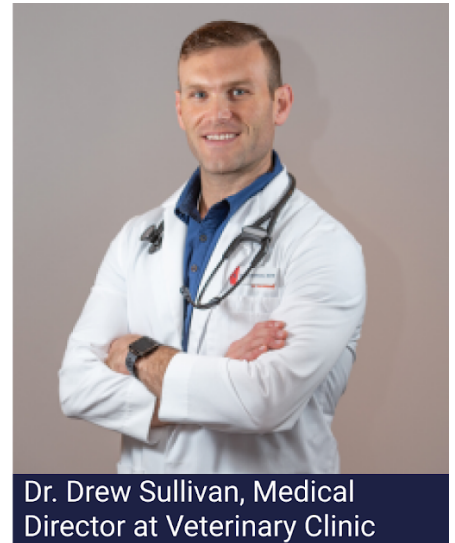
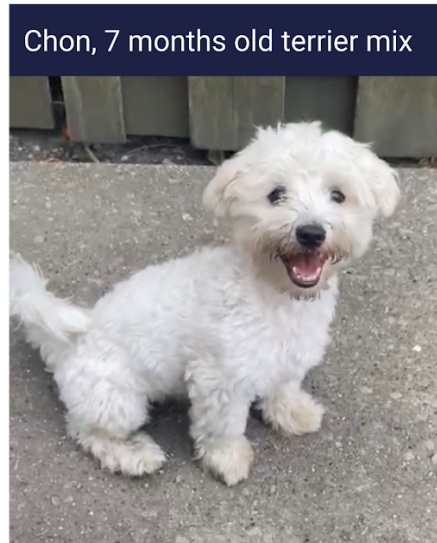




THE KODIAK TAILS

KODIAKCARE.ORG
SAVING LIVES, ONE DOG AT A TIME

MARCH 2021



Illinois Clinic Stretches KodiakCare Dollars to Save a Life

Veterinarians struggling to reduce health-care costs around the world could learn a lesson from KodiakCare's partners at the [Illinois Medical District Veterinary Clinic in Chicago](#).

This small, non-emergency animal hospital in a busy urban neighborhood has learned to make the most of funding – fortunately for Chon, a poodle-terrier mix, cured of a near-deadly parvovirus infection at a fraction of the typical cost with help from KodiakCare.

kodiakcare.org



Dr. Drew Sullivan, Medical Director at the University of Illinois-affiliated clinic, takes a creative approach to the financial limitations of his patients. “You can still practice very good medicine *and* figure out what’s absolutely necessary,” he said.

Now that KodiakCare has partnered with his clinic, “Having some funds makes a huge difference,” he said. “Sometimes it’s not the big ticket items like 3 days in a hospital. It might be \$600 that saves the pet, but the [owners] are so thankful you can work within the budget.”

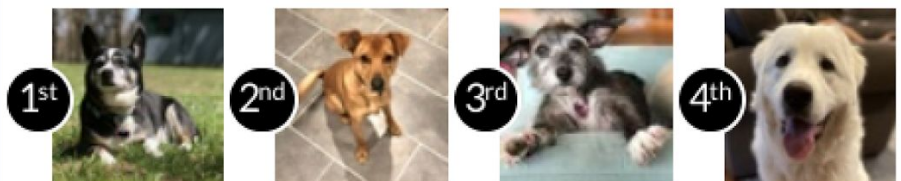
Chon comes from a loving family with very limited resources, and Dr. Sullivan adjusted his treatment accordingly. The stricken pooch would typically have been hospitalized for at least 24 hours on IV fluids, but overnight care at a hospital can be extremely expensive. Instead, Dr. Sullivan pumped Chon full of meds and fluids, then sent him home to rest each night under the care of owner Amairani Alvarado, who then returned Chon to the clinic each morning.

Dr. Sullivan grew up in the farm country of central Illinois seeing veterinary care that was effective, but, as he put it, “not what they’re teaching you in school.” He learned to make many a diagnosis without CT scans or MRIs, for instance, and to forgo costly overnight care when possible. Even small-ticket items that can make the difference between life and death, like a simple course of antibiotics, might be unaffordable for needy dog owners at his clinic.

Even with Dr. Sullivan's creative care for Chon, Alvarado and her family couldn't afford the multiple visits to the clinic and medication that Chon needed to survive. Thanks to a \$1,000 contribution from KodiakCare, Chon is fully recovered and back to his old mischievous self. “We cherish him like our little brother,” said Alvarado. Alvarado was so “grateful for Dr. Sullivan and the donors out there that help families” like hers through these difficult times. “It was sad going through something like that. It makes you appreciate life and your loved ones more.”



Leaderboard



Picture Your Pup Here!

Will Your Dog Get the Votes to Be the Mutt Madness Champion?

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KodiakCare presents its first-ever Mutt Madness fundraising event! This event, which begins on March 10th, offers you the chance to showcase your All-Star pup for a good cause and a shot at winning some fantastic prizes!

Mutt Madness is free to enter! Starting March 10th, you can create a profile, then upload a photo of your furry friend, along with why you think they should be voted the Mutt Madness Champion.

Invite friends, family and all of your fur baby's fans to cast their ballots for your pup by purchasing votes – \$1 per vote. As your dog gets more votes, he or she moves up the leaderboard. There are six contests. The first with 32 winners, then 16, 8, 4, 2, and finally one winner—the Mutt Madness Champion!

Keep an eye out for challenges throughout the competition that will allow you to earn additional votes for free! The first challenge begins March 10th: the first 25 dogs to register get 10 free votes added to their profile. There is no elimination in Mutt Madness: an underdog in one contest can have a comeback in another!

The prizes are worth howling over: one month of BarkBox, Wisdom Panel Essential Dog DNA test kits, Furbo Treat-Tossing Dog Cameras, and more! The Mutt Madness Champion will receive the Grand Prize of \$500 in Chewy gift cards and a feature on the KodiakCare website, social media, and newsletter! For a full list of prizes, click here. In addition, every dog that gets 25 votes—thereby raising \$25 for a pup's critical medical care—will receive a free KodiakCare Mutt Madness bandana (pictured below) and an Embrace Pet Insurance dog bag dispenser!

Most importantly, all proceeds from Mutt Madness go towards helping provide critical care to dogs in need. Every vote for your dog is a dollar for life-saving veterinary care for dogs of families with financial need. Families like Chon's owner, Amairani, who was distraught when she couldn't afford Chon's care, thinking "he wouldn't get to enjoy his life," and was so grateful for the KodiakCare donors who help families like hers.

KodiakCare also thanks its Presenting Sponsor, Embrace Pet Insurance. Mutt Madness's challenge days and event prizes are provided by Embrace Pet Insurance. Embraced dogs are covered from nose to tail for every unexpected accident and illness. KodiakCare is grateful for Embrace Pet Insurance's support of this event and dedication to KodiakCare's mission of Saving Lives, One Dog at a Time.



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