

WestieMed News

Spring 2012



WestieMed, Inc.

What We Do and Who We Help....

WestieMed, Inc. was created 12 years ago to fill a very real need – helping ill or injured rescued Westies get the veterinary care they needed so that medical issues would not stand in the way of their being adopted. It was a simple, straightforward concept and in the intervening years WestieMed has provided \$180,000 in funding to help more than 200 Westies in need – as well as assist rescue groups from around the country, fosters and recent adopters who suddenly find themselves coping with serious health issues in the dogs they are trying to help.

Every year they come – the sick ones, the injured ones, the ones that have been cast off or left behind; rescued Westies that need someone to help them on their journey, to give them that desperately needed second chance. And year after year, one group is there for those Westies who have nowhere else to turn...WestieMed.

The money to provide this urgent medical assistance comes *only* from caring people who support WestieMed in a variety of ways – through direct, tax-deductible contributions; through donating unique Westie items for online auctions – and bidding often on other items; with purchases made in WestieMed's Gift Shop and Café Press store; through donations to

WestieMed's very special *Paws and Remember* program to honor the memory of loved ones; and at events such as Westie Walks held throughout the country each year.

We encourage you to visit the WestieMed website www.westiemed.org to take a look at the stories of the Westies we have helped and the number of ways you can help WestieMed improve the lives of rescued Westies.

The story of WestieMed is one that will touch the heart of any lover of this special breed of little white dogs. And it's one that will make you proud of your role in helping the ones who need it most. WestieMed is an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) charitable organization that is not affiliated with any other group or breed club.

WestieMed exists to provide help when help is needed most. But WestieMed cannot exist without *your* help, so please support the efforts of this worthy organization. Send your donations to:

WestieMed, Inc.
c/o Jen Hosler, Treasurer
2108 Fulton Ave., #3
Cincinnati, OH 45206
www.westiemed.org

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**Could this year's
WestieMed raffle be the
biggest and best ever?
See page 2 for details!**

The 2012 WestieMed Raffle...

Get your tickets now!

First Prize is most definitely a "Golden Opportunity" for the big winner. The lucky ticket holder will receive a beautiful 14 karat yellow gold bracelet complete with a 14 karat yellow gold *Westie charm*. This dazzling 8" bracelet has a lobster clasp and weighs 27.0 grams. This is a stunning piece of jewelry!

Appraised Value: \$2,430.00

The appraisal is available for viewing on the WestieMed website.



kindle fire

Web, movies, apps,
games, reading
and more

Second Prize isn't "just for reading" anymore...it's a new Kindle Fire direct from Amazon.com featuring full-color 7" multi-touch display with Wi-Fi. The Kindle Fire links seamlessly with Amazon's collection of 20 million movies, TV shows, songs, magazines and books. The screen quality is exceptional. The Kindle Fire boasts ultra-fast web browsing and email with Amazon Silk and its Android App Store includes thousands of apps and games.

Retail Value: \$199.00

Third Prize isn't just one...or two...or THREE items...it's a whole basket of goodies for you and your Westie! This Westie Goodie Basket contains many Westie-themed items including a Westie sign, house flag, t-shirts, notecards and magnets as well as dog toys and *many* other gifts. You and your Westie(s) will love the surprises inside!

Retail Value: \$150.00

2012 WESTIEMED RAFFLE 3 Great Prizes!

Drawing on December 1, 2012
\$5.00 for each Ticket / \$25.00 for 6 Tickets

Unfortunately, it is against PayPal policies to accept payment for raffle tickets. To purchase tickets, please make (USD) check or money order payable to "WestieMed, Inc." and mail to:

WestieMed, Inc.
c/o Jen Hosler, Treasurer
2108 Fulton Avenue, Unit #3
Cincinnati, OH 45206

Or contact WestieMed at: info@westiemed.org

imagine

A WORLD
WITH NO
HOMELESS
WESTIES.
THAT'S
WHAT
WESTIEMED
IS ALL
ABOUT...



JoJo

A volunteer with Rescue Westies WPA received a call from a "concerned person" about Westies in a backyard breeding facility in upstate New York. The owner had contacted her about giving the Westies up to rescue because the facility was closing. The owner described JoJo as a small breeding Westie in good health. On pickup, it was learned that JoJo weighed in at just over 11 pounds and "might" be pregnant, was current on the rabies vaccine but needed updates on other shots.

A visit to the vet confirmed that JoJo was pregnant. She seemed in good health.

JoJo went to her foster home and as the weeks went by she seemed to be fine. One day she began vomiting and was taken to her vet where a piece of rawhide was found stuck in her throat. It was removed, but the vet had to do an emergency C-section. Five puppies were born prematurely but unfortunately died within a week.

In March JoJo went to her forever home. At her vet checkup, she has gained some weight and is doing well.

You can read JoJo's full story on the WestieMed website: <http://westiemed.org/stories/2012/jojo/>



Dunkin

In March, Animal Control in KY received a call about two dogs left inside a small kennel at an abandoned home. The dogs had been there for some time with no food, water, or shelter. They were taken to the Garrard County (KY) Animal Shelter. A volunteer from Homeward Bound Canine Rescue and Rehab pulled them both from the shelter where Dunkin may have been euthanized due to his "skin condition". He was taken to the vet immediately where he was diagnosed with hypothyroidism and received medication. He was groomed due to matting and yeast overgrowth and neutered. An adoptive mom eagerly awaited him.

Two days later he started coughing and wheezing with difficulty breathing. He was rushed back to the vet and diagnosed with blastomycosis. Medication to treat this disease is very expensive. After all Dunkin had been through, his rescuer decided to seek funds for the meds he needed. Dunkin was discharged from the vet's office and given a good prognosis.

Read Dunkin's full story on the WestieMed website:

<http://westiemed.org/stories/2012/dunkin/>

**Read about the dogs helped January-March 2012
on the WestieMed website:**

<http://westiemed.org/stories/2012/>

Robbie

Robbie was found walking the streets of Baton Rouge, LA and taken to a high-kill shelter. YELP BR pulled him from the shelter and took him to a vet where Robbie received his vaccinations and was checked to be sure he was healthy. YELP called Westie Rescue Alabama and Phyllis from WR AL made the eight-hour drive to pick him up.

For two weeks, Robbie did well as he adjusted to his new surroundings, eating and playing with other rescued Westies; then Robbie took a turn for the worse. He started shivering and shaking, would just take a couple of bites of food and then vomit. He then stopped eating entirely and lost weight. Phyllis took him to her vet where he was diagnosed with giardia and given medication. Robbie would improve for two days, and then slump back into the same situation. He continued to decline and was rushed to another. They took one look at him, said that he was very dehydrated and needed surgery immediately. They suspected there was something lodged in his stomach. Upon further examination, it was discovered that Robbie had a serious infection in his gall bladder.



WR AL is small and does not receive many donations so Phyllis called WestieMed, leaving a message in a voice filled with emotion. Lucy Ryley of WestieMed called the vet's office in minutes to authorize payment. WestieMed has procedures in place but in this situation Lucy felt confident of getting Board approval. She also supported Phyllis by talking to her and calming her fears. Robbie was hospitalized for five days, and then returned to his foster home with a spring in his step.

Read Robbie's full story on the WestieMed website: <http://westiemed.org/stories/2012/robbie/>



Cody

We do not know Cody's entire story. He was estimated to be 3-5 years of age, one of eight dogs rescued from a puppy mill in Missouri where he was used for breeding purposes. The rescue group's vet checked Cody and

found him positive for hookworms for which he was treated. They also checked for heartworms and found him heartworm-free. After adoption his new mom noticed he was lethargic, he didn't eat well and had vomiting.

While on vacation she took Cody to the vet where he was diagnosed as still having hookworms as well as heartworms. The hookworms were treated and the rescue group provided medication and offered to give the shots for heartworm but the decision was made to treat Cody closer to home.

Read Cody's full story on the WestieMed website: <http://www.westiemed.org/stories/2012/cody/>

WestieMed helped 24 Westies in 2011 by providing \$22,000.97 in financial assistance for medical care.

Read their stories on the WestieMed website:

<http://westiemed.org/stories/2011/>



Sullivan

From Sullivan's New Mom:

In February of 2012 we lost our Schnauzer Gwen. She had filled our lives with much love and fun. After about a month, we knew that we missed the companionship of a little dog and wanted to rescue a dog needing a home. We wanted a terrier and Westie

Rescue Maryland found what sounded like the perfect dog for us. He had been picked up in Prince George County in Maryland, taken to a shelter and then fostered in a home.

After getting Sullivan, we found out he wasn't exactly the dog we thought he was. We thought Sullivan was 4 years old, 2 teeth had been removed and he was being treated for an eye infection. It turned out he was closer to 8 years old, had actually had 15 teeth removed and was one week away from having his eye enucleated if the infection he was being treated for didn't clear up.

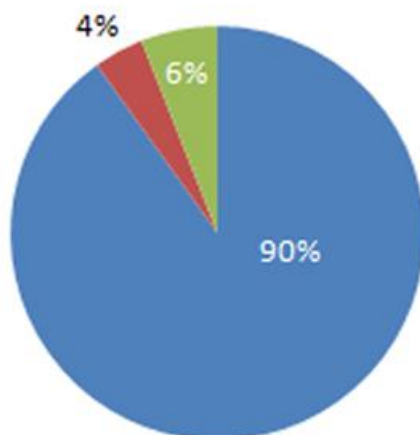
After meeting with our own vet and having Sullivan examined by a vet Ophthalmologist we learned it wasn't just an infection irritating his left eye. The Ophthalmologist told us the eye infection was so severe and the cornea so damaged that Sullivan had no vision in the eye. It's difficult to know what caused this condition, but after years of neglect, the eye is like leather and in jeopardy of repeat infections and problems. The specialist feels the eye needs to be removed. Sulli has been getting drops three times a day or more to keep him comfortable.

Read Sullivan's full story on the WestieMed website:

<http://westiemed.org/stories/2012/sullivan/>

2011 WestieMed Expenses

■ Case Funding ■ Fundraising ■ Management



**WHERE DO
YOUR
DONATION
DOLLARS
GO?**

WestieMed, Inc.
2108 Fulton Avenue, Unit
#3
Cincinnati, OH 45206
1-877-853-9469
(toll free)
info@westiemed.org

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Pedigree Foundation Grant A Lifesaver for Wilson

The Pedigree Brand believes that every dog deserves a loving home. To ensure the brand was maximizing its efforts to help four-legged friends in need, they created The Pedigree Foundation. The Pedigree Foundation is a philanthropic organization dedicated to providing grants to support other programs that help make life better for homeless dogs. WestieMed is pleased to announce it received a grant from The Pedigree Foundation in November 2011 for the fourth consecutive year.

WestieMed wishes to express its thanks and gratitude to The Pedigree Foundation for this support. This grant enabled WestieMed to help save a very sick little Westie named Wilson...When Wilson was found by Animal Control, it was obvious he was in dire medical condition. The shelter contacted an independent Westie rescuer in New Jersey. When the rescuer picked Wilson up, he was very sick and taken straight to a veterinarian.

The vet estimated this little guy was about 5 years old. Weighing only **9 pounds**, Wilson was diagnosed with severe starvation and emaciation as well as other issues including Giardia, Coccidia, worms, Malassezia with hair loss, bacterial skin infection, ear infections and eye infections. He was

depressed, withdrawn, unable to make eye contact and refused most food. Wilson received intensive care for 5 days.

Gradually, Wilson began to recover. After three months of rest and rehab with his rescuer, Wilson made amazing progress both physically and emotionally. His hair began to grow back, his infections healed and his parasites resolved. He is now able to show affection for people and other dogs. Wilson enjoys being patted, hugged and going on walks.

The extensive medical cost of Wilson's recovery was more than his rescuer could afford. She turned to WestieMed for help. The grant WestieMed received from the Pedigree Foundation was used to help pay for Wilson's treatment. As a result, his health was restored and he learned to love, trust and play like a typical Westie.

Read Wilson's full story on the WestieMed website:

<http://www.westiemed.org/stories/2011/wilson/>



Paws and Remember Program

Please take a moment to *Paws and Remember* your special friends.

Make a donation to light an "ever-burning" Virtual Candle from WestieMed's *Paws and Remember* program. This is a wonderful way to show your admiration, love and devotion for those you hold closest to your heart.

- Honor your own special family members,
- Celebrate a living friend, pet or person, with a Tribute Virtual Candle, or
- Remember those you have loved and lost with a Memorial Virtual Candle.

When you make a donation for either a Tribute Virtual Candle or a Memorial Virtual Candle, WestieMed will send a lovely



personalized card to the designated recipient acknowledging your thoughtful gift.

Our acknowledgment card features the *Paws and Remember* logo — Toto — The Rescue Angel designed and donated exclusively to WestieMed by artist Suzanne Renaud.

www.westiemed.org/pawsandremember