



## **2018 RECAP**

Looking back on 2018, it's incredible to see how much Korean K9 Rescue has grown. This was our first full year of bringing dogs over from South Korea and we're thrilled to keep going strong for years to come. As a new rescue group with just a few volunteers, we still managed to save 499 dogs and find them families who will love them forever. We've hosted a number of events to help spread awareness of the trauma dogs experience in South Korea while raising thousands of dollars to contribute to our mission. With activists and rescues providing grassroots efforts to change Korea from the inside first, we've come together with many friends and partners to help us take in dogs, care for them, and find new homes. Our Korean K9 Rescue community is full of dedicated volunteers, trainers, and adopters that is continuously expanding!

## MISSION LETTER

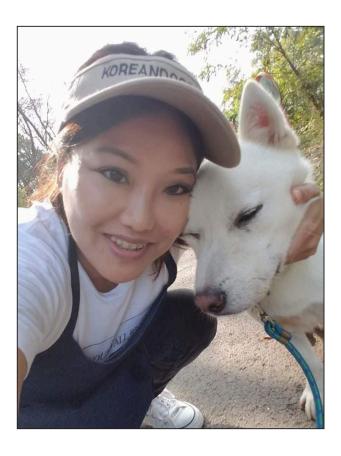
#### 2018 Letter from the Director Gina Boehler

As 2018 comes to a close, our team at Korean K9 Rescue is humbled that we have changed the lives of not only the dogs we rescue, but also of the humans who adopt them. We are so grateful that the community within New York City kindly welcomes our dogs into their city, hearts, and homes. When we first started in the summer of 2017, we did not know how the reception would be for our Korean dogs and never could have anticipated such a positive response. Our community has grown, awareness has spread and many lives have been saved because of our supportive adopters!

In 2018, our work in Korea was really at the beginning of its journey, but it has been laying the foundation for even greater goals in 2019 and onwards. We have been establishing trust and communication with the high kill shelter, activists, and rescuers that are on the ground in Korea. Rescuers now feel like their dogs have hope and a real light at the end of the tunnel.

The adoption rate in Korea is below 15%, which makes it unlikely that these dogs would be adopted in their homeland right now. Together, we pulled and rescued 499 dogs that were in danger of being euthanized at the municipal city shelter in Asan, Korea in this past year. With our help, the dogs had their true second chances in NYC where they each found loving forever homes. But our work will not stop there. Our goal is to open our own free spay/neuter clinic, low-cost vetting, and an even larger facility to house our dogs in Korea as they await their flights to NYC.

Aside from our adoptions in NYC and rescue work in Korea, we also dedicated time towards other initiatives to spread awareness in the media and to build partnerships in NYC. Some of the most notable media highlights are winning the World Dog Expo's "Rescue Campaign of the Year" award, having Amaze produce our Dogs for Sale VR documentary, and having The Dodo film an exclusive "Adoption Day" episode about one of our adoptions. In regard to partnerships in NYC, we became



a Rescue Partner of Petco Foundation and Network Partner of Best Friends Animal Society. All of these opportunities made our community and support system even stronger, which has been such a wonderful experience.

Everything that we are doing can have a ripple effect. Each moment that we help dogs find forever homes, receive media, press, win awards for our mission, and build partnerships with like-minded groups. It can all make a difference in Korea - it shows that adoption is an option for Korean dogs, that it is growing in popularity, and that there are people who are dedicating their lives to fighting for this. We have to try to make a difference, these animals are worth it and they depend on us. This is why we started Korean K9 Rescue and we thank you for your support!

All the best!

Gina Boehler Founder & Director Korean K9 Rescue

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# MISSION STATEMENT

Korean K9 Rescue is a non-profit, no-kill 501(c)(3) dog rescue organization and is known to be a very special rescue group in both New York City and South Korea. Along with our partners Band For Animal, we established "safe-house," a state-of-the-art quarantine facility in Ilsan, Korea for the dogs to decompress and relax before leaving for New York. We work together to practice safe quarantine, vaccinations, and health screenings before the dogs are transported to NYC. After the dogs arrive in NYC, Korean K9 Rescue works hard to rehabilitate these fearful and traumatized dogs who come from horrific situations that would make it difficult to ever trust humans again. During their stay with Korean K9 Rescue, all of the dogs are crate-trained, wear back-ups on their collars, and eat a healthy raw diet. Korean K9 Rescue spares no expense, even if it means a hefty food or vet bill every month. Each dog has specific needs that deserve to be met so that the dogs can truly get their second chance. KK9R makes every effort to set each dog and adopter up for success. This includes having a thorough adoption screening process, ensuring that adopters possess the proper dog supplies, requiring adopters to enroll in training, and being responsive to any questions that adopters have along the way.

### HIGHLIGHTS

In 2018 we had a number of major milestones to remember.

We brought down the euthanasia rate at Asan City Animal Shelter (ACAS)! Before Korean K9 Rescue was established, ACAS had a euthanasia rate of 85%. Shelters in South Korea are legally required to euthanize animals if they are not adopted within 10 days. With over 70 dogs and other adoptable pets, the ACAS's 4 volunteers that were running the shelter were overwhelmed. Together, we brought down the 85% rate down to 0%. This year 40% of our dogs came from the Asan shelter and went into our Safe House that we created in Ilsan, Korea. Considered state-of-the-art for animal rescues in Korea, it is a safe place that is big enough to care for 30 dogs. The dogs work on relaxation and training while they wait for their flights to NY. We've now found permanent homes for 250 dogs from ACAS.









#### **INTAKE REPORT**

January - **47** February - **36** 

March - **63** 

**April - 46** 

May - **32** 

June - **42** 

July - **41** 

August - 32

September - 40

**October - 47** 

November - 39

December - 34

**TOTAL FOR 2018 INTAKE** 

**499 dogs** 

**TOTAL FOR 2018 OUTCOME** 

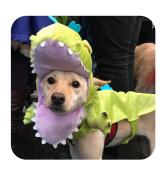
**489** dogs

For the first time we participated in Adoptapalooza, a mega pet adoption extravaganza hosted by the Mayor's Alliance of NYC that included hundreds of dogs, cats, and rabbits, from over 35 NYC animal shelters and rescues.











We hosted our second annual Howl-O-Ween Reunion, we all dressed up and celebrated in costume with our alumni dogs. The day was filled with fun, complete with lots of treats and prizes from our sponsors.

For the first time we participated in Strut Your Mutt, a charity dog walk that brings communities together to raise money for homeless pets. We joined as a Network Partner with Best Friends Animal Society late in the game, but we're so thankful that we managed to raise over \$5,000 thanks to our dedicated supporters.









The Dodo's "Adoption Day" Exclusive Episode
The Dodo filmed a beautiful adoption video about
one of our dogs. We were the first episode of their
new series called "Adoption Day" - featuring Juniper
FKA Kong and our very own Tina Khanolkar.

# **World Dog Expo's Award** We did it! We won World Dog

Expo's "National Rescue Campaign of the Year" award! It was such an honor to be recognized and to have the opportunity to spread awareness about the dog meat trade to like-minded animal activists. Thank you again to everyone involved, we couldn't have done it without you.









#### **Dogs for Sale VR Documentary by Amaze**

We proudly presented our first ever documentary film, Dogs for Sale: A Korean K9 Rescue Documentary. You can search for the title "Korean K9 Rescue - Dogs for Sale vF" on YouTube or our Media page on our website to find it.

This immersive VR film plunges head first into the world of Korean Dog meat farming and sheds light on the tireless work Korean K9 Rescue does to bring dogs into loving homes in NYC. Our own Tina Khanolkar and Gina Boehler are featured, as well as many of our KK9R alumni pups!

A huge thanks to Ernest Lee and Leon Lee from Amaze VR for putting this entire project together!





#### MTV's TRL Segment

Five of our rescue puppies went to the MTV studio to be filmed in the TRL "Hush Puppies" segment with the band Why Don't We. We were so proud to see our rescue puppies getting this well-deserved love and attention. In South Korea, these puppies had low chances of ever being adopted. And now they're true stars!

K9 Sport Sack's #NoDogLeftBehind Award
We were the winners of K9 Sport Sack's
#nodogleftbehind promise donation for June
2018! This was an incredible honor and we love
that K9 Sport Sack supports and donates to so
many dog rescues across the country! Thank
you again to everyone who voted for us, you
made this victory possible.





We started our foster program that included 25 dedicated foster homes where our pups could learn how to live in a NYC apartment for the first time. Our fosters helped train and acclimate the pups to the big city with love. Thanks to our fosters, we were able to offer all of the 499 pups that we brought over from South Korea a first look at city life.

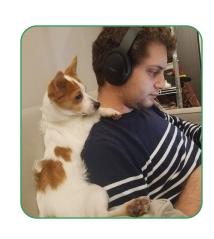


**Gage M. and Tiffany B. / Foster Parents** "We foster because we can't adopt them all."

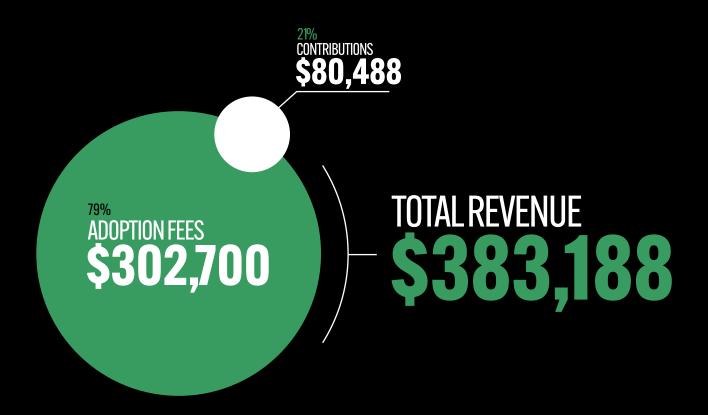


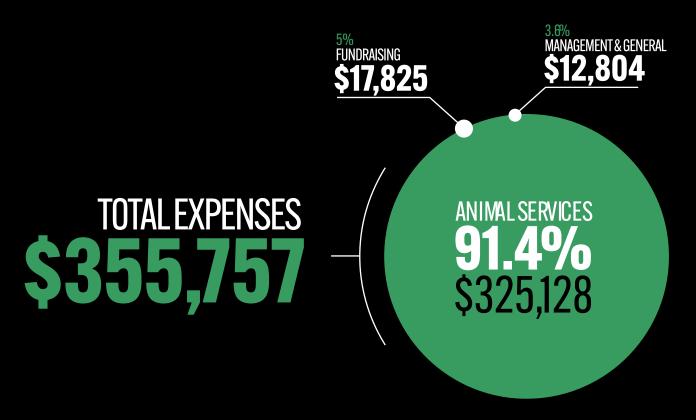
"We started fostering with KK9R because we really agree and like its vision and the work they do"

Peter H. / Foster Parent
"It's so rewarding to play a
part in making sure they [the
dogs] find the perfect home"



### **FINANCIAL REPORT**







To all the fosters and volunteers, we couldn't have done it without you.

Thanks to the, Petco Foundation, ASPCA, Best Friends Animal Society, and Foster Dogs NYC who have helped us grow immensely with partnerships and services.











### **HAPPY TAILS**

From our adoptors





































