



For Immediate Release

GREY MUZZLE GRANT GIVES SENIOR DOGS AT GATEWAY PET GUARDIANS A SECOND CHANCE

August 30, 2024— East St. Louis, IL – There's good news for old dogs this summer as The Grey Muzzle Organization announces the recipients of its annual grants, and dogs at Gateway Pet Guardians are among the winners.

Gateway Pet Guardians in East St. Louis is one of 100 animal welfare groups chosen from nearly 400 applicants to receive a grant to help local senior dogs and the people who love them. The winning groups are sharing more than \$1 million in grants to help save and improve the lives of at-risk old dogs in their communities.

“Senior dogs 7 years and older make ideal family pets. We are so excited to find homes for them because we can address their medical needs first.” - Amanda Loellke, Gateway's Foster and Adoption Manager.

“This grant will help us give senior dogs like 8.5-year-old Freestyle the veterinary and dental care he needs so he'll be ready to go to his forever home,” said Alisha Vianello, Executive Director of Gateway Pet Guardians. “No one is more grateful or loving than an old dog, and we're looking forward to helping more senior dogs get the second chance they all deserve.”

Freestyle became a Gateway dog after the flash floods at St. Clair County Animal Services on July 16. He needed intake vetting, including vaccines and a neuter surgery. Grants like Grey Muzzle's ensure we can take in a dog during emergencies and provide all the vetting they need.

Over the past 16 years, the national nonprofit Grey Muzzle Organization has provided more than \$5.7 million in grants to support its vision of “a world where every senior dog thrives, and no old dog dies alone and afraid.”

“Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we're delighted to help deserving organizations like Gateway Pet Guardians make a positive difference in the lives of dogs and people in their communities,” Grey Muzzle's Executive Director Lisa Lunghofer said. “Many senior dogs in the East Side Pet District] are enjoying their golden years in loving homes thanks to the lifesaving work of Gateway Pet Guardians.”

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About Gateway Pet Guardians

Gateway Pet Guardians operates the largest Pet Resource Center in the region offering a low-cost vet clinic, subsidized Pet Retail Store, and a free pet food pantry to qualified applicants. Gateway Pet Guardians is a 501(c)3 nonprofit animal shelter whose passionate and dedicated staff and volunteers care for animals on the streets of East St. Louis, Illinois, and surrounding areas. Our mission is to end homelessness for animals in the Metro East through rescue, rehabilitation, adoption, community outreach, and education. Visit www.gatewaypets.org to learn more.

About the Grey Muzzle Organization

A national nonprofit, The Grey Muzzle Organization, improves the lives of at-risk senior dogs by providing funding and resources to animal shelters, rescue organizations, sanctuaries, and other nonprofit groups nationwide. For details, please visit www.greymuzzle.org

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[Freestyle] is one of many wonderful senior dogs available for adoption at Gateway Pet Guardians. For more information, please visit www.gatewaypets.org/adopt or email placement@gatewaypets.org.

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