

Lizzy Talk[©]

Did you know that, of the 7 final dogs in Best in Show at the 2019 Westminster Kennel Club Competition, 4 of them were seniors? Seems you can teach old dogs new tricks

A newsletter from Lizzy

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*We would like to share the story of **Jasper**, so this issue of Lizzy Talk is dedicated to him.*

Jasper, a stray running loose whose owners did not want to claim him, was picked up by the local Animal Control. Jasper was in such dire shape that his survival seemed questionable. The story starts with the rescue group getting involved. Without ever giving up on this poor soul, the rescue soon realized that Jasper's expenses were far beyond their available funds. They then reached out to Lizzy's Fund for help. THIS IS THE TYPE OF SITUATION THAT LIZZY'S FUND HANDLES, the senior dogs that need our help the most.

Step 1: The Rescue and Request for Help

Hi Lizzy's Fund,

I'm writing to you about one of our current dogs: **Jasper**. Recently, a local shelter contacted us (Collie Rescue of Greater IL) about a very sick collie. The shelter vet was adamant that we pick up this boy the same day and feared he wouldn't survive another day there. One of our wonderful volunteers dropped everything and within an hour they were there. Jasper was so weak he needed to be lifted into a car and taken out. This poor dog was running a fever and his skin smelled like rotting flesh. After a thorough examination the vet found all his feet were in horrible condition, oozing wounds and literally flesh falling off his legs. The vet put him on IV fluids, strong antibiotics, and he was placed in an ICU. The infection in his feet had spread through his body and he had **sepsis**. The vet didn't know if Jasper would make it, but we all didn't want to give up on him.

What's sepsis?

According to the Mayo Clinic, it's a potentially life-threatening condition caused by the body's response to an infection. Sepsis happens when the body's response to fighting an infection is out of balance.

Jasper, two weeks after treatment began (we cannot post pictures of Jasper at intake as they are too graphic)



Step 2: The Healing Begins

(More from Collie Rescue)

Thank goodness the medication started working and Jasper was able to walk on his own! His skin was starting to heal, as well, but we knew it would be a long road to a fully recovery. His bandages had to be changed several times a day and he needed more antibiotics. We were thrilled when the vet finally said that Jasper will be OK! This was the news we were hoping for!

After a long stay at the vet, today Jasper went to his temporary foster home where his bandages must still be changed every 2-3 days. We are blessed to have such dedicated staff at Animal House Veterinary Hospital.

Would Lizzy's Fund be able to help Collie Rescue with the medical expenses?

Best regards,

Collie Rescue of Greater IL



During Treatment



Jasper spent four months recuperating; first at the vet clinic and then in foster care. We are very grateful that compassionate people cared for him and that Lizzy's Fund was able to help.



Step 3: The Happy Ending

Lizzy's Fund is very proud to have been able to pay for the care of this wonderful dog. Jasper's story has a very happy ending. Recovered from his infections, he is now healthy, happy, and has been adopted by a wonderful family that loves him very much. We would like to give thanks to Animal House Veterinary Hospital clinic in St. Charles for their generous discounts to his care and to Collie Rescue of Greater IL for never giving up on this wonderful boy.



We would like to take a moment to thank all those that donated to our matching fund in November 2018, it was our best one yet! And it was because of you that we were able to provide such care for Jasper.

To help more dogs like Jasper, please consider donating by visiting our website: www.lizzysfund.org.

Lizzy's Fund is an IRS approved not-for-profit charity that provides financial support to senior canines, aged 7 and older. Our goal is to help as many dogs like Jasper as we can.

To read Jasper's side of the story, keep reading onto the next page!



Jasper's Story

Dear People,

My name is Jasper and I've always been a good boy. I had no idea what I'd done SO naughty to end up in the scary, loud place where I was taken. I tried to look at the bright side, but I felt terrible. Dirty, matted and cold, I didn't know if I would make it. I had such terrible pain in my feet and legs. It just got worse every day, until finally my entire body ached. One day I couldn't walk. I was weak and didn't feel like eating. I wondered if my end was near. Dr. Dines, the Veterinarian at the shelter, said I was very sick and needed to be transported out of that place ASAP. I needed so much more help than her shelter could give.

One day, a nice lady named Mary from Collie Rescue of Greater Illinois (CRGI) picked me up. She put me gently in her car and took me on a very long drive. Eventually we ended up at a place called **Animal House**.

This place wasn't as loud as the last place, but it was scary too. The people said I needed a haircut. I had no idea what that meant, but I found out pretty quick! They ran a strange thing all over my body that made a funny noise and vibrated. I could see all my fur dropping from my body leaving me one very bald collie. I felt so light and I could feel the air against my skin. Then the people placed me in a strange enclosure with hard walls. Warm water flowed all over me and then they put some bubbly lotion on me and rubbed me all over. The water coming from me was brown at first, but it eventually ran off clean.

The people had very worried expressions on their faces when they looked at my legs and feet. They were painful, but so were my teeth. All the while, they spoke to me in soft and reassuring voices. I was too exhausted to fight them even though it all hurt so badly. I had no choice but to trust them.

All those people were really nice, especially a sweet person name Jenna. She cleaned and bandaged my feet and legs every day. I could tell, Jenna really liked me so I trusted her.

Little by little, I felt better. I was given lots of medication and my appetite eventually came back. My feet began to feel better and I could stand without too much pain. My fur began to grow back. I was given the most luxurious and comfortable bed any dog could ever wish for. Being clean was wonderful! I highly recommend it...because people wanted to pet me once I smelled so good! More than one person has even called me handsome. Dr. Dine has even called to check up on me. She must have remembered how I tried so hard to be a good boy.

Life is better now because Jenna took me to where she lives. I'm taking my good old time to nudge everybody with my nose. That's just so they'll notice what a good boy I am. I cannot get enough loving! Jenna loves me and I love her. I have toys now and I play. I can hold a toy in my mouth and bark at the same time. That's talent!

I know I'm a good boy because Jenna said so and she told a nice family who came to visit me. Jenna told me I was going to be adopted. I'm not sure what that means, but it must be a good thing because I have 2 little girls to look after me and two doggie friends to play with. I have a mom and dad too who love me very much. I feel great and my feet and legs feel so much better now too.

I got lucky and I know it's because I am a very good boy. I'm REALLY lucky to have a special friend. She's a little dog named **Lizzy** who's become my angel. She's no longer on Earth, but her legacy lives on because **Lizzy** helps dogs like me who are older and in trouble through her foundation, **Lizzy's Fund**. Being sick was really sad and hard for a homeless dog, BUT when **Lizzy's Fund** generously stepped up and covered ALL my medical bills, I was so happy.

I don't worry anymore. Finally, somebody noticed what a good boy I am. All my new friends thought I was worth saving. Did I mention I play now and I can actually RUN?

I have something I want to say to my angel, **Lizzy**:

"I've been told ALL dogs go to Heaven, so I hope you are up there watching me down here living a better life! **Lizzy, THANK YOU!**"

Thanks to my transporter Mary Zwirn, Dr. Dines, all the good people at Animal House, Jenna, my foster mom, Sandy Prisby my petsitter, and all the good people from CRGI.

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