

KODIAKCARE ANNUAL REPORT 2020



KODIAKCARE.ORG
SAVING LIVES, ONE DOG AT A TIME

FOUNDERS' MESSAGE

The story of KodiakCare starts, of course, with our dog, Kodiak. Like all pet parents, we loved our little pup from the beginning. Small enough to fit inside one square kitchen tile, Kodiak, our Bernese mountain dog, was a ball of love and enthusiasm with the enduring spirit of a survivor. With tough medical challenges ahead of him, he would need a lot of support, and a little bit of luck, to make it through.

Just days after Nancy and I brought Kodiak home, he fell gravely ill with canine parvovirus. It is an often-fatal disease, but we were determined to see him through, and he was just as determined to survive. Thankfully, with exceptional veterinary care, he did. Kodiak came home ready to tackle life with all the joy he could draw out of every day while giving it back to those around him. It wouldn't be the last or least expensive medical challenge he would face, but we were grateful we could afford it so we could watch this brave puppy grow into a happy, loyal family dog.

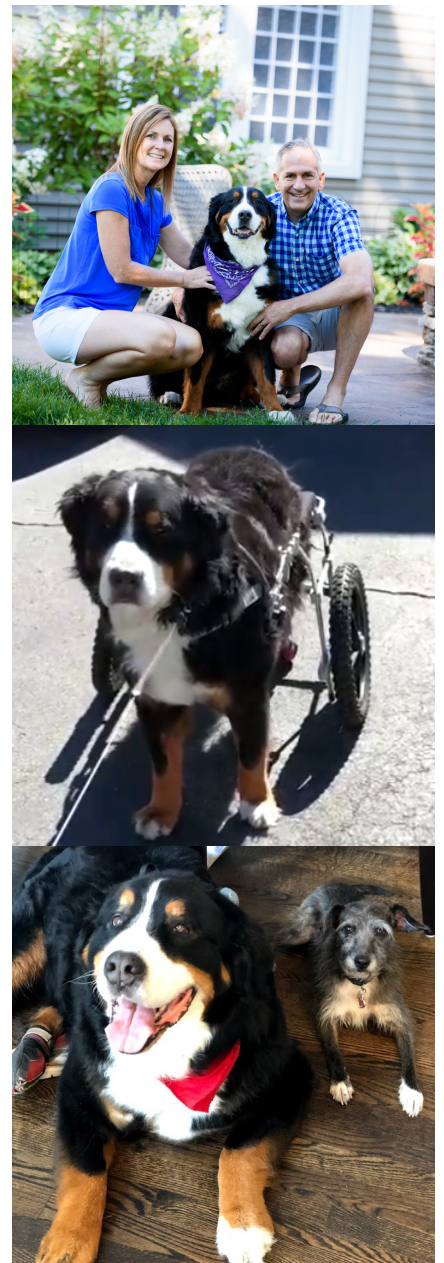
Once Kodiak survived parvo, he did well until around the age of three when he began to develop cancerous tumors about once each year for the next five years. Kodiak would endure several rounds of surgery and chemotherapy, always pulling through with his indomitable spirit and tail-wagging cheerfulness.

I'm sure there are people who might question our willingness to spend what we did to care for our boy, but I would simply say this – we were blessed we could afford it and the memories we made with him over almost eleven years were priceless. Every dollar we spent on him, we got back tenfold in love, loyalty and affection.

When Kodiak passed, he left a mountain dog sized hole in our hearts and family. We decided we wanted to honor his life by starting KodiakCare to help families facing their own canine medical challenges, but who don't have the financial means, extend the life of their dog. Nancy and I hope you'll join us on our mission to save lives, one dog at a time and in doing so, enrich the lives of their families, too.

Glenn and Nancy Shapiro

FOUNDERS



KODIAKCARE PARTNERS

Working Together to Save Lives



KodiakCare's partnerships began with Angell Animal Medical Center in Boston. Angell is a nationally and internationally recognized leader in animal protection and veterinary medicine, providing direct, hands-on care for thousands of animals each year.

In its inaugural year, KodiakCare expanded to Chicago, adding two new partnerships: Chicagoland Rescue Intervention and Support Program (CRISP), a shelter diversion affiliate of One Tail at a Time in Chicago, and the University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine. KodiakCare works with the University's teaching hospital in the twin cities of Urbana and Champaign and at their downtown Chicago clinic.

KodiakCare impacts not just the dogs we save and their family members, but the daily lives of our partner veterinarians as well. Many describe the stress of facing otherwise fixable problems without the necessary funding. "It chips away at the soul a little bit when there is an animal you can save but for one reason or another you can't," Dr. Megan Kelley of Angell said. "It hurts. It haunts you." KodiakCare changes the decision-making process for the hospital staff. Our funding makes possible previously unaffordable surgeries and other medical care.

DOG STORIES

KodiakCare. Saving Lives, One Dog at a Time.

OUR MISSION

At KodiakCare, we love dogs and their people. KodiakCare saves the lives of dogs by providing funding for critical veterinary care to families who lack financial means.



Meet Kelley

KodiakCare saved its first dog in May of 2020. Kelley, an American bulldog cross, had snacked on some birdseed, which became a potentially fatal obstruction in her intestine. John, a grocery clerk in Boston, could not afford the life-saving surgery she needed and believed he would lose his best friend. KodiakCare provided funding for Kelley's treatment, giving what Dr. Michaella Abugov of Angell Animal Medical Center called "the gift of life."

KodiakCare went on to save 39 more dogs in 2020, providing financial aid to families in need and changing the future for so many.

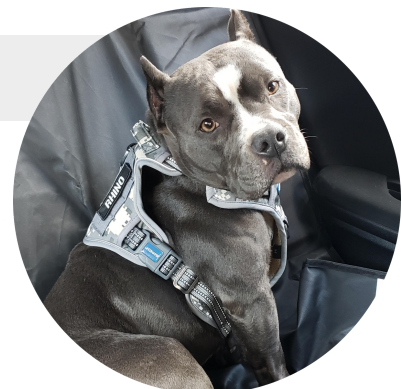


Meet George

George was one of the seven cases of parvovirus KodiakCare helped treat this year. Parvovirus is a highly contagious and often fatal canine disease. Our veterinarian partners reported a rise in parvovirus cases in 2020.

Meet Rhino

Rhino needed surgery to remove a corn cob from his intestine. Obstruction removal surgery was the most common procedure funded by KodiakCare in 2020. KodiakCare provided financial aid to nine families to save their dogs from life-threatening blockages. While treatment requires expensive and often invasive surgery, the prognosis can be very good, and patients often live a long life with no lingering issues. Rhino's owner, Juan, was incredibly grateful to have his dog — or as he referred to Rhino, "his kid" — back. Thanking KodiakCare, Juan exclaimed, "You guys saved his life!"



DOG STORIES



Meet Armani

Armani, a two-year-old French bulldog, is a very important member of his family. Dog mom Renee says that her nine-year-old son, Atreyu, who has autism, relies on Armani as a friend and source of comfort.

Renee became concerned when Armani started having trouble breathing. When he collapsed, Renee rushed Armani to Angell Animal Medical Center where she learned he would need airway surgery along with intensive care to survive. Renee could not afford the necessary medical care. As discussions turned to euthanasia, Renee was devastated. “I didn’t know how I was going to explain to my son that Armani wasn’t coming home.”

Thankfully, KodiakCare came to the rescue. “If it wasn’t for KodiakCare, Armani wouldn’t be here.” Now Renee’s family feels whole again. “Armani makes our days better. We could have the worst day possible and this little creature will be waiting for us.”



Meet Maggie

Maggie, a Chihuahua, suffered from pyometra and needed surgery to remove her infected uterus before it ruptured. Maggie’s owner had lost his job due to the coronavirus pandemic, and couldn’t afford the surgery. KodiakCare was able to fund the necessary care for Maggie, as well as five more pyometra cases this year.

Meet Kimber

Kimber was a big pup with a big problem. After showing signs of distress, the one-year-old Great Dane was diagnosed with gastric dilatation and volvulus, or twisted stomach, a condition that is fatal if not treated quickly. Kimber needed emergency surgery. Facing medical costs she could not afford and an impossible decision that required an immediate answer, Kimber’s owner, Karrie, felt lost. As an EMT and firefighter, Karrie was used to difficult situations, but Kimber “was her world.” Karrie stated, “I am not an emotional person. But when I saw the bill and then realized KodiakCare would help me, I got choked up.”



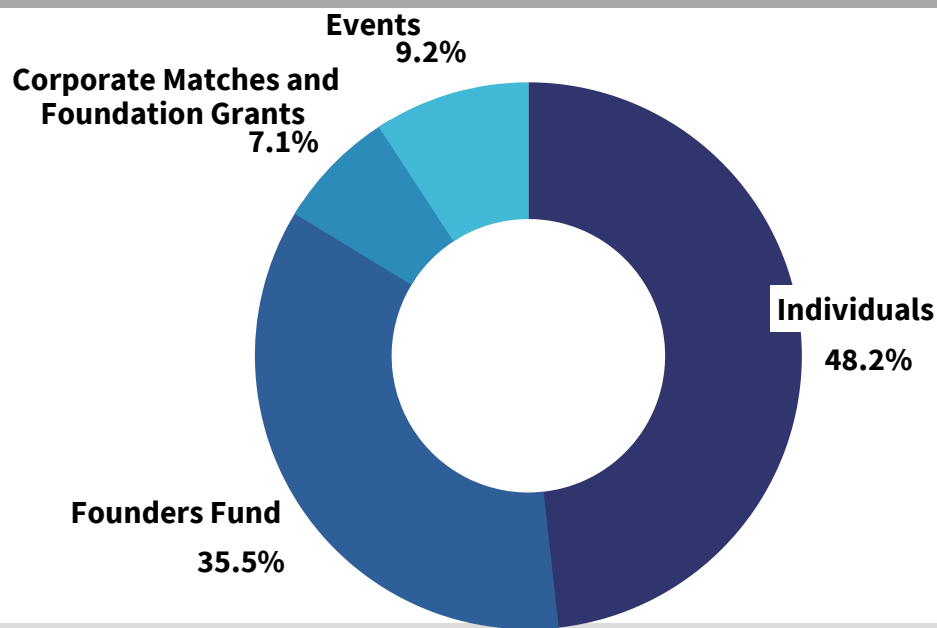
FINANCIALS

2020

1. Revenue 2020

FIGURE 1.

KodiakCare founders Glenn and Nancy Shapiro pledged to cover all operating costs of KodiakCare for 2020 and gave above what was needed, ensuring that 100% of donations from generous supporters went directly to save dogs in need.



\$140,000 raised in 2020!

2. Expenses 2020

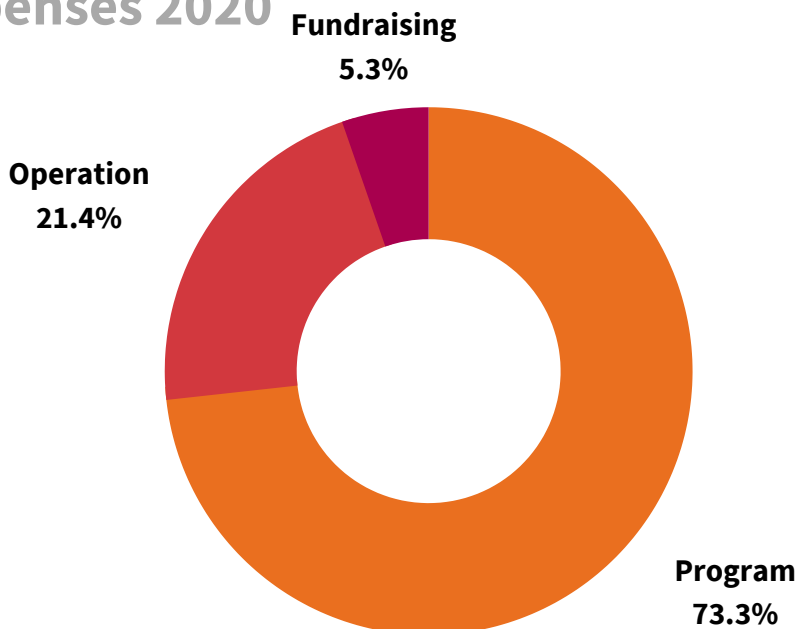


FIGURE 2.

73% of KodiakCare's 2020 expenses was direct funding of critical veterinary care, with \$85,000 being allocated to our animal hospital partners.

KodiakCare kept its operating and fundraising costs low, devoting its resources to dogs and families in need during the pandemic.

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Friend of KodiakCare,

Twenty-twenty was certainly a year we won't soon forget. For many, the coronavirus pandemic brought new and difficult challenges, including health concerns, changes to financial security, and separation from friends and family. With so many of us spending more time at home, our pets took on even bigger roles in our lives. We relied on them during a time of uncertainty, and they gave back tenfold in love and affection.

Many of the families that KodiakCare helped in 2020 faced dire financial challenges. From prolonged periods of unemployment to decreased wages, many who were already vulnerable saw their financial situations worsen during the pandemic. One KodiakCare client, Antone, worked as a cleaner at a gym that closed for six months. Around the time his gym reopened in the fall, his dog, Dutch, pictured furthest left, was hit by a truck. The cost for Dutch's emergency treatment was extremely high and Antone could not afford the care necessary to save his best friend. "My life was over," he recalled. "My heart was crushed. I was so hurt." When he realized KodiakCare could step in and provide the financial assistance he needed, he was so grateful. "I appreciate you all so much," he said. "Ain't nothing like coming home to Dutch!"

The support of the KodiakCare community during an extremely difficult year meant the difference between tragedy and hope for so many grateful families, veterinarians, and the many wonderful dogs who cannot voice their appreciation. KodiakCare keeps families whole, and, now more than ever, we know the importance of giving dogs and their families a second chance to be together.

Thank you,



Maggie Shapiro
Executive Director



KODIAKCARE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Glenn Shapiro

President, Board of Directors, KodiakCare

Bree Anne Falcon

Vice President, Board of Directors, KodiakCare

Jeffrey Deslandes

Treasurer, Board of Directors, KodiakCare

Nicole Hawthorne

Secretary, Board of Directors, KodiakCare

Cheryl Bendtsen

Director, Board of Directors, KodiakCare

Greg Burns

Director, Board of Directors, KodiakCare

Roberta Hannay

Director, Board of Directors, KodiakCare

Emily Johnston

Director, Board of Directors, KodiakCare

Douglas Shapiro

Director, Board of Directors, KodiakCare

Matthew Shapiro

Director, Board of Directors, KodiakCare

Staff**Margaret Shapiro**

Executive Director, KodiakCare



KODIAKCARE.ORG
SAVING LIVES, ONE DOG AT A TIME

Connect with us at
www.kodiakcare.org
info@kodiakcare.org

Follow us at

