



## Golden Retriever Rescue of the Rockies

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### **Golden Retriever Rescue of the Rockies announces “Turkey Dog III” Holiday Rescue Operation**

*Orphaned Golden Retrievers are being flown from Turkey to Denver to escape harsh winter conditions and find their new forever homes*

Arvada, CO (Nov 14, 2016) Golden Retriever Rescue of the Rockies (GRRR), a Colorado nonprofit organization, is pleased to announce an emergency rescue effort for a group of orphaned Golden Retrievers from Istanbul, Turkey. GRRR has received an urgent request from their contact in Turkey to help eighteen dogs – currently in an outdoor shelter without protection from the elements – find homes before winter arrives and temperatures drop. GRRR, which is known for “never saying no to a Golden in need”, is coming to the rescue and will be flying these dogs from Istanbul to Denver just in time for the holidays. This will be the third “Turkey Dog” operation undertaken by GRRR.

The need for the long-distance rescue effort stems from hundreds of Golden Retrievers having been released into the streets of Turkey, abandoned by their families. Once purchased by the wealthy as a status symbol, owners lost interest in the breed as it became commonplace and the once cuddly puppies grew into large dogs. Used to a family environment, these gentle dogs do not fare well on the streets and in the forests. With few shelters or adoption programs available in Turkey, dogs of this good-natured breed frequently starve or become prey to the many feral dog packs in the city streets and surrounding forest. The shelters that do exist are often outdoors, leaving the dogs vulnerable to weather conditions, which can drop to below freezing in the winter.

GRRR Executive Director Kevin Shipley has been working with contacts here in the US and a shelter team in Istanbul to quickly organize the emergency rescue efforts. Before leaving Turkey, each dog will receive a medical exam, rabies shot, health certificate, and their very own passport. Upon arrival at GRRR, the dogs will receive additional medical exams and any necessary treatment, grooming, and socialization to prepare them for adoption. GRRR funds the program solely through donations and dog “sponsorships”. Tax deductible donations can be made at [goldenrescue.com](http://goldenrescue.com).

Rescued Golden Retrievers love life in America. Shipley voiced enthusiasm about their future, “We are thrilled to be able to help these Goldens by providing a safe, warm, and comfortable place for them as we work to find their forever homes. The previous 28 ‘Turkey Dogs’ are thriving in their new homes, including Brush, a therapy dog at University of Denver; Hayden, a qualified obedience dog; and Estes, who is enjoying the idyllic Colorado lifestyle near Rocky Mountain National Park after being adopted by the Mayor of Estes Park.”

Expressing gratitude, GRRR Board President Judi Servoss said, “We are thankful to everyone opening their hearts and homes to rescued Goldens. In our 20 years of existence, we’ve now been able to place over 4,000 dogs into their forever homes. We’re proud to be able to find the perfect home for each dog, but we have more potential adopters than available dogs, so bringing these Goldens in need into the generous Denver rescue community is a win for everyone. And to be able to provide hope to these ‘Holiday Turkey Dogs’ feels like the perfect way to celebrate the spirit of the season.”

***"A Golden Retriever Can Change Your Life!"®***



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### **About Golden Retriever Rescue of the Rockies**

Golden Retriever Rescue of the Rockies (GRRR) is a mostly volunteer non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that helps place unwanted, abandoned, or surrendered Golden Retrievers into loving homes. GRRR is dedicated exclusively to rescue, placement, and public awareness to ensure successful adoptions. GRRR was founded in 1996 and has since rescued, rehabilitated, and re-homed over 4,000 Golden Retrievers and Golden Retriever mixes. GRRR first became involved in rescue efforts for Golden Retrievers from Istanbul, Turkey in early 2016.

GRRR's rescue facility, known as Phoebe's Place, is located in Arvada, Colorado on a five acre property with comfortable and spacious day kennels. This large property allows for complete focus on the dogs in GRRR's care, ensuring all dogs have the time and space necessary to be rehabilitated for adoption. GRRR is known for providing total care for their dogs, with medical expenses being the single largest expense. Caregiver Mary Kenton, who has worked with GRRR since 1997, resides on the property and oversees the needs of all the dogs, along with over 250 dedicated volunteers.

To learn more about Golden Retriever Rescue of the Rockies and its mission, or to donate, please go to:  
[goldenrescue.com](http://goldenrescue.com).