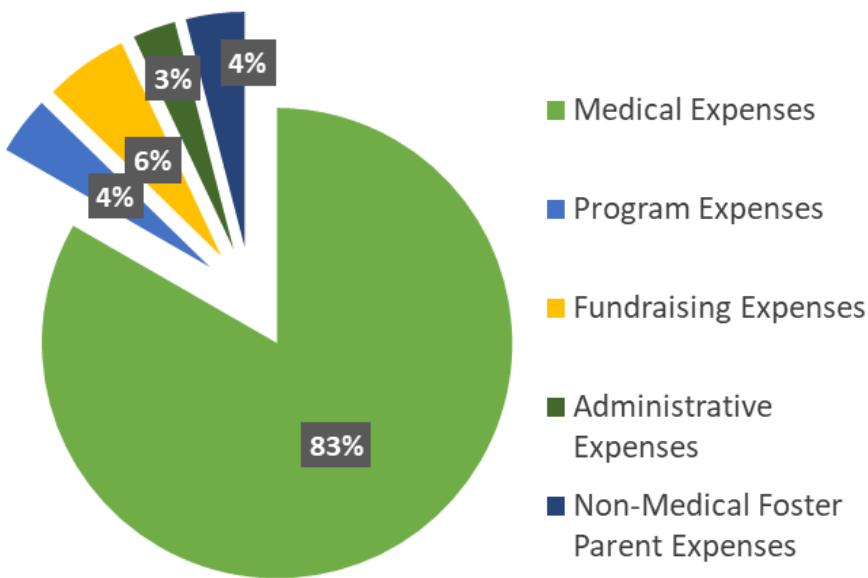
Raider (MI)
Adopted June 2024

Where Does New Rattitude Get Its Funding?

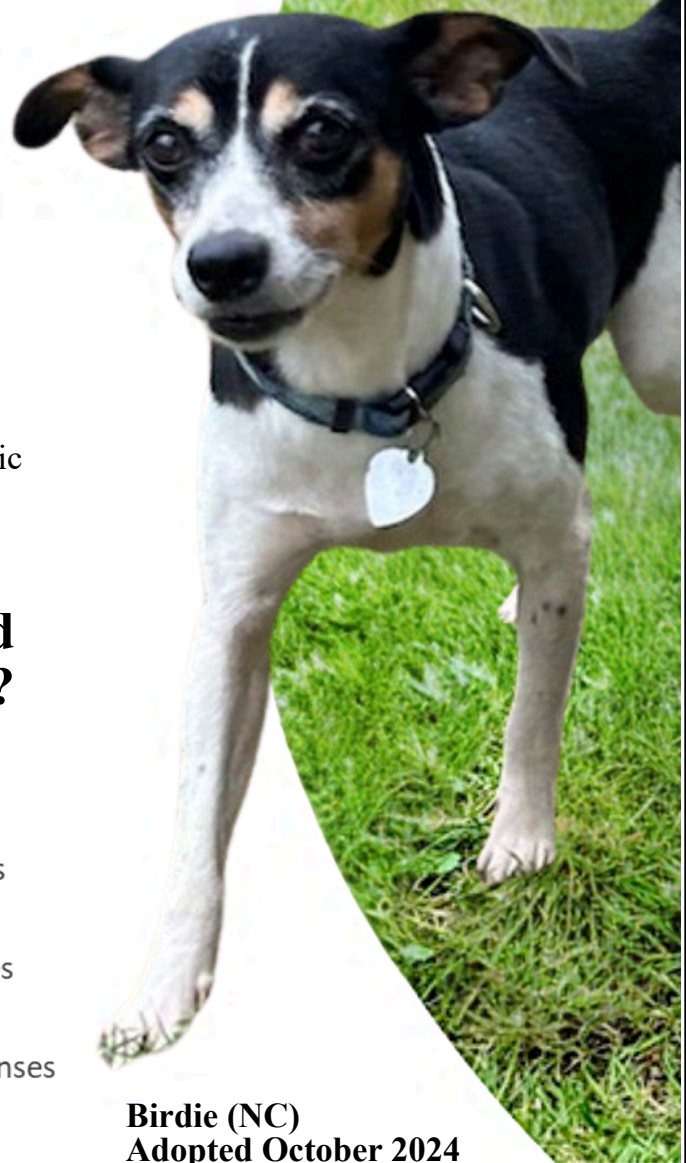


Our low adoption fees made up just over a fifth of New Rattitude’s operating revenues. We are dependent on public support through charitable tax-deductible donations and fundraising.

How Does New Rattitude Spend Its Revenues?



Over 80% of New Rattitude’s expenses go toward medical care for our foster dogs. Adding in the cost of dog food, dog transportation, boarding, microchips, ID tags, and collars, 87% of our spending is directly related to the rescue and care of needy Rat Terriers.



Birdie (NC)
Adopted October 2024

Fundraising

Eighteen percent of New Rattitude's 2024 revenue came from fundraising. Primary fundraisers included:

- **19th Annual Rat Terrier Jamboree**, April 2024.
- **Annual New Rattitude T-Shirt Sales**, April - December 2024.
- **Annual Calendar Photo Contest and Calendar Sales**, September - December 2024.
- **Online ReTail Shop Sales**, throughout the year.
- **Charity Donation Programs** (Kroger Rewards, Walmart Spark Good), throughout the year.

SAVE THE DATE!

New Rattitude invites YOU and your Rat Terriers to join us this spring for the **2025 20th Annual Rat Terrier Jamboree**, April 26-27, in Sweetwater, Tennessee. Registration is open now. Visit our [Jamboree web page](#) to register, and watch the [New Rattitude Facebook page](#) for updates, photos, and info.

Come Play!



2024 Jam Photos by Gary Thompson

Donations

New Rattitude received **\$48,679** in donations in 2024, representing 59% of our revenues. We are grateful to the following supporters who made monetary contributions to New Rattitude from January 1 through December 31, 2024.

Faithful Friends (Gifts from \$1 to \$249)

Louise Abreu
Vanessa Andrews
Rick and Susan Armstead
Brian and Nikki Babcock
Rosemary Babeaux
Debbie and Paul Crider
Terri Banner
Amy Bellendir
Karen Benavides
Erin Birkhead
Nancy Biscontini
Christina Blackwood
Heather Boggio
Joy and Brian Boland
Christine Boyer
David and Mary Bristow
Ken and Denise Burki
Tonya Cahoon
Kelly Cahalin
Gina Cambria
Linda Capen and Jim Mabe
Sharon Carey
Teresa Carson
Kimitha Cashin
Gretchen Chambers
Ann and Dean Chapman
Bailey Collazo
Clarence Conner
Brian and Debbie Costlow
Sarah Cowgill
Carolyn Creamer
Christine Daigle
Karen Dash and Jeff Terry
Ashley Day
Rita and Steve Deimler
Christopher Dekmar
Joyce and Raymond Dinello
Shannon Doody
Luann Douglas
Kimberly Dykstra
Alicia Edwards
Barbara and Philippe Esteve
Leticia Estrada
Gail Farrand
David Fellers
Marly Fieldhouse
Lucia Florido
Chris Ford
Carolyn Fort
Josefine Fouarge
Brandy Franklin
Kelly Fraser
Mike and Phyllis Freeman

Darrell and Cindy Freshour
Virginia Fulton
Melanie Garmon
Nicole Garrett
Tonya Geldbach
Andrew Gieseke
Susan Gingold
Alexis Golden
Darlene Griffin
Donna Grimm
Susie Guidry
Doreen Habben
Oded Haber
Amy Hammond
Lenonie Hanley
Robert Hansler
Alida Hanson
Kathy Harrington
Glenna Harrison
Judy Hartgerink
Troy Hewett
Laura and Christopher Hiatt
Joseph Hirdler
Alison Hollingsworth
Sean Hooper
Michele Horvath
Johanna Howard
Janet Hubbard
Cindi Hutchinson
PoWah Isaak
Jim and Patti Jeffries
Brian Johnson
Tina Jordan
Jen Kahler
Sue Kangas
Eleanore Kass
Nancy Kelley
Brian Ketron
Stephen Kircher
Aubrie Klouse
Mimi English Koch
Margaret Kosten
Chris Kulikowski
Charlotte Kuschel
Laura Kyer
Anne and Richard Lafferty
Petra LaForest
Lynda LeCrone
Donna and Wayne Littrell
Kim Looney
Dawn and Christopher
Lukitsh
Tara Lutley

Denise Lutz and Michele
Fulton
Madeline Maier
Marya Makowski
Pat Malone
Nancy Martin
Amanda Massengale
Stephanie Mathson
Jacklyn Matray
Suzanne McAllister
Eileen McConnell
Douglas McDonald
Susan Mcgurk
Wendy Merry
Kate Moore
Kimberley Hays Moore
Laura Moss
Betty Mounce
Nancy Mullins and
Ann Davis
Paul and Marti Naro
Skip Nichols
Kelly O'Connor
Brad O'Neil
Rita Onestini
Lesly Oxley
Nicholas Penatzer
Doris Penn
Pam Perryman
George and Cindy Pollock
Carrie Price
Caron Quick
Linda Rack
Peggy and Andy Raines
Alan Ramkumar
Jana Reyes
Christine Romesburg
Maridy Roper
Brandi Rose
Kathy Rose
Cindy and Clint Royster
Brenda Russell
Bruce Rylander
Cindy Salonic
Joanne Schaus
Dawn Schuetz
Christina Lynn Sheggrud
Lou Shubert
Rachel Spainhour
Ruth Stephens
Micki Stevens
Don Stewart
Vickie Stoll

Sharon Stradley
Jason and Carla Sunderland
Donna Taormina
Gary Tashjian
Andrea Tennison
Anggie Thompson
Laura Tomczak
Terri Ton
Jane Touchet
Ed and Lori Tribble
Jaclyn Troughton
Paula Tyorian
Stu Tyler
Kiyomi Vampran
Peter Varacalli
Ben and Brandie Vernille
James Waddell
Dawn Walet
Amy Wardlow
Kelly Warren
Shannon Waters
Jane Webster
Nanette Weeg
Becky Welch
Kathy Wells
Sandra Weot
Karen Weyler
Gina Whicker
Rebecca White
Casey Williamson
Paul and Jessica Wilson
Diane Woolner
David Wyatt and Rene
Baird
Caroline Wybar
Amy Yoho
Andrea Zekus



**Suzi
Adopted
October 2024**

Donations cont'd

Loyal Companions (Gifts from \$250 to \$499)

Terry and Gary Allen
Kristen Asci
Hannah Bachelder
Lori Bisch
Olivia Brasch
Jayna Bundy
Andrew and Nicole Carlson
HD Cole
Angelique Concepcion
Mary Cussatt
Deborah Daniel
James Dodd
Dan and Bonnie Donato
Jason and Kaitlin Fish
Sarah Foley
Jennifer and Jeff Garner
Anthony Garver
Kathryn Richter
Dave and Mary Lou Smith
Susan Snow
Cassandra and Rick Stutesman
Monica Vallin
Cassandra Zwart

Blue Ribbon Buddies (Gifts from \$500 to \$999)

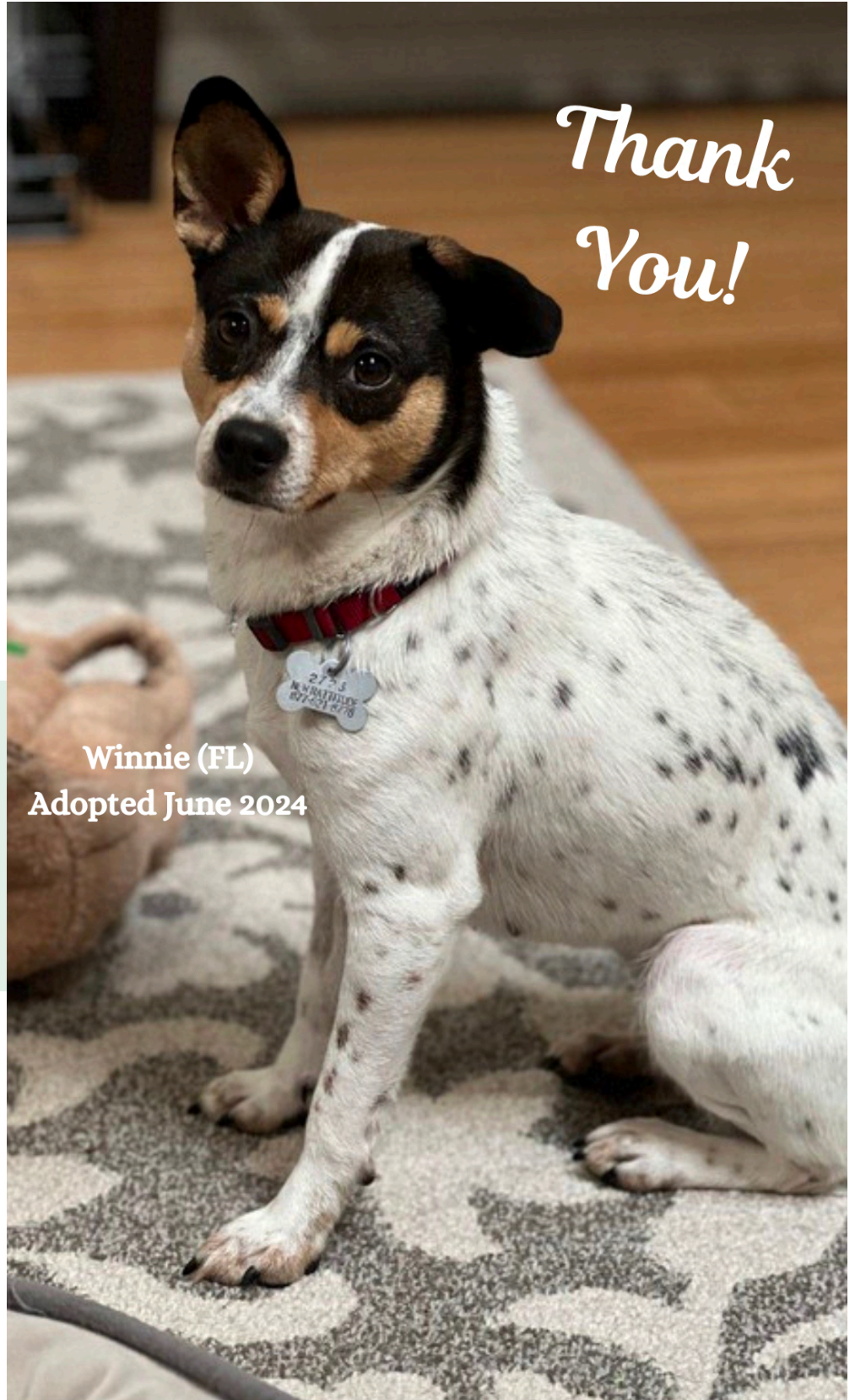
Bowen Keefe Fund
Pam DeLozier
Ron and Angela Egan
Michael Hodges
Estate of Verne L. Lietz
Mike and Debbie McPartland
Amanda Mullins
William Pollock
Candace Seal
Arlene Warshaw
Justin Widlund
Estate of Kristine Williams

Best of Show Award (Gifts of \$1,000 to \$2,999)

Debbie and Matt Conigliaro
Laurie Dempsey
Melanie Houlihan
Joey and Molly Miller
Elizabeth Rohn
Christina Rosario
Allison Stone
Emily Wackler
Jennifer Wendt

Grand Champion (Gifts of \$3,000 and up!)

Jan and Ray Pezzi



Winnie (FL)
Adopted June 2024

Furever Home

NEW RATTITUDE DOGS ADOPTED IN 2024

These former New Rattitude foster Rat Terriers have found their “furever” homes.
 CongRATulations to the new adopters and WELCOME to the
 New Rattitude family!

DOG	FOSTERED BY	ADOPTED BY
Abby	Sue Kangas	Toby and Sheri Thomas
Andy	Denise Merricks	Marly Fieldhouse
Annabelle	Molly Miller	Tanisha and Jesse Burdick
Bea	Cassy Stutesman	Amy and Randall Hurt
Bella	Nancy Mullins	Gail Grover
Billie Jean	Denise Gilroy	Denise Gilroy and Michael Mason
Birdie	Mindy Shapiro	Donna and Wayne Littrell
Biscuit	Laurie Dempsey	Cindy and Clint Royster
Bodie	Laurie Dempsey	Andrew and Nicole Carlson
Boone	Terry Beale	Teresa and Don Fant
Brook	Sue Kangas	Jaime and Tom Osborne
Buddy	Denise Gilroy	Nicole French and Kirk Johnson
Buzz	Denise Merricks	Carla and Jason Sunderland
Carrie Ann	Nancy Mullins	Pat and Lori Greene
Cayenne	Amy Heitshusen	Amy and William Schuler
Charmy	Nicole Dossey	Janie Webster
Cherish	Nicole Dossey	Jeanette and George Day
Chloe	Karen Marfurt	Dawn and Christopher Lukitsh
Clayton	Dan Frisbie	Marie Gabrysh
Clover	Amy Heitshusen	Walter and Teresa Knight
Coco	Mindy Shapiro	Lisa and Billy Smith
Cooper	Carissa Miller	Michele Horvath
Cranberry	Amy Heitshusen	Patricia and Eric Sines
Dodger	Bethany Adams	Guy and Kathy Silva
Dot	Molly Miller	Gina Whicker
Eddie	Pat Graham	Pat Graham
Evie	Carrie Pascale	Hannah Land and Olivia Jennings
Fagin	Bethany Adams	Molly and James Wolfe
Forest	Molly Miller	Casey Williamson
Ginger	Molly Miller	Jill and Kevin Early
Hammy	Denise Merricks	Karen Dash and Jeffrey Terry
Iggy	Carissa Miller	Carissa Miller and Joe Kiras
Isis	Sue Kangas	Brian and Sue Kangas
Jack Mulder	Nicole Dossey	Julian Medina
Jilz	Terry Beale	Nikki and Brian Babcock
Jim	Molly Miller	Terry and Gary Allen
Joey	Kate Moore	Jena and Gary Gammon

DOG	FOSTERED BY	ADOPTED BY
Jolene	Cassy Stutesman	Doreen and Steve Habben
Junebug	Mindy Shapiro	Rachel Spainhour
Lacey	Patti Jeffries	Patti and James Jeffries
Liam	Cassy Stutesman	Brad O’Neil and Robert Ignoffo
Louie	Frank Bennett	Karly Desmond and Justin Baca
Lulu	Mindy Shapiro	Anne and Richard Lafferty
Luna	Frank Bennett	Chris and Steven Kulikowski
Marco	Denise Merricks	Paul and Marti Naro
Marla	Cassandra Zwart	Matt and Renee Ferrary
Maxx	Lisa Rohn	Peggy and Andy Raines
Midgie	Carissa Miller	Gail and David Farrand
Milo	ReHome Program	Joyce Oulette
Mimi	Mindy Shapiro	Ben and Brandie Vernille
Mitzi	Molly Miller	Bailey Awkard-Nwokogu and Godson Nwokogu
Newton	Nancy Mullins	Gail Grover
Nickajack	Terry Beale	Brooke Lawing and Anthony Veronesi
Opie	Nicole Dossey	Carolyn Hurley and Curtis Robb
Oreo	Jessica Neff	Kathy and Daniel Phillips
Parker	Denise Gilroy	Justin Otis
Pawley	Laurie Dempsey	Caroline Wybar and Kerry Oliver
Peaches	Laurie Dempsey	Caroline Wybar and Kerry Oliver
Petey	Vickie Kauffman	Megan Ransom and Adam Kresler
Phil	Laurie Dempsey	Jerry and Misty Ferrell
Pixi	Amy Heitshusen	Barbara and Philippe Esteve
Poppy	Maddison Boike	Laura and Christopher Hiatt
Raider	Carissa Miller	David Hochberg
Ripley	Cassy Stutesman	Max and Eric Epps
Ripple	Sue Kangas	Denise Lutz and Michele Fulton
River	Sue Kangas	Jason and Kaitlin Fish
Rookie	Cassy Stutesman	Julie and Dean DuFresne
Rosie	Paige Sliney	Hayley and Timothy Gunter

DOG	FOSTERED BY	ADOPTED BY
Ross	Cassandra Zwart	Joyce and Ray Dinello
Russ Scully	Nicole Dossey	Cheryl Wilhelmsen and Melvin Weidenbach
Sky	Amy Heitshusen	Joye Durham and Lib Mullinnix
Sprout	Amy Heitshusen	Oulayvanh and Douglas Meister
Stella	Laurie Dempsey	Melinda Seemar
Suzi	Nicole Dossey	Jordan Shelton
Sweetpea	Melody Hassell	Pat and Harold Fernandez

DOG	FOSTERED BY	ADOPTED BY
Trixi	Amy Heitshusen	Stephanie Fragapane
Wilson	Vickie Kauffman	Norman Malone
Winnie	Kate Moore	Lori Thomas
Woody	Denise Merricks	George and Cindy Pollock
Ziggy	Lisa Rohn	Debbie and Paul Crider
Zoe	Lisa DeSoto	Jodi Bonk and David Peppler



Trixi



Brook



Forest



Bea



Fagin



Carrie Ann



Sweetpea



Cayenne



Hammy



Rosie

Something to Talk About!

What Folks Are Saying About New Rattitude!

“New Rattitude has always impressed me with the resourcefulness of all the volunteers. Having had rescued dogs as part of my family for the last 30 years I’ve never come across a rescue as dedicated as NR, thank you for all you do.”

Debbie F. - DE

“We are thrilled to have Louie (now Frodo) as the newest member of our family...Please accept my sincere gratitude for the work you do. I was shocked to be selected for Louie despite our great distance from his foster home. Your team's willingness to consider us based primarily on best fit for the dog is very touching...Louie is clearly a better dog for spending time in the care of such loving people.”

Karly D. - NY



“We are SO in love and thrilled to have Annabelle Lemon join our pack! We couldn’t be happier with her and amazed at the professionalism of New Rattitude Rat Terrier Rescue & Adoption.”

Tanisha B. - VA

Annabelle (VA)

Adopted March 2024



Louie (VA)
Adopted
October 2024



“Oh my goodness! What a great organization you have! Easy process; great communication & what an amazing foster program.”

Michele H. - IN

Cooper (MI)

Adopted March 2024

Jilz (TN)
Adopted February 2024



“God bless Terry and Gary and all of you at New Rattitude for taking such good care of [Jilz] through surgery and heartworm recovery. Terry could not have been nicer in her accommodation of our needs during the adoption process. Your organization is the best! Jilz' new vet was so grateful, as were we, to receive a packet of vet records that was so complete given her circumstances. Our transfer from foster to forever home was so easy. We could tell how good her rescue life had been by how well she transitioned to her new living quarters.”
Nikki B. - VA

“The adoption process was incredible. New Rattitude was very prompt, friendly, responsive, and thorough. Everyone that we talked to throughout the process was very friendly and we felt that it was a very stress free. When we are ready to welcome another Rat Terrier into our home, we will definitely reach out to New Rattitude again.”
Oulayvanh M.

“This amazing group didn't just give us the most loving dogs; they also brought us a community of incredible friends and a family we cherish.” Michele F.

“Have followed New Rattitude since 2016 when we adopted Luna and Sophie and have been very impressed with they have evolved to the great organization it is! Joined as a foster last year.” Nancy M.

“I helped with ground transport last year and have been so impressed with this group.”
Sarah G.



Maxx (MD)
Adopted
January 2024

“The adoption experience was great and I would not change a thing. I know I asked more than my fair share of questions during the process and they were all answered cheerfully and to my satisfaction. Lisa Rohn, his foster mom, is amazing. Maxx was in his home with two other dogs. They were all very happy and well cared for. We were allowed to visit the foster home, take Maxx for a walk and ask as many questions as we wanted for deciding to finalize the adoption.

...A big thank you to New Rattitude for helping us find just the right fellow to complete our family!” Peggy R. - TN

“TAILS” OF TWO RESCUES

The rescues of Ziggy and Pixie

Dog rescue isn't always easy. It takes passion, compassion, energy, ingenuity, creativity, flexibility, and hard work. Fortunately, New Rattitude has been blessed with volunteers who possess these qualities and a “do-what-it-takes” mentality to save Rat Terriers in need. This year's annual report feature story is about two particular rescues – one at the beginning of 2024 and the other at the end.

ZIGGY'S RESCUE

There's just something special about dogs named Ziggy! Is it their courage? Resilience? New Rattitude's handsome Ziggy, a rattie mix, had plenty of both. This is his rescue story.

HOW IT STARTED

December 12, 2023: One-year-old Ziggy was hit by a car and suffered a broken pelvis and femur. He was taken to a county shelter in Fayetteville, North Carolina that didn't have the budget for expensive medical treatment.

WHAT HAPPENED NEXT

January 5, 2024. The shelter reached out to New Rattitude for help. We couldn't stand to see this sweet boy hopeless and in pain, so enthusiastically agreed to bring Ziggy into our foster care program.

January 5-10, 2024: Planning began immediately. Getting Ziggy to a vet for surgery was top priority because nearly a month had already passed since the car accident. The shelter contacted local surgery clinics but none were available or able to perform surgery. We knew we had to move Ziggy to a specialty clinic outside of Fayetteville. An experienced and trusted veterinary surgeon in Winterville, Georgia was consulted. He reviewed radiographs from the shelter but was skeptical about getting good results if surgery had to be delayed until a 300-mile transport could be arranged. The longer the wait, the more difficult the surgery and the greater the likelihood of irreversible nerve damage would be. He recommended referral to a closer surgeon who could perform surgery quickly. Volunteers began calling Raleigh, NC specialty vets (just an hour from Fayetteville). After multiple phone calls, we finally located a clinic in Cary, NC (just west of Raleigh) that could medically board Ziggy until he could fit into their surgical schedule.

January 11, 2024: Mike and Phyllis, the parents of New Rattitude volunteer Molly Miller, picked up Ziggy from the shelter and drove him to Quartet Veterinary Specialty Hospital in Cary. Ziggy's crate was well padded with a pillow, towels, and blankets to keep him comfortable and minimize movement.



“TAILS” OF TWO RESCUES cont'd

January 16, 2024: Ziggy had surgery to repair his broken pelvis and femur. As usual, New Rattitude's supporters were responsive and generous, sending in lots of donations and well wishes to help out with his \$5,700 surgical bill. We received loving donations from all over the country: California, Washington State, Louisiana, Georgia, Illinois, Michigan, Washington DC, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, and Florida!



January 17-18, 2024: Jenn S., a friend of Molly Miller's, picked Ziggy up at the clinic the day after surgery, kept him overnight, and drove him to the airport the following day. Pilot Conor with Pilots N Paws then flew our little Ziggy from Cary to his foster home in Laurel, Maryland via private plane.

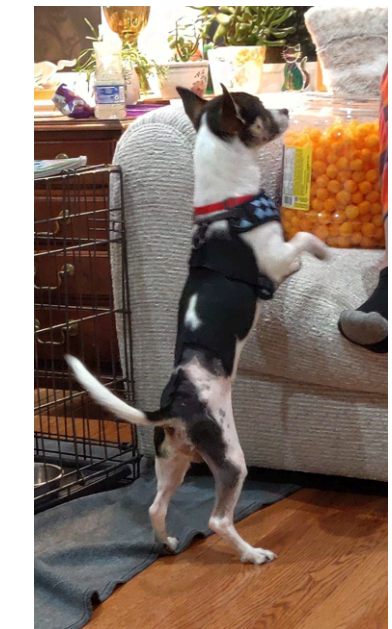


January 27, 2024: Ziggy had his stitches removed. Soon after, he began using his newly repaired leg. There was some nerve damage so his foster mom, Lisa Rohn, did range of motion exercises with him and took him on short walks. By early March, he was strong enough to walk a few miles a day.



March 13, 2024. Ziggy had neuter surgery.

April 5, 2024: Ziggy had a consultation with a neurologist because he was still “knuckling” his rear paw. X-rays showed his hip was still healing, but some nerve damage remained. The neurologist reassured Ziggy's foster mom that further healing of the nerve could occur slowly.



Finally, Ziggy was ready for adoption! Although he still sometimes ran on three legs, he did zoomies and navigated stairs, with energy left to play with the bigger dogs in his foster home! Nothing seemed to stop this resilient little boy, who was so ready for his forever home.

HOW IT ENDED

June 23, 2024: Ziggy got adopted! It took some time to get that perfect adoption application, but finally it came from previous New Rattitude adopters who had two Rat Terriers to be Ziggy's playmates. Ziggy settled right in to the Crider household and quickly became one of the pack. Our hearts were full!

As you can tell, this rescue took a village of New Rattitude volunteers, plus a few friends and family members as well. New Rattitude volunteers do this work selflessly day in and day out but deserve special recognition for Ziggy's rescue. It wouldn't have possible without **Lisa Rohn** agreeing to be Ziggy's foster mom, **Molly Miller** coordinating his shelter pull, **Karen Stewart** finding a vet that could do the surgery, **Mindy Shapiro** coordinating vet care, and **Pat Graham** coordinating transport.

Little Ziggy had no clue how many people helped and supported him and cheered him on to wellness, but we're sure he felt the love.



“TAILS” OF TWO RESCUES cont'd

PIXIE'S RESCUE

HOW IT STARTED

Rat Terrier rescue does not shut down for the holidays. On December 20, New Rattitude was notified about a one-year-old, five-pound female Rat Terrier mix in a southern California animal shelter who was desperately in need of rescue. She had a possible spinal injury, so the shelter did not consider her a candidate for public adoption.

WHAT HAPPENED NEXT

New Rattitude volunteer **Denise Gilroy** contacted the shelter to get more information. She recruited **Hailey Cole**, a volunteer in southern California, to spring Pixie from the shelter and keep her until transport to another New Rattitude foster parent could be arranged. She also recruited **Nicole Dossey** in Pullman, Washington, to accept Pixie as a foster dog.

Hailey pulled Pixie from the shelter and gave her safe refuge in her home while Denise began researching transport options, eventually securing a flight through Delta Animal Rescue Transport (DART), a group of Delta airline employees who volunteer to transport rescued cats and dogs in their free time. Hailey took Pixie to the vet for a health certificate to clear her for flying.

Plan A was to fly Pixie from Los Angeles, California to Spokane, Washington on New Year's Eve. The Delta employee transporter (Stephanie) and Pixie were on standby, so we nervously waited to see if they'd get a seat. Unfortunately, the flight filled up. So we went to Plan B, which was for Stephanie and Pixie to fly from Los Angeles to Salt Lake City, Utah on New Year's Eve and then take a New Year's Day morning flight from Salt Lake City to Spokane.

Hailey took Pixie to the busy airport, where she had to wait for many hours until boarding (in case anything fell through), and Pixie went on to spend New Year's Eve in Salt Lake City with Stephanie and her husband and two daughters who were Stephanie's helpers with Pixie's transport. On New Year's Day, Stephanie, her daughters, and Pixie were able to board the flight to Spokane.

Meanwhile, Nicole departed Pullman to meet Pixie and her transporters at the Spokane airport, a drive of about 75 miles on snowy, treacherous roads. After landing, Stephanie located Nicole and delivered Pixie to the arms of her caring foster mom. Stephanie and daughters returned to Salt Lake City, while Nicole and Pixie headed back to Pullman.



“TAILS” OF TWO RESCUES cont'd

HOW IT ENDED

This is the end of Pixie’s rescue story, but only the beginning for Pixie. New Rattitude will make sure her medical needs are treated, then we’ll start the search for her ideal forever home.

Rescue isn't easy, but it makes all the difference to the dog.



POST SCRIPT

Ziggy’s and Pixie’s stories are just two of many rescue stories we could tell for 2024. Some are less complicated and require fewer volunteers to pull off, but each one of them is unique and challenging in some way. New Rattitude receives rescue requests from shelters and individuals on a regular basis, and we’re often tagged on social media posts. We wish we could save every Rat Terrier in need, but we are limited by the number and location of foster homes to take them in. We can *always* use more foster homes. Please consider joining New Rattitude as a foster parent in 2025 – you can foster for New Rattitude from almost anywhere in the USA. With more foster parents, like **YOU**, we can respond to more pleas for rescue help.

Learn more about fostering for New Rattitude here: [Fostering with New Rattitude](#)

Submit your membership application here: [Membership Application - New Rattitude](#)

Thank you for considering it! You can make a difference in Rat Terrier lives!



**Boone (TN)
Adopted November 2024**



In Loving Memory

Susan Almond Beard

1953 - 2025



With immense love and gRATitude, the New Rattitude community remembers Susan Beard, one of our organization's original founders. Susan served on the New Rattitude Board of Directors since 2009 — as Vice President in 2010 and 2014, as President in 2011 and 2012, and as Secretary from 2016 through 2024. She also directed our ReHome Program since 2009, finding homes for almost 100 Rat Terriers who didn't fit into our foster care network. Susan was an extremely talented graphic designer and publisher, the driving creative force behind our various annual initiatives (the Photo Contest, calendar, holiday fund drive, Annual Report, and yearly T-shirt design) as well as various other New Rattitude publications, such as publicity rack cards, flyers, and a long-running monthly newsletter. Essentially, when New Rattitude needed something done right, we counted on Susan.

New Rattitude wasn't Susan's first association with a Rat Terrier organization. In 2006 she was one of the original founders of the Southeast Rat Terrier Jamboree. Along with a small group of rattie-loving cohorts, including our own Debbie & Rick Collins and Patti & Jim Jeffries, these dedicated individuals took over a previous Rat Terrier "convention" and turned it into a fun annual event in Sweetwater, TN, where ratties and their humans from all over the country come together to play, engage in friendly competition, hang out, meet new friends, and network. After several years, as Jamboree grew bigger and bigger and as the leaders became more and more closely affiliated with New Rattitude, they decided in 2012 to bequeath Jamboree to the New Rattitude organization. And thus was born the New Rattitude Rat Terrier Jamboree with an expanded crew of organizers and workers. Anyone who has been to the Jamboree has met Susan — faithfully handling all of the registrations and advance materials, manning the registration booth, enrolling the contest participants, and just generally keeping things running smoothly.



Besides being a Rat Terrier rescuer and enthusiast, this strong, smart, and independent woman was, through the years, a musician, medical lab tech, teacher, carpenter, fisherman, antiques dealer, graphic designer, business starter, and the most wonderful mother.

Susan, we thank you for your service and friendship. You are FUREVER in the heart of New Rattitude.

Join Us!

Love Rat Terriers?



www.NewRattitude.org

Lend a Paw, Save a Life!

Share your love for Rat Terriers by opening your home and heart to a homeless shelter dog. New Rattitude Rat Terrier Rescue and Adoption is looking for foster homes where a rescue dog can live in a real home environment while waiting for its Forever Home.

Foster Homes Needed!

Foster home families provide care for their rescued dog – socialization, training, and lots of love and affection.

New Rattitude provides the rest, including:

- Foster parent training and ongoing support
- Prompt reimbursement for vetting expenses and dog food.
- Deworming and flea/tick preventative
- Microchip, collar, leash, and ID tag
- Nationwide exposure to promote your foster dog and an experienced and diligent adoption team to ensure your foster find the perfect adoptive home
- A wealth of tools, resources, and in many cases funding available for education, training, assistance with behavioral challenges and other foster home needs

Other Volunteer Opportunities

New Rattitude also has many non-fostering volunteer positions available, including adoption application processing, fundraising, publicity, website development and support, various administrative roles, and more. Choose an area within your skill set, interest, and available time.

For more info, visit <https://newrattitude.org/foster/faq/>

To fill out a membership application, go to

<https://newrattitude.org/volunteer/membership-application/>

