

2025

ROLDA Annual Report and Accounts

Because every animal deserves to be respected.

Table of Contents

Chapter 1	How can you join our cause?
Chapter 2	Message from Our Founder: From the mission steward to what keeps me awake during nights
Chapter 3	Then and Now
Chapter 4	Driven by Love: How and Why ROLDA Began
Chapter 5	Our Year in Numbers
Chapter 6	2025: The year of changes – Change of name
Chapter 7	ROLDA in Romania and Globally
Chapter 8	Transparency ROLDA Romania
Chapter 9	Budget explained
Chapter 10	Transforming the future for animals and people: Creating the first cage free dog shelter in Romania
Chapter 11	A Picture is Worth a Thousand Woofs
Chapter 12	Nothing Taken for Granted
Chapter 13	In This Together

#give hope

Chapter 1

How can you join our cause?

Your gift has an **immediate impact** for vulnerable animals in need!

You have the power to save a soul from disaster, misery, hunger and abuse. **Today.**

Bank Transfer

Account name: Fundatia ROLDA
IBAN EUR: RO58BTRLEURCRT0PA6711501
SWIFT/BIC: BTRLRO22
Bank name: Banca Transilvania

Online Donation

https://rolda.org/donate

On ROLDA's secured website, you can donate via PayPal or Stripe (using your card) or scan the qr code ->

Give Vulnerable Animals a Better Future

Visit: https://legacy.rolda.org

Select your country and read how you can mention ROLDA in your legacy.

Every month, ROLDA helps approx. 2000 animals – Thank you for empowering us to reach the next animals waiting to be saved!



Join us for updates about ROLDA rescue missions in Romania:

Join the ROLDA Rescue Team even if you are miles away:

SUBSCRIBE

Donations are urgently needed to fund emergencies rescue and save vulnerable animals:

DONATE

Chapter 2

Message from Our Founder

From the mission steward to what keeps me awake during nights

“ This year ROLDA turns 20, a moment of pride and mixed emotions for me. I remember at the beginning being asked what my job title was. I didn’t know how to respond because I wore so many hats back then. It kept me busy but meant I didn’t have time to think about my job title.

Not long ago I came across the phrase ‘mission steward’ which I now believe is true for me - someone who works to protect and advance ROLDA’s core purpose with integrity. Having incredible supporters stand beside ROLDA as we help the voiceless, is the greatest reward and truly gives my life purpose.

Looking back, I’m grateful that my beautiful Printz became the ROLDA symbol. He will always remain the first dog I saved, and the one that inspired me. Thinking about Printz reminds me how everything turned out exactly as it was supposed to. Rescuing him that day was a natural instinct for me, and somehow inspired everything that ROLDA has become today.

Time doesn’t wait, but love does. *The love for animals is a constant in my life and holding a dog in my arms is as powerful and recharging now, as it was the very first time.*

I’ve succeeded in life because of the animals around me, who kept me going every single day. My doctor told me I have an abnormally big heart, which could explain where I’ve held my love for animals for all these years.

No matter how busy our lives are, I’ve always believed in doing what is right. In a moment you can choose to walk by or to stop and make a difference for someone in need. I like to think of the ROLDA team as a family - who choose to stop and make a difference every single day. We share the same values and celebrate our victories, but still stand by each other - even through difficult times.

When I look to the future, I see ROLDA growing into an international movement. Our core programmes in Romania, Ukraine and beyond will continue, but we'll consider how we can give back to the incredible ROLDA community who have supported us so generously. If I've learnt something from dogs, it's the true meaning of loyalty. What will make ROLDA a truly unique charity is to give a little back to the generous and loyal communities that were there for us when we had nothing.

My vision is that all shelters become cage-free facilities, where dogs no longer see the world from behind cold metal bars. I'm so proud to say this is already underway, starting with a pioneering shelter renovation in Romania. Right now, ROLDA's first shelter is being transformed into an innovative cage-free facility for rescued animals, with wellbeing at its core.

Through our international awareness campaigns and education projects, I hope to see responsible pet ownership become the standard in Romania. By changing the public mentality about pets, we will combat abuse, neglect and pet abandonment which are all too common.

This is the central goal of the PawzUp Center, a project in the pipeline in Romania. Once built and functional, the PawzUp Center will not only house hundreds of animals, but will provide opportunities for the community - from volunteering to employment, as well as education programmes on animal behaviour and pet ownership for youths and seniors. We will inspire all generations to understand animals and actively change the world for them, together building a better future. The world will only be a better place if we are brave enough to do the right thing. Sometimes we fail, but when we succeed we make huge progress.

The 20 year anniversary of ROLDA marks the first incredible chapter in our story. The future holds so much promise and hope for animals.

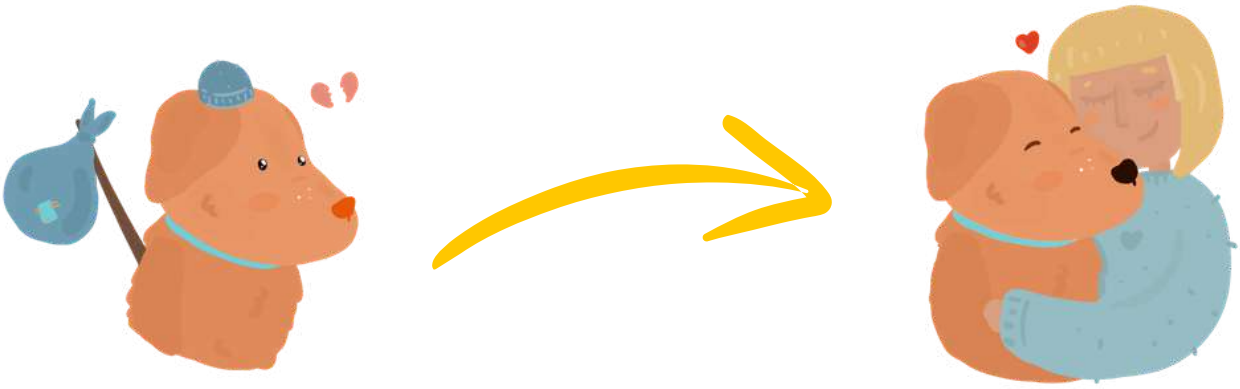
I'm excited about what we will achieve together, and know that with the compassion and dedication of our community, we will build a safer future for all vulnerable animals who need our love, commitment and care.



With respect and hope,
Dana Costin
Founder & CEO ROLDA

Chapter 3

Then and now



The dogs whose lives ROLDA transformed





KNOPA

Knopa, the brave dog who was hit by a car and suffered a spinal cord injury?

Thanks to surgery and the dedicated care of our ROLDA Hero, Knopa is now running around in her wheelchair, exploring the world with curiosity and joy. What once seemed impossible — moving again — has become a reality, step by step.

Her journey is a testament to resilience, love, and the power of not giving up on those who cannot speak for themselves. Knopa may walk differently than before, but her spirit is unstoppable, and every day she grows stronger and more confident.





BOB

This is Bob. He’s 10 years old... and completely blind.
He was brought to our ROLDA Rescue Hero in Targu Frumos, along with four other dogs, by a lady who wanted to leave them all at the public shelter. She never mentioned that Bob couldn’t see—we only discovered that later.
Despite his blindness, he adapted quickly and found comfort with us.
Today, we’re overjoyed to share that Bob has been adopted!
A new chapter begins for this special boy, and we couldn’t be happier.





STYOPA

Styopa's story is heartbreaking.
He was hit by a car with such force that it tore out his eye. Blinded and in agony, he stumbled into a deep hole — and stayed there, alone, for nearly a week.
One kind woman brought him food and water every day, but she couldn’t reach him.
He was trapped. Terrified. Broken. But now, he’s safe.
With Ruslana, Styopa has warmth, care, and a quiet place to heal.

Chapter 4

Driven by Love: How and Why ROLDA began

ROLDA is a global network of affiliated non-profits, helping vulnerable animals and people who care about them. Our programs serve animals in need and pets with financially troubled owners, such as senior citizens, retirees and unemployed people.

Vision

To build a world free from homeless, unwanted animals that suffer terribly on the streets. A world where every dog and cat has the opportunity to form a strong, lifelong bond with their human companions. A world where every pet is considered a family member.

#give hope

Mission

- **To build humane and sustainable habitats for abused animals**
- **To create safer, cleaner habitats to benefit the people in Romania**
- **To help vulnerable animals affected by natural and human made disasters**
- **To support disadvantaged communities of pet owners in Romania and internationally.**

Over the years, people have often asked me:
"If you could be anyone in the world, who would you be?"

My name is Elena Daniela Costin, or Dana for short. I started ROLDA soon after I finished high school.

During my 20s, the stray population boomed all over Romania, including in my hometown Galati. My first rescue dog was a German Shepherd, Printz, whom I found wounded and bloody. He was abandoned in a local park after an illegal dog fight. Printz was the first dog my parents allowed to stay in our tiny apartment!

Each dog or cat from over 100,000 helped by ROLDA after Printz represents more than a story, they are lives saved, futures transformed, places where we give hope when nobody else did.



Dana Costin
Founder & CEO ROLDA

Read the full story

Chapter 5

Our Year in Numbers

2,000 animals helped month after month

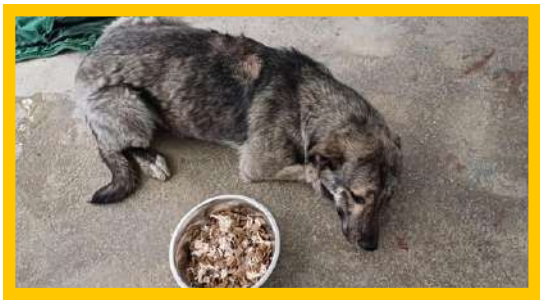
Average price to help an animal that has nobody else: 80$

21,150 animals helped in 2025



Here are some of our accomplishments in Romania during 2025:

- Continued to rescue, shelter and rehome vulnerable, homeless or abused animals;
- Covered sterilization costs for 450 dogs and cats across Romania;
- Continued to support over 40 shelters and animal rescues in Ukraine, especially close to the front line, where immediate evacuation and veterinary intervention was needed;
- Supported small animal charities across Romania to prevent them from closing down;
- Extended our emergency support internationally to Antalya, Turkey (1 shelter) and Palestine (1 shelter) as well as a Bulgarian emergency rescue team Saved, sheltered and rehomed approximately 300 abused dogs from terrible conditions in puppy mills across Europe;
- Supported 75 senior pet owners, who had been affected by the dramatic increase in living costs - through our social program, #FriendsForever;
- Distributed 1,500 educational colouring books about animal behaviour to schools across Romania.













Chapter 6

2025: The year of changes – Change of name

New name, same dream

For over 20 years, ROLDA has been working to create a safer future for abandoned and abused animals. When we started in Romania, population of strays was a few million and conditions from public shelters hard to be described in words. Through sterilization, education and building modern shelters, we are making a change and change the reality in which Romanian animals live.

The branches we opened, first in the US and after in Australia and across Europe are created to fund Romanian projects and campaigns.

For example, in the US you know us as Romanian League in Defense of Animals, Inc.

We are ROLDA - United for Vulnerable Animals Worldwide

Now, we look at our future as an organization capable to support vulnerable animals in areas affected by natural and human made disasters, on top on continuing to help Romanian animals.

The adjacent sentance added to ROLDA name honour our beginnings and link the present to a future where we can use our expertise helping Ukraine animals to support Middle East or other communities where animals have little to hope for.

The slogan #GiveHope stands to remind about all difficult moments when we did not give up and fought as a team, all big and small victories which gave us energy to continue.

Chapter 7

ROLDA in Romania and Globally

ROLDA supports projects in Romania (since 2006), Ukraine (2022) and expanded more recently in other countries from where we saved dogs abused in puppy mills or where natural or human made disasters strike. The majority of our activity and funding will continue to focus on Romania.

A. In Romania

Statistics

- Estimated 600k-1 million homeless animals
- Other charities currently helped: 5
- 2026: 20 years anniversary
- Over 100,000 animals helped

Example projects

Shelters for dogs and cats





Friends Forever for seniors with pets







Sterilization







Education







Help other NGOs





B. In Ukraine

Statistics

- Estimated 900,000 homeless dogs (Source: WHO and ZooPatrol Ukraine
- Over 40 shelters and rescuers helped repeatedly by ROLDA since 2022

Example projects

ROLDA volunteers save dogs from evacuating villages bombed





Rehoming dogs saved from war (2022-2023)



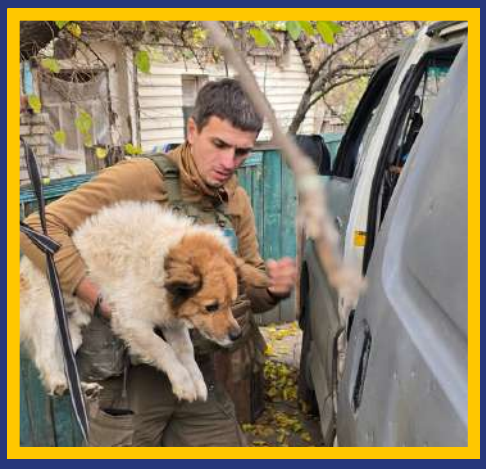





Delivering humanitarian aid to dangerous zones near the frontline



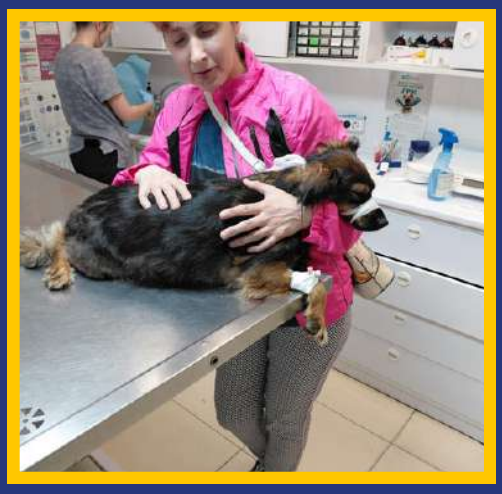


Distributing financial support to locals rescuers across Ukraine





C. Globally

Statistics

- Estimated 900 million dogs worldwide. Of these, hundreds of millions are free-roaming, living as strays, feral dogs, or “community dogs.” Recent research suggests that India, Mexico, Turkey, Pakistan, Morocco and Romania are among the hardest hit * Source

Comparing National Numbers

National Estimates (millions):

- **India — 52.5M**
- **Mexico — 12.6M**
- **Turkey — 4M**
- **Pakistan — 3M**
- **Morocco — 1.35M**
- **United States — 1.5M**
- **Romania — 0,6- 1M**

Read more

Example projects

Rescue operation to save abused dogs from puppy mills in Europe





Rehoming rescued dogs internationally (e.g. in Sweden, in the UK)





Kindred Kitchen awareness campaign to reduce food waste and nurture animal-people bond



Helping animals in disaster Bethlehem (military conflict), Bulgaria (floods)











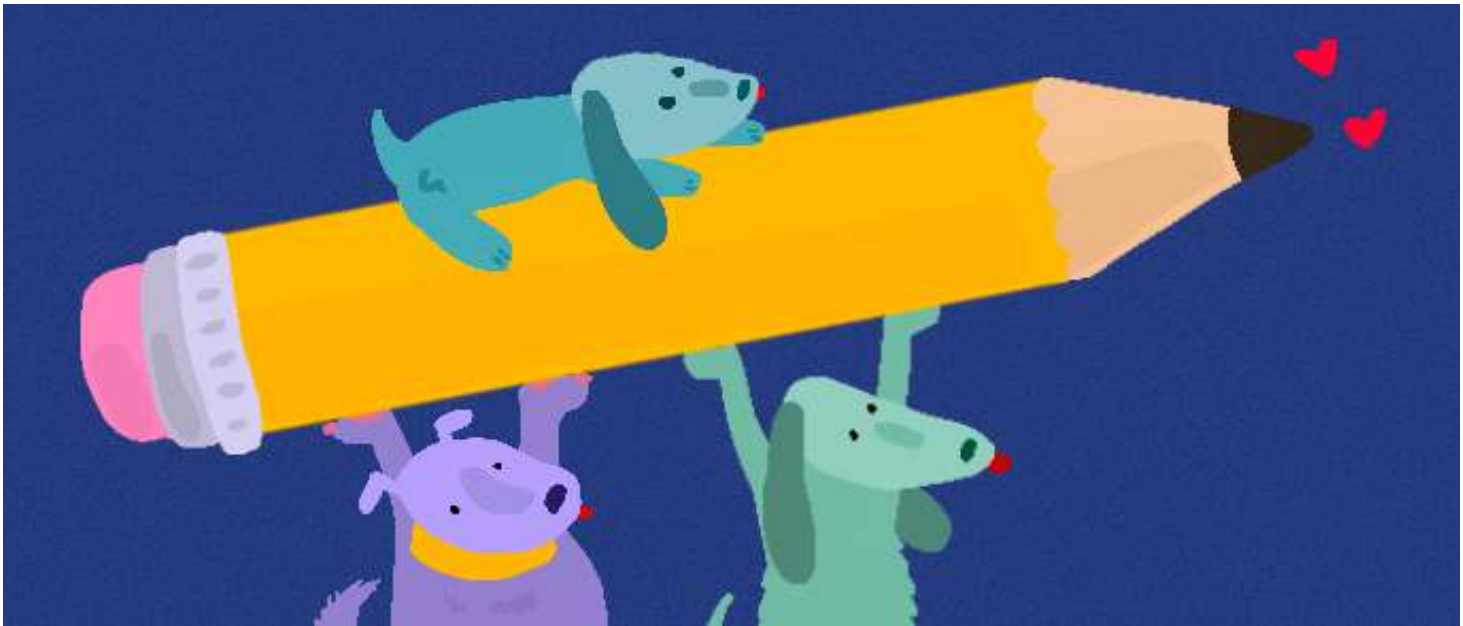


(*Source: Dog desk Animal Action combining a number of sources, including Reuters (2025) — India's Supreme Court orders relocation of stray dogs, Economic Times (2025) — 37 lakh dog bites in a year, World Footprints (2024) — Mexico's street dog problem, Yucatán Magazine (2024) — 50,000 dogs and cats roam Yucatán, Time (2024) — Turkey's stray dog law, Arab News (2025) — Pakistan's stray dog crisis, AP News (2024) — Morocco's stray dog numbers, National Geographic (2023) — Meet the people helping Morocco's stray dogs, Petscare (2024) — Stray dog statistics USA, Dogster (2024) — Global dog population)

Chapter 8

Transparency ROLDA Romania

INDEX	Line no.	Balance	
A	B	01.01.2025	31.12.2025
		1	2
A. FIXED ASSETS - TOTAL (ct. 02+05+08)	01	7.530.815	6.905.317
I. INTANGIBLE ASSETS (ct 03 +04)	02	32.554	21.393
Resulted from non profit activities	03	32.554	21.393
Resulted from economic activities	04		
II. TANGIBLE ASSETS (ct 06+07)	05	7.498.261	6.883.924
Resulted from non profit activitie	06	7.476.059	4.740.907
Resulted from economic activities	07	22.202	2.143.017
III. FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS	08		



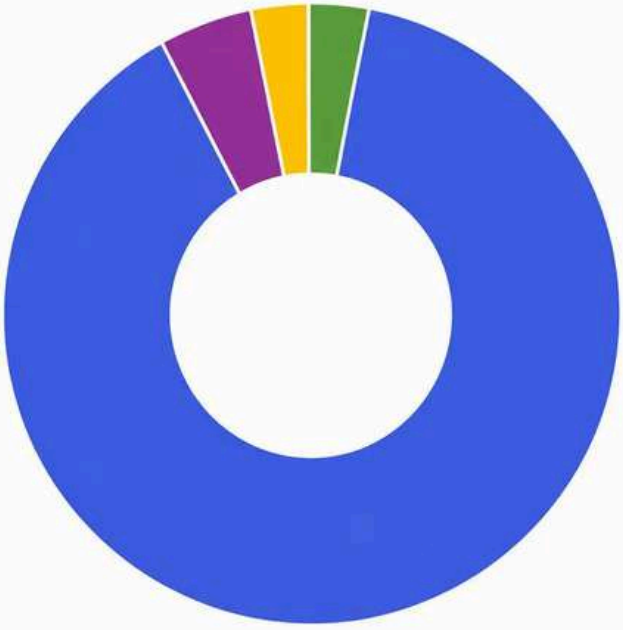
B. CURRENT ASSETS - Total	**09**	5.934.681	6.697.584
I. Stocks	**10**		
II. Claims	**11**	2.372.961	1.769.323
III. Short term investments	**12**	2.824.638	4.513.785
IV. Counter and bank accounts	**13**	737.082	414.476
C. ACCRUED EXPENSES	**14**	36.886	33.345
D. Debts: sums due within a year	**17**	650.348	551.065
E. NET CURRENTS ASSETS / NET CURRENT DEBTS	**18**	5.170.993	6.052.793
F. TOTAL ASSETS MINUS CURRENT DEBTS	**19**	12.701.808	12.958.110
G. Debts: sums due in a period over a year	**20**	1.193.127	1.060.176
H. PROVISIONS	**21**		
I. ADVANCE INCOME	**22**	150.226	127.071
- subsidies for investments	**23**	150.226	127.071
- deferred income	**24**	150.226	127.071
J. CAPITALS – TOTALS			
I. CAPITAL	**29**	33.000	33.000
II. REVALUATION RESERVES	**30**		
III. RESERVES	**31**		
IV. REPORTED RESULTS			
Reported Surplus BALANCE C	**32**	9.016.750	9.726.147
Reported Lost BALANCE D	**33**	0	0
Uncovered surplus regarding special purpose activities BALANCE C	**34**	16.624.790	17.288.177
V. SURPLUS / PROFIT OF THE TAX YEAR	**54**	2.458.931	2.138.787
or DEFICIT / LOSS OF THE TAX YEAR	**55**	0	0
CAPITALS	**65**	11.508.681	11.897.934

Costs incurred during 2025



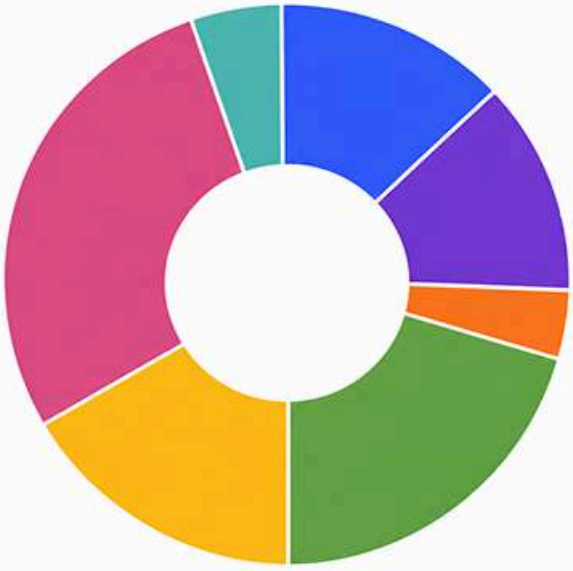
- In Romania 49%
- In Ukraine 21%
- International branches compliance and related 15%
- Capital projects in Romania 8%
- Fundraising and others 7%

Total income generated Worldwide in 2025



- RO (Romania) 2.21%
- UK (United Kingdom) 5.24%
- US* (United States) 90.37%
- SE (Sweden) 2.18%

*US online donations including international supporters



Program services in Romania during 2025

- Food 14%
- Medical related 11%
- Rescue car 3%
- Expenses for other programs in Romania besides own shelters* 18%
- Other: cleaning, repairs, security shelter, taxes, utilities 22%
- Caretakers and collaborators 28%
- Shop items stock 4%

Chapter 9

Budget explained

An incredible 78% of our expenditure goes directly towards our program services, that support animals in need and their communities.

7% of our expenditure is spent on fundraising activities. By inspiring generous people to support ROLDA, we raise more funds that allow us to reach even more animals who desperately need us.

The remaining 15% goes towards the crucial structural costs, governance and support that keeps the organisation running.

Throughout the year our activities include

- Provision of food for homeless and hungry animals
- Veterinary and medical care for injured and sick animals
- Maintenance of rescue vehicles to safely transport animals to safety
- Transport of adopted dogs to their forever homes
- Labor K9 Care
- Shelter maintenance including cleaning, repairs, building utilities and taxes

Our Programs include

- Sterilisation drives to control the stray animal population, preventing a lifetime of hardship and suffering
- Education programmes including responsible pet ownership and dog body language - promoting safety and better animal welfare
- Senior Pet Owner initiatives that offer financial support to low income pet owners, to cover animal related costs
- Helping other non-profits often in emergency situations, where ROLDA can add value and offer support

A DEEPER DIVE INTO CORE AREAS OF OUR WORK

Animal rescue across Romania

ROLDA exists to rescue, feed, care for and shelter the thousands of homeless animals living on the streets of Romania, giving them a second chance in life. Not only this, we save animals from horrific conditions in puppy mills, and nurture them back to health.

Our shelters across Romania house 15 cats and approx 400 dogs. They provide homeless and abused animals with much needed care, comfort and rehabilitation- all whilst aiming to find them loving forever homes.

Emergency and disaster rescue

At ROLDA we want to be there for any animal that needs us, and have expanded our mission to support animals affected by natural or human made disasters across the world.

We continue to rescue animals from dangerous conflict zones and bring them to safety, such as in Ukraine and more recently Palestine. And when natural disasters strike, we respond quickly and however we can, with support ranging from deployment of rescue teams to provision of localised food and medical supplies.

Sterilization drives

The most effective and humane solution to control the stray overpopulation is sterilization. ROLDA funds thousands of sterilisations each year, crucial in preventing unwanted puppies and kittens from being born into a life of hunger and hardship on the streets.

It is a legal requirement to have your pet sterilised in Romania - however many impoverished pet owners simply can't afford the sterilization fee. In order to risk a substantial fine, they have no other option than to abandon their pets. ROLDA funds sterilizations in impoverished communities in Romania, supporting pet owners and helping reduce pet abandonment rates.

Community Support

ROLDA truly believes in the sacred bond between animals and humans, and does everything it can to protect this. ROLDA runs the Friends Forever initiative, which offers elderly pet owners financial support, so they never have to give up their beloved companions.

As well as this, ROLDA runs education programs for children, teaching them about responsible pet ownership and animal behaviour. By supporting and educating humans, we can create a safer world for humans and animals alike.

Fundraising

At ROLDA, we understand that securing donations to fund our vital work can be challenging. It can be especially difficult when asking the public for donations to fund projects outside of their own country.

That's why maintaining our reputation whilst being transparent about costs is incredibly important to us. We are clear about our work, our financials and the programs we run. Without the trust of the public who believe in us and our mission - we simply wouldn't exist to save innocent animals.

Our team of experts ensure that every $ we spend on fundraising is a worthy investment, and genuinely helps us to understand, achieve results, grow and above all support more animals. During 2025, ROLDA's fundraising efforts were focussed in the UK, the USA and Australia - securing donations primarily from online global audiences and postal campaigns.

As a global organisation operating across 8 different countries, ROLDA is fortunate to work with passionate and skilled board members and legal experts from around the world.
By investing in governance and compliance, we protect and future proof the structure of the organisation. We ensure we have robust policies in place and remain on top of legislation that may affect any of our branches.

Chapter 10

Transforming the future for animals and people: Creating the first cage free dog shelter in Romania

Groundwork has begun on Romania's first cage free shelter - Little Haven.

Little Haven will be a place where dogs no longer have to live behind bars, but can experience the freedom of open, enriching spaces, while puppies grow safely alongside their mothers.

Every area has been thoughtfully designed to help dogs prepare for life in a loving home. Here, they will be able to socialise, explore, play and express their natural behaviours — all essential parts of their rehabilitation, recovery and healing.

Cage-free living can help dogs recover more quickly, become more confident and sociable, and ultimately become ready for adoption sooner. This means they can leave the shelter faster for loving, permanent homes, while freeing up vital space for ROLDA to rescue and rehabilitate even more dogs in need.

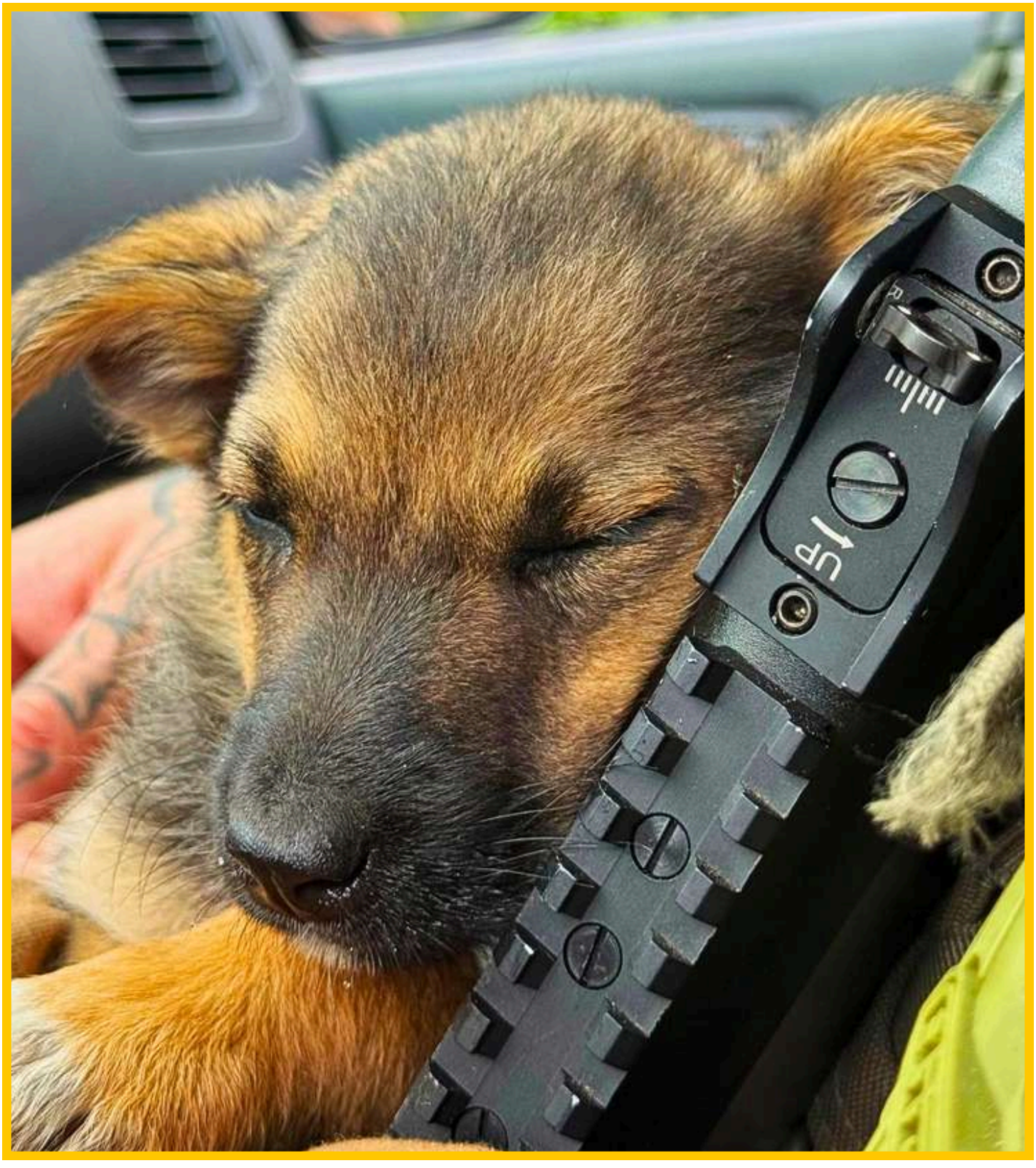
Our goal is to help **300 dogs every year** and maintain an **adoption rate of over 95%.**

Little Haven is more than a shelter. It is a place where dogs can heal, grow and learn what it means to be loved — and take their first steps towards a better future.



Chapter 11

A Picture is Worth a Thousand Woofs



Chapter 12

Nothing Taken for Granted

Celebrating our key donors

Generous support makes our work possible and helps ensure a safe, bright future for every animal in our care. On this page, we proudly recognize those who have made a lasting commitment to our mission through legacy pledges, as well as the wonderful guardians whose extraordinary contributions have quite simply blown us away over the past year.

To each of you named below, thank you for your deep compassion, your belief in our work, and your partnership in giving rescued animals the second chance at life they truly deserve.

Cheryl L; Loraine L; Monica C; Daphne R; Patricia B; Ruby W; Shirley C; Lauren C; Carrie Y; Sally C; Helen S; Samantha D; Stephen S; Yahaira G; Erica H; Lea A; Justin G; Lisa M; Danielle K; Kathy W; Suzanne C; Carol V; Joseph V; Courtney H; Michelle B; Joshua M; Joseph L; Kyndal W; Amanda S; Olivia M; Victoria B; Casey S; VERN B; Elizabeth C; Laurie E; JEANNE S; Laura D; VIKII P; Jessica B; Wilda A; Adele B; Joshua A; Amanda M; Jeremy K; Kevin A; Ashley A; Bruce M; Anita B; Kayla B; Bobbi M; Jamie B; Brianne Z; Shelley P; Jonathan C; Carol B; Charles B; Christan G; Chantelle C; Sean C; Chandler D; Cynthia H; Robert L; Suzanne C; ROSS J; Leslie Q; Christine T; David M; Dionna W; John D; Arie D; Donna H; Dwayne G; Emily C; Christopher F; Faun F; Melany F; Sean L; Jeremy H; Gloria B; Harold P; Robert E; Paul M; Krystle H; Michael H; Nancy L; Taylor C; Julia C; Jane M; Jordyn B; James H; Jenny M; Jennifer W; George J; Clyde J; Jeremiah W; Kelly K; Jennifer K; Kelsie M; Carol K; Michaela B; Lori C; Chunzai L; Lovella A; Lisa P; Dianna H; Michael F; Marisol P; Madeleine M; Melsa K; Matthew G; Mark E; Michelle Y; Nicolette B; Nykeria R; Patricia R; Patricia P; Ravinder A; ROSEARJOY F; Varuvelil J; Leah H; Scott E; Sebastian H; Shawndell B; Megan W; Tara B; Hannah T; Tess L; Thalia G; Max B; Stephanie R; Patricia S; Emily M; Tyastuti A; Vija U; Emily M; Analise V; Judy D; Marceline F; Elise B; Ann Katherine S; Janet S; Diantha K; Marilyn McG; Randy N; Simon L;Vicky J; Gail R; Gloria A; Aimee M; Joseph H; Mary C; Steven M; Melva B; Rose H; Skip S; Jody G; Barbara G; Sherry G; Paul S; Charles G; Julie B; Nora A; Josselyn P; Linda M; Anita R; Karen McI; Kate G; Antony J. H; Gunther M; Dianne H; Kate and Michael F; Jackie C; David C; Bronislava R; Carol S; Marguerite S.



Chapter 13

In This Together



#give hope