



Lap-Letter

LDR Success: Freedom Finds Safety, Home with Lap Dog Rescue

In July of this year, mail carrier Errynn Sanchez and the Hanson Family of Albuquerque changed the future of a New Mexico stray dog.

“I first saw (this dog) loose around the intersection of Sunport and University (in Albuquerque)...” Errynn said. “The first day I saw her, I stopped in my mail truck on the way to the route and tried to lure her with treats.” Errynn, who dubbed the pup Freedom, added that the dog was very skittish, and figured she had wandered to the area from a nearby neighborhood.

But Errynn saw Freedom again the next day. With summer temperatures approaching 100 degrees, she decided to leave treats and water out for the dog. After several days, it became clear to Errynn that Freedom was a stray.



Freedom (Paseo) after she was trapped by volunteers Errynn Sanchez and Angela Shomin.

“I was spending my lunch breaks trying to find (the dog), feed her, and earn her trust,” Sanchez said. “I wasn’t making progress, and I was really worried that the fireworks from the 4th of July would terrify her.”

At this point, Errynn reached out to Angela Shomin, a local volunteer who often helps trap lost and stray dogs. “We coordinated to learn Freedom’s schedule to try to place a trap,” Errynn said. While they were not able to trap Freedom before the Independence Day holiday, Errynn said that she continued to leave out fresh ice water, high value food, and treats in the hopes of keeping Freedom in the area... and it worked! “The day Angela came out with the trap, Freedom was close enough to smell the bait food and walked right into the trap within a half an hour!”

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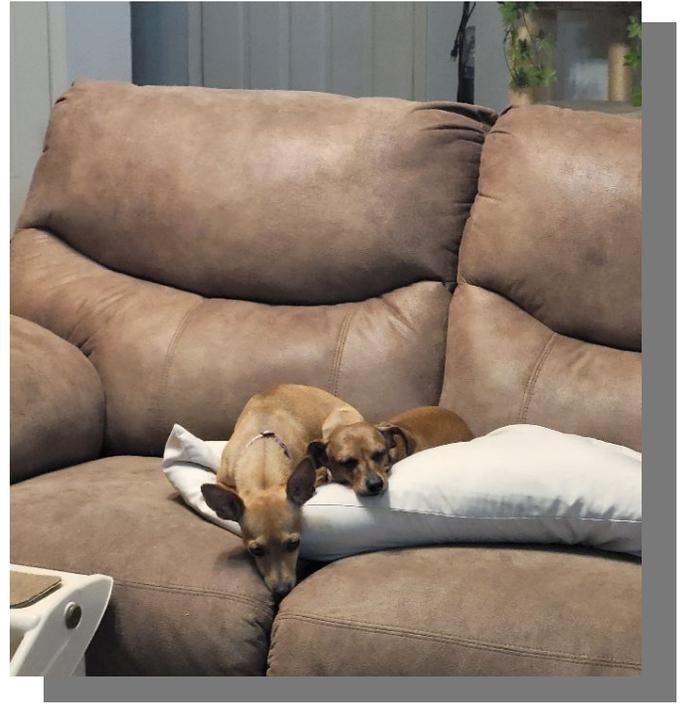
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Errynn said that Angela took Freedom home that night, and realized the pup did have an extreme fear of humans. Errynn, who had served as a dog foster for another organizations several years before, asked Angela to bring the dog back to her. Freedom was introduced to Errynn's dogs and did phenomenally well. Errynn said Freedom was not chipped nor spayed, and after posting the dog with the city and county, no owner came forward. Angela directed Errynn to Lap Dog Rescue.

"Lap Dog Rescue worked with Errynn to get Freedom fully vetted, chipped and spayed," said Brian Spence, president and board member for Lap Dog Rescue of New Mexico. "We want to give all of our adoptable dogs the best chance at getting adopted and having the lives they deserve, and we are thrilled that this process worked out so well for Freedom, now known as Paseo"

Throughout this process, Errynn said her co-worker, Dean Hanson, "had been keeping tabs on the saga of trying to capture this little girl, and had developed a soft spot for her." Following Freedom's spay procedure, the dog developed minor complications that required medication to be administered every couple of hours. Errynn said that the Hanson Family volunteered to sit with the dog, medicate her, and look after her while Errynn was at work. "Dean even sat on the floor with her and hand-fed her some special food with her medication," Errynn said. "At this point, I think we all knew he'd end up being her furever dad."

Dean admitted that he and his family were not looking for another dog.



Paseo (formerly Freedom) enjoying a nap with her dachshund bestie with the Hanson Family.

"...We already had three dogs and a cat," he said. But they thought their family would be "a perfect fit" for Freedom. The Hanson Family adopted the dog, re-named her Paseo, and she has thrived.

Dean said they were concerned about how Paseo would fit in with their pack, and if she liked cats, but that she has fit into their family very well. "She snuggles with our dachshund and eats with everybody else," he said. He added that Paseo also sleeps with them at night.

Lap Dog Rescue works to recover, rehabilitate, and permanently re-home New Mexico's small champion dogs, like Paseo. Spence said that he is happy that Lap Dog Rescue was able to support Errynn and the Hanson Family's efforts with Freedom/Paseo. Errynn now serves as a foster with Lap Dog Rescue, and has fostered four dogs for the organization.

Holiday Travel Tips for Our Lap Dogs



Former Lap Dog Rescue pups Scooter and Scarlet are comfy in their crate.

Holiday travel is upon us, and it's always a gift when we can take our dogs with us! Here are a few tips to keep in mind as you plan your trip this season:

- Create their space. Bring a pet carrier big enough for your dog to turn around in, along with their bed or favorite blanket. This can remind them of the comforts of home and lessen their stress. Finding a spot away from noise and commotion can also help them feel safe and secure in unfamiliar surroundings.

- Maintain their routine. Taking walks and keeping feeding times on schedule will also help your dog in their new environment.
- Be sure to give your dog plenty of time and space to adapt to strangers and family or friends that they may not know well.

Lap Dog Rescue Awards and Accolades

Lap Dog Rescue is pleased to be recognized for the outstanding work of our volunteers and adopters!



2022 Top-Rated Nonprofit by Great Nonprofits.

Albuquerque Journal 2022 Readers' Choice Award for Pet Adoption and TOP THREE for Top Nonprofit and Top Animal Rescue!

TOP FIVE in *Albuquerque the Magazine's* 2022 Best of the City for Best Rescue and Best Place to Adopt a Pet!

LDRNM

Foster Corner

How do I become a foster for Lap Dog Rescue?

Applications to become a foster are available at www.lapdogrescue.org. We will interview you - much like we do our adopters - and provide you with training and supplies, as well as access to our online systems for foster dog parents.

For more information about becoming a foster, please email us at lapdogrescue@lapdogrescue.org.

Lap Dog Rescue 2022 Giving Guide

Thank you to all of our donor and supporters who have given this year! 2022 continued to be a challenging year for dog rescue organizations, and more dogs than ever have needed our help. As we look towards 2023, please consider how your financial contribution can support Lap Dog Rescue and help us do more. For more information about how you can help, or to donate, please visit us at www.lapdogrescue.org.

\$1,000 - Ensures 10 dogs receive their pre-adoption veterinary check-ups, tests, and shots.

\$750 - Ensures six dogs are spayed or neutered, and microchipped.

\$500 - Provides food for 10 foster dogs for two months.

\$100 - Provides three dogs with grooming, including bathing, tangle/knot trimming, and flea/tick dips.

\$50 - Provides flea/tick preventative for six dogs for one month.

\$25 - Provides a new collar/harness and ID tag for each of our pups (which goes with them to their new homes!



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More Ways to Give to LDRNM

Each year, Lap Dog Rescue of New Mexico relies on donations of food and supplies from a variety of partners throughout the state.

- Visit Simply Diego's at 3301 Menaul NE, Suite 10 (near Menaul and Carlisle) in Albuquerque, and select a pre-priced package of much needed items to go directly to Lap Dog Rescue to support and care for our pups throughout the year. Packages are available for \$10, \$25, \$50, and \$100.
- Designate Lap Dog Rescue of New Mexico on Amazon Smile, and Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases direct to Lap Dog Rescue!
- Link your Smith's Food & Drug Rewards Card to Lap Dog Rescue, and Smith's will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of your eligible purchase direct to Lap Dog Rescue.

For assistance designating Lap Dog Rescue of New Mexico as your charity of choice with Amazon Smile or Smith's, please email us at lapdogrescue@lapdogrescue.org.