



## A Year in Review

**82**

**TOTAL  
TEAMS**

**20**

**CERTIFIED  
NEW TEAMS**

**52**

**RECERTIFIED  
TEAMS**

**6,000+**

hours at schools helping kids cope daily with teams made up of a vice principal, teachers, counselors, and front staff!

**1,500+**

hours at Portland International Airport supporting travelers, TSA, airline staff, vendors, Veterans, and PDX staff

**1,200+**

hours in hospitals for patients and staff!

**725**

hours in Read to the Dog programs!

**500+**

hours at one day events: finals stress relief in high schools and colleges!

**3,500+**

hours supporting victims of domestic and sexual abuse, victims of human trafficking, youth at risk, law enforcement, specialty courts, victim advocates, public defenders  
 Multnomah County DA's office, Multnomah, Washington, and Clackamas County Courts, FBI, FBI NW Regional Computer Forensics Lab, Department of Justice, NW Regional Re-Entry Center

**700+**

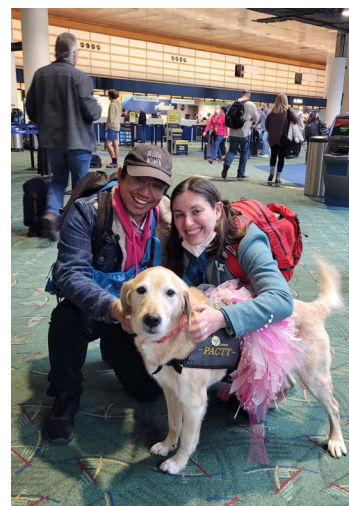
hours visiting assisted living facilities and hospice!

**200+**

hours at church on Sundays

**OUR TEAMS HAVE  
VOLUNTEERED OVER 13,500  
HOURS IN 2023!**

**TEAMS SURVIVED TORRENTIAL RAIN, ICE,  
AND SNOW ALONG WITH SUMMER HEAT.**



## A Note From Kathy

We hit our 10th anniversary and are still growing! We have been honored and recognized this past year by the FBI, Portland International Airport, Multnomah County DA's office, Beaverton Specialty Courts, Portland Police, and appreciated by all our locations. We are thankful for all our community partners and value their trust and belief in the PACTT program.

Thank you to all the handlers and dogs who have made this program what it is today! We appreciate you for the time you give to each visit and to each person. You will always know from the look in a person's eyes and the smile on their face just what impact you had in that moment. The PACTT program is truly the gold standard. Our teams are professional, dedicated, dependable, and have helped create our stellar reputation. We couldn't do our PACTT certifications without the help of our volunteers, Kaila Lewis, Patty Fairchild, Jan Lampe, Vic Bowden, Cindy Bean, and Leigh Thalhimer. Thank you!

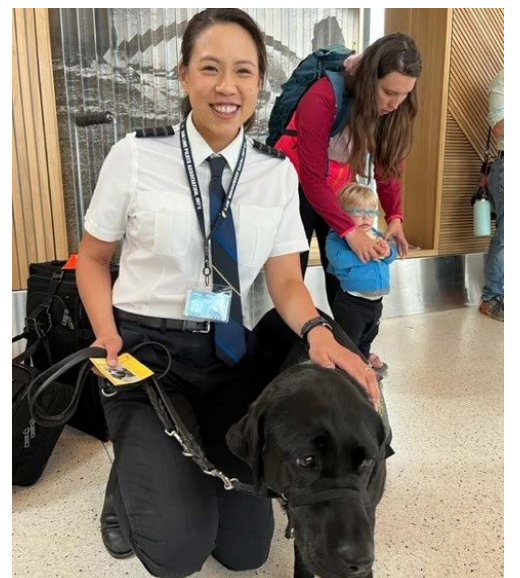
I think I can speak for everyone when I voice our appreciation to Molly and Shreya for the creative newsletter month after month that we all enjoy and the adorable trading cards. Thank you, Tess, for your leadership and guidance. I would also like to thank the Development team for their support with events and fundraising.

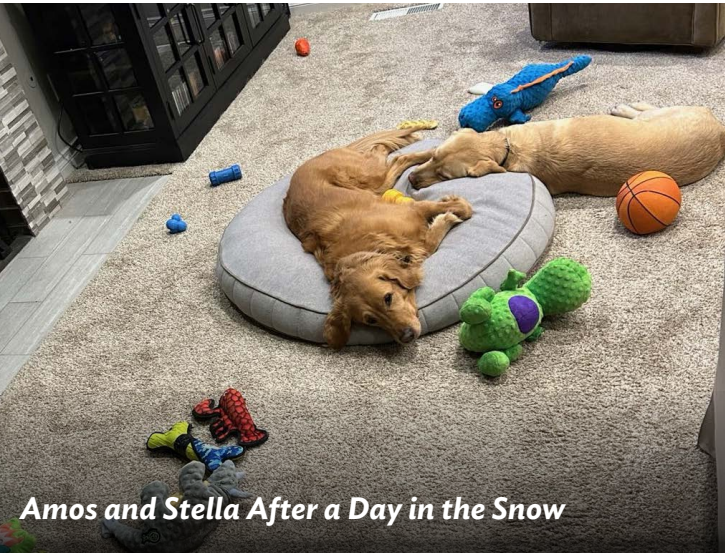
I know my teams would also like to thank the many hospital staff that have cared for their pets who have come into our emergency room this last year. All have expressed their gratitude how supported they felt. One person said it felt like the staff had a personal connection with their dog. You make each person feel special and heard in difficult times. I am honored to work with this amazing staff.

I am grateful for DoveLewis and their continued support and belief in this program. PACTT is one of the many outreach programs of DoveLewis that make Dove so special. It embodies the human-animal bond and takes our organization out of the hospital and into our communities. We live, work, and volunteer in a very special world. I am grateful to work in community of dedicated people who care for pets, their humans and their coworkers.

2023 was a great year! 2024 looks promising with more opportunities!

- Kathy and Marvin





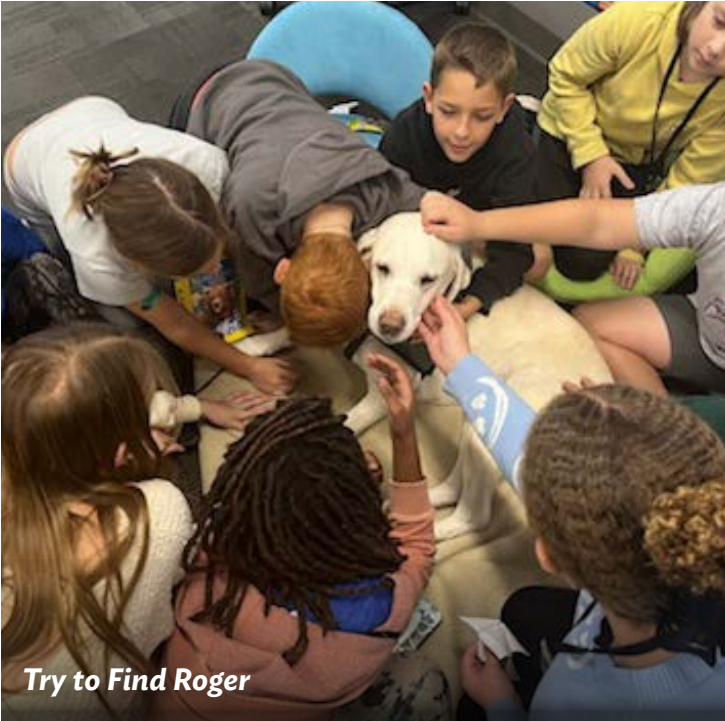
*Amos and Stella After a Day in the Snow*



*Multnomah County Start Court Graduation*



*Venice at FBI Northwest Regional Computer Forensic Lab*



*Try to Find Roger*



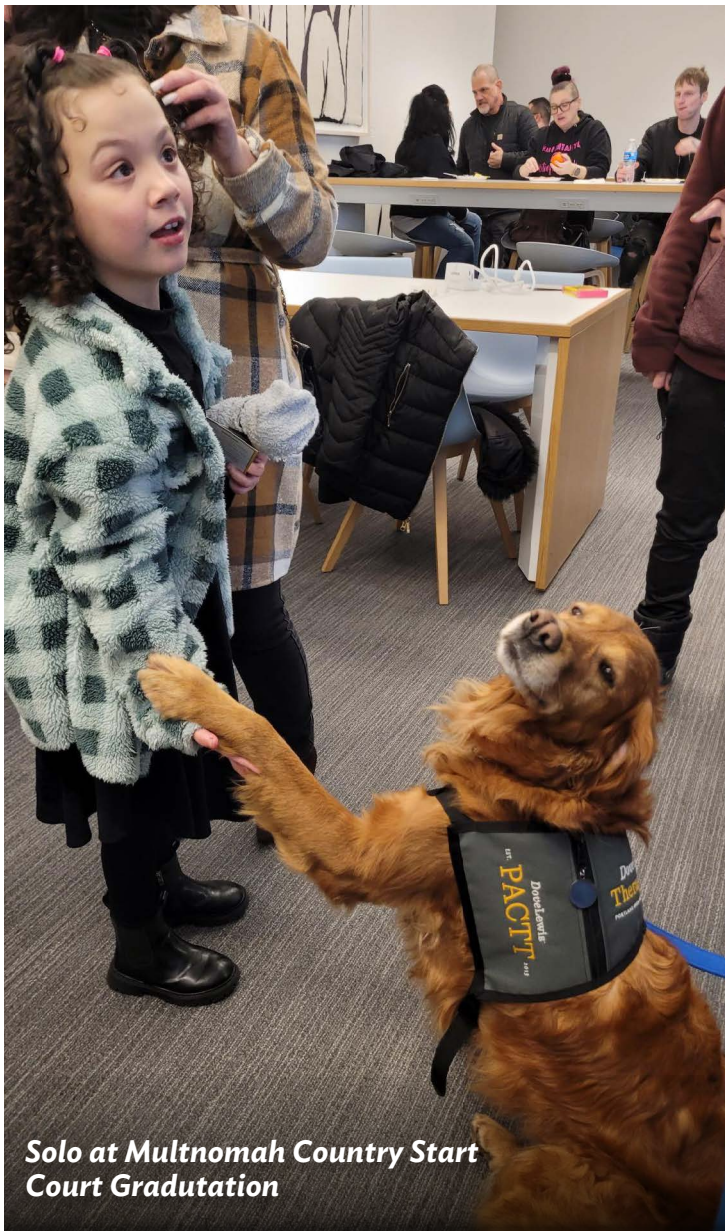
*Roger at Read to the Dog*



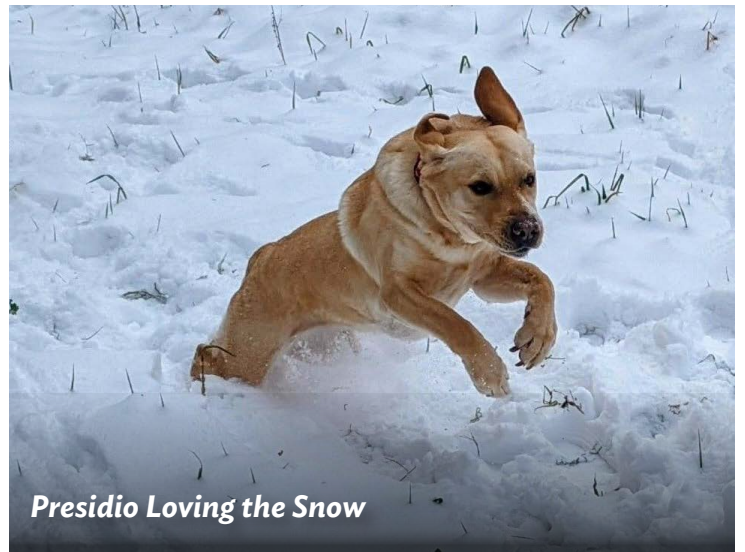
*Anta Loves Alaska Airlines*



*Elfie and Lars at PDX on New Years Day*



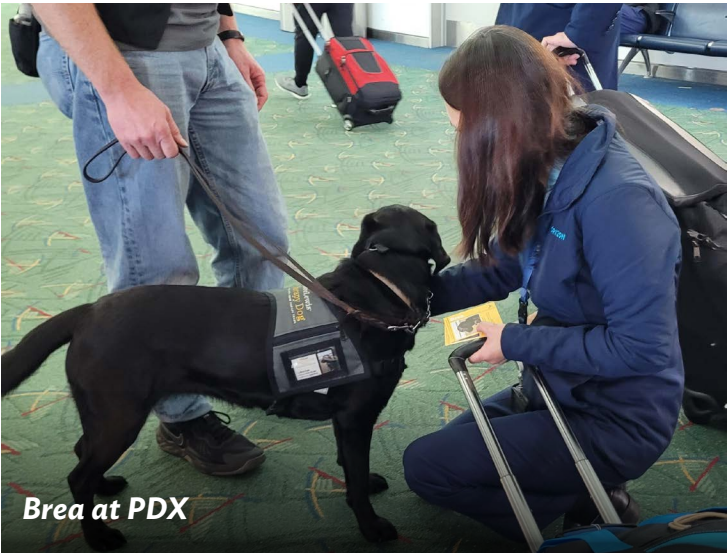
*Solo at Multnomah County Start Court Graduation*



*Presidio Loving the Snow*



*Venice Taking a Group Picture with the FBI Computer Forensics Team*



Brea at PDX



Limon, Donna, and Marvin on New Years Day in PDX



Rebecca and Marvin at FBI



Roger at Read to the Dog



Lars at PDX

# Discovering the Joy of Companionship

All of us here at PACTT understand the therapeutic benefits that interacting with animals, especially dogs, can have on the wellness of others. One innovative way to promote the use of therapy dogs for mental and emotional well-being is by introducing therapy dogs into schools to educate others about the importance of dogs in the community. Reynolds High School gladly took a step in this direction.

Bliss and I were invited to come to the high school to talk about the difference between working dogs, service dogs, emotional support dogs, and therapy dogs. We helped clearly define each role and discussed how each type of dog benefits their handlers and/or the people around them.

Trained and motivated to interact with a diverse group of people, Bliss is equipped to engage with students, teachers, and staff members, creating an inclusive and welcoming experience during her visits. Her ability to adapt and handle a variety of situations, including the hectic high school environment, made her the perfect candidate for this assignment.

Therapy dog visits are not just about cuddles and pats; they can also be educational. Reynolds High School implemented these sessions with Bliss, allowing students to learn about the importance of mental health, the role of therapy animals, and how to care for and respect animals while at work. These sessions contributed to a holistic approach to well-being, promoting empathy and understanding among students, and quite possibly inspiring the future generation of therapy dog handlers through this experience.

In a very brief and heartwarming moment during a visit, a quiet and reserved student mustered the courage to approach and pet Bliss. She tentatively extended the back of her hand towards Bliss, managing a single stroke along her back. Looking as though she was experiencing both curiosity and trepidation, she quickly stepped back and revealed that it was the first time she had touched a dog, as fear had always kept her at a distance. In that brief encounter, possibly a newfound comfort around dogs was born. It was a touching illustration of the variety of ways dogs like Bliss can have on individuals, helping them break down barriers, try new things, and discover the joy of companionship.

- Nancy & Bliss



*Bliss with Students*

## Pet Loss Support Program

The loss of a pet can be devastating. For many, this is a loss not only of a beloved companion animal but of a best friend and cherished family member. We share our lives, dreams, homes, and affections with our companions. They touch our lives deeply and are deserving of our grief.

Grieving for a beloved pet is a natural and personal process that deserves expression and acknowledgment. The DoveLewis Pet Loss Support Program offers free monthly support group meetings, providing a comforting space for reflection, sharing, listening, and healing at your own pace.



### Upcoming Pet Loss Support Meetings:

**Thursday, February 1 | 12:00-1:30 PM | In-Person Meeting**

**Thursday, February 8 | 6:30-8:00 PM | Virtual Meeting**

**Thursday, February 15 | 5:00-6:30 PM | In-Person Meeting**

**Monday, February 19 | 6:30-8:00 PM | In-Person Meeting**



[Click Here or Scan the QR Code to Learn More](#)

## Virtual Service of Remembrance

**Sunday, February 18 | 1:00-2:00 PM**

Join our online memorial service to honor your beloved animal companions. The bi-annual Service of Remembrance celebrates the lasting impact animals have on our lives. Connect with a community that understands this bond as we come together online to commemorate our animal companions who are no longer with us. Experience words of care and comfort from DoveLewis staff and hear a personal message from a fellow pet owner.

Share your special companion's memory by submitting a photo with your registration, and these photos will be included in a special slideshow presentation following the service.

### Virtual Service of Remembrance

*Presented By DoveLewis*

[Click Here to Register to Attend](#)

## Provide Support for Fellow Animal

We are grateful for the contributions from generous donors who make it possible for the Pet Loss Support Program to offer its services to our community of loving families. If it serves you, we welcome you to donate in honor of your beloved companion and to continue to make this space available in the future.



[Click Here or Scan the QR Code to Donate](#)

# Share Your Messages of Love

February is often all about love so we're bringing back our messages of love for our pets! Our February PACTT Newsletter will be dedicated to your message you want to share about your sweet pets. PACTT teams, blood donors, and DoveLewis Staff are all invited to add messages of love to their pets! **Deadline is February 17.**

[Click here to write your message.](#)



## Cozy Up With Some PACTT Merchandise



Check out all the PACTT merchandise available for you including polos, long sleeves, and more. [Click Here to Shop Now!](#)

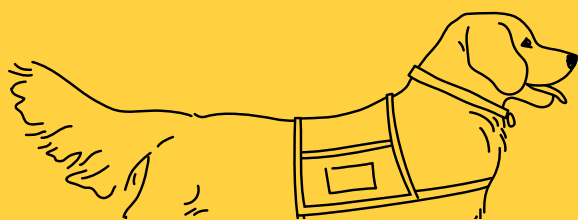


**Kathy Loter**

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PACTT relies on the generous support of donors. If you wish to contribute, please scan the provided QR code.