

Dog Rescue from a foster's perspective:

Evergreen Autoworks connection to dog rescues started with the owners of EAW Jeff and Kelli Odom discussing their love for animals and how they could help homeless dogs in need. The discussion was how could Kelli's past experience working as a veterinarian technician be used to help these dogs in need of homes. The discussion went on for several weeks and Jeff continued to suggest "fostering" for a rescue and how great Kelli would be at taking care of the dogs. Kelli decided to look into different rescues in Seattle, specifically rescues that saved terriers since they were her favorite. 6Ddegrees Rescue just so happened to have terriers so Kelli submitted an online foster application and within seconds the phone rang. It was Karleen Brigham the founder of 6Ddegrees Rescue. Her immediate response was an indicator of the need for foster families. After a long conversation with Karleen on the phone, Kelli and Karleen decided to meet and discuss the possibility of Jeff and Kelli becoming a foster family for the dogs 6degrees were saving. After more conversations, inspections and emails it was decided that the Odom's would be fit for fostering these rescue dogs. "The first couple of dogs arrived shortly after that and 2 years later, 54 dog's lives are saved and in happy forever homes because we fostered.



Kelli and Jeff Odom with Karleen Brigham (right) of 6Ddegrees Rescue.

The feeling of giving back and knowing we helped saved lives is the reward of fostering. Many times we're asked don't you want to keep them?" said Jeff. "I tell them that the satisfaction comes from seeing the dogs get their forever home and the joy they bring the families that adopt them," added Jeff.

Each adoption allows the continuation of the process of saving these castaways.

The process to rescue these dogs is costly, vet bills are 80% of a rescues' expenses and can be thousands of dollars. Sustainability is what 6degrees goal is by "saving it forward" for every dog adopted, the money is applied to the vet bill. Donations are what help them save dogs lives and keep the rescue going.

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PROFILE

Dog Rescue

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6dogrees rescue is a small 15 -20 dog all foster based 501c3 non- profit WA State rescue. They remain small to provide quality vetting and foster care for the dogs they save.

Why CA dogs? The founder of 6dogrees Karleen Brigham explains - WA does not have the same issues as CA. Little dogs are in demand in WA and if you were to visit a shelter, you would see there just isn't many little dogs. So why not meet the demand and save lives at the same time while educating people on the benefits of adoption. This is where 6dogrees focus began.

6dogrees rescues dogs from California kill shelters. These shelters destroy hundreds of dogs each month. Rescues like 6dogrees have a network of helpers in California that visit the animal shelters and visit the dogs held for adoption or destruction. The pullers or volunteers in CA screen the dogs the best they can and suggest they be rescued based on their personality and adoptability.

The rescues arrange the adoption of these chosen dogs and pays all the fees to get the dogs out of the shelters and transported to WA via vans. California shelters realize their issues of overcrowding and partner with out- of- state rescues so dogs can have a second chance at life. A shelter/ rescue partnership makes it possible for shelter dogs to have a second chance at a good life and saves them from euthanasia. Then these lucky dogs get moved to a local private boarding facility where they are held until their ride to Washington can be arranged. Once every few weeks, these transports bring dogs to Washington State and drop the dogs at Greenwood Animal Hospital for vet checks and any additional vetting they may need. Most of these dogs are skinny, sick and scared and have to be cared for by a vet on their arrival to Washington. Each dog is checked out and cleared to go to their foster family. Fosters then pick up these dogs from the veterinarian and take them to the next stop on their journey to a forever home. Once



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Above: Jeff Odom holding Briggs, who has now found a forever home.

Right: Karleen's personal pets

they're at the foster home they're allowed to get healthy and adapt to life outside of the concrete and chain link of the animal shelter. Once they're healthy and fit enough, they are posted on adoption websites petfinder.com, rescueme.org and adoptapet.com where people can see and apply for adoption. Once the adoption application is accepted, a phone interview and home visit is completed, then a meet and greet is arranged. The foster families meet the dogs and through the process,

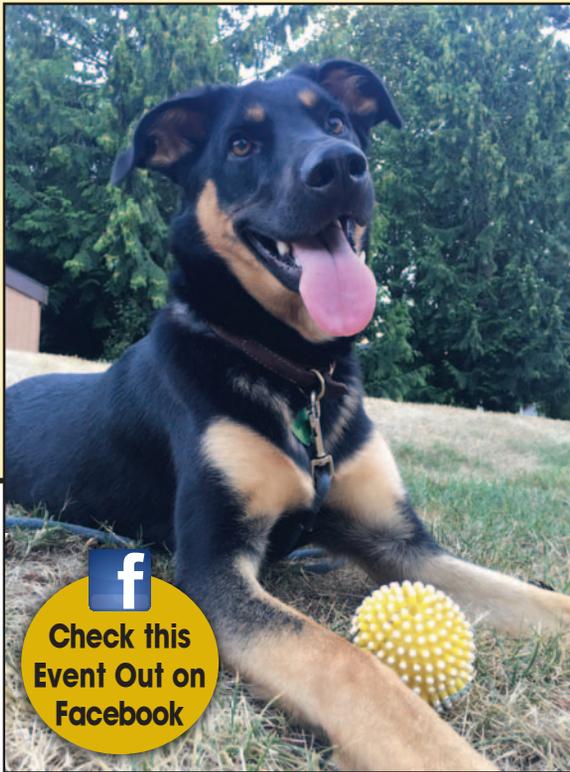
the foster of the dog determines if the family is a good fit. Once a family is sure the dog is a good fit and 6dogrees feels the same, the adoption takes place and the dog is set for life with a loving family.

This is what makes it all worth it for the Odom's and keeps them from keeping all the dogs they foster.

To learn more about fostering, adopting or if you would like to make a tax deductible donation, please visit 6dogrees rescue at www.6dogrees.com



DOG RESCUE BENEFIT • DECEMBER 10TH • 2PM - 6PM



Check this Event Out on Facebook

Join us at Decibel Brewery and Evergreen Autoworks for this benefit event for 6dogrees dog rescue.

- **Silent Auction**
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All proceeds benefit 6dogrees, a non-profit, small, grassroots rescue focusing on saving local and California death-row dogs

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