

Just **GIANTS** .org

RESCUE | REHAB | REHOME



2025



IMPACT REPORT

by Michelle Baun

Thank You!

2025 was truly the year that Leea and I found our footing as Co-Directors of Just Giants Rescue, Inc. Together, we achieved more intakes and adoptions than the previous year, continuing to grow the impact of our rescue and the number of giant breed dogs we are able to save.

While we had both been involved with Just Giants for years, stepping into leadership during a period of transition was both exciting and incredibly challenging. Our organization experienced several leadership changes, welcomed an entirely new Board of Directors, and navigated unexpected obstacles along the way. Through it all, we remained committed to our mission and to building a stronger future for the rescue.

In 2025, we welcomed new volunteers, said goodbye to others, and rebuilt our coordinators team with passionate, dedicated leaders who truly believe in rescuing and advocating for giant breed dogs. Because of their hard work and the increased involvement of our leadership team, we were able to raise our save rate from 90% to an incredible 96%.

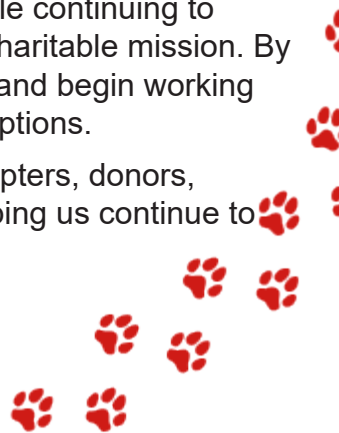
One of the highlights of the year came in December 2025, when Just Giants was invited to appear on ABC 7 Chicago Morning News to share our mission and the work being done to save gentle giants in need.

As we look ahead, we are focused on building a sustainable future for the organization. Our goals include creating opportunities for paid staff positions while continuing to strengthen our volunteer programs and preserve the heart of our charitable mission. By 2028, we hope to provide compensation for most leadership roles and begin working toward establishing a physical facility for dog intake, care, and adoptions.

None of this would be possible without our volunteers, fosters, adopters, donors, and supporters. Thank you for believing in our mission and for helping us continue to change lives—both canine and human.

Thank you,

Leea & Michelle | Co-Directors of Just Giants Rescue, Inc.



Leadership

2025 - Just Giants Board

President, Michelle Baun

mbaun@justgiants.org | 708-792-3649

Vice-President, Leea Lovich

llovich@justgiants.org | 708-792-3606

Treasurer, Stacey Laikaart

staceyl@justgiants.org | 314-452-5348

Board Member, Jim Slanker

jslanker@justgiants.org | 630-784-1120

Coordinators

Leea Lovich

Executive Director of Animal Services

Michelle Baun

Executive Director of Operations

Madeline Kelley

Medical Coordinator

Lindsey Gustin

Adoptions Coordinator

Kristy Sternes

Placement Coordinator

Jessica Hawley

Social Media Coordinator

Nancy Kaniewski

Grant/Auction Coordinator

Laurin Stauffenberg

Microchips Coordinator*

Michael Kowall

Applications Coordinator

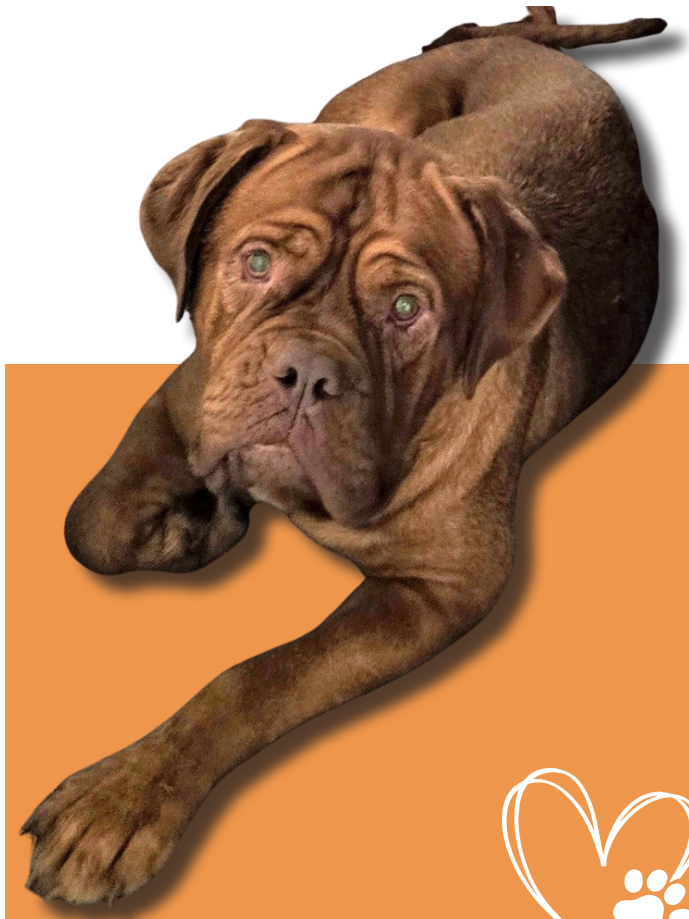
Jim Slanker

Transport Coordinator*

**change from 2025 to 2026*

By the Numbers

2025 Save Rate	96%	Avg. Vet Cost	\$561
2025 Intakes	162	Avg. Length of Stay	22 days
2025 Live Outcomes	167		
2025 Non-live Outcomes	8		
2025 Return Rate	5%		

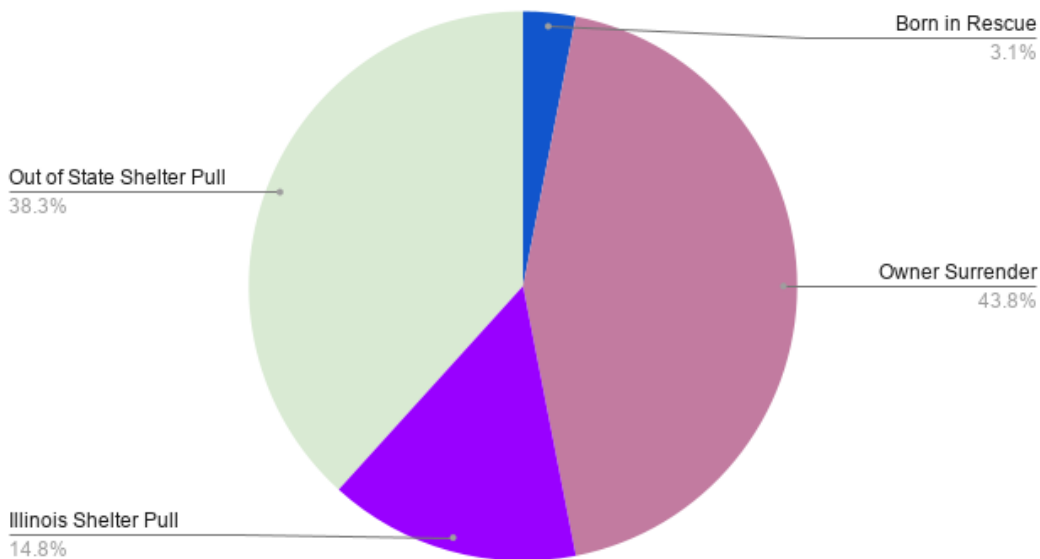


Intakes by Breed

Bernese Mountain Dog	2
Bloodhound	1
Boerboel Mastiff	1
Bullmastiff	2
Cane Corso	9
Daniff	8
Dogue de Bordeaux	6
English Mastiff	15
Great Dane	58
Great Pyrenees	1
Irish Wolfhound	7
Mastiff	5
Mixed Breed	29
Neapolitan Mastiff	3
Newfoundland	4
St. Bernard	11



Acquired By...



Adopters

Approved Applicants	311
Paused Applicants	123
Denied Applicants	38
Applications Received	472

Volunteers

Total Volunteers in Database	267
Active Volunteers in 2025	67
Active Foster Homes in 2025	42

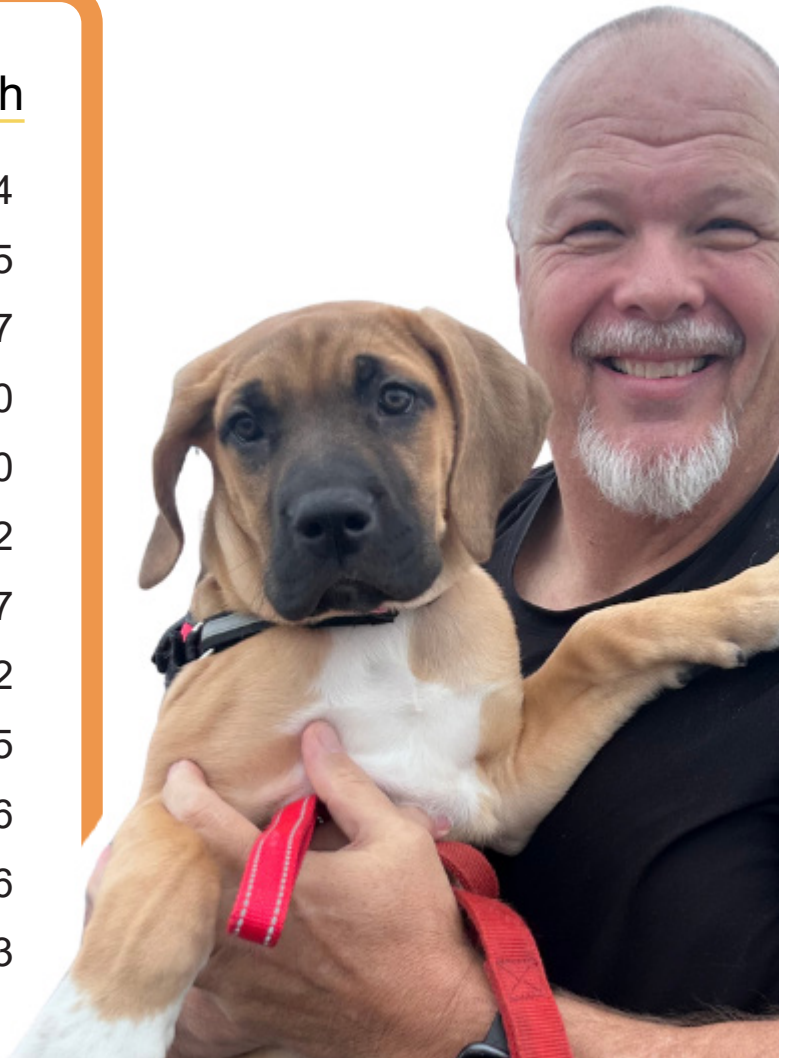


167 ADOPTIONS



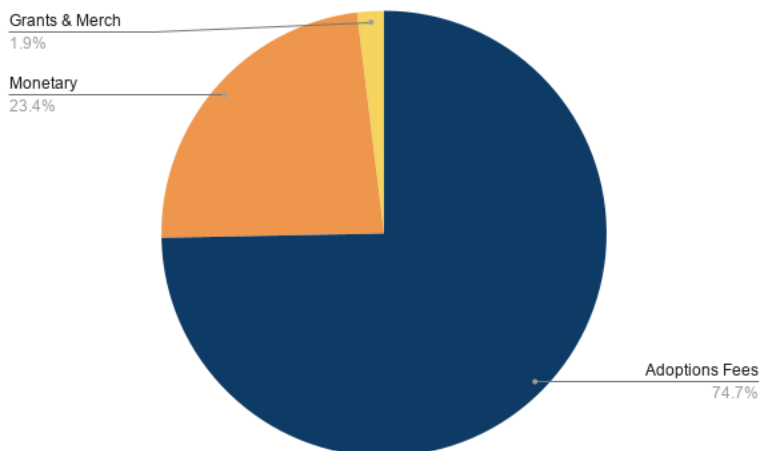
Adoptions by Month

January	14
February	15
March	7
April	10
May	10
June	12
July	17
August	12
September	15
October	16
November	16
December	23



Financials

Income Sources 2025



2025 Income

Adoptions Fees	111,238.05
Monetary Donations	34,804.50
Grants & Merch	2,895.29
	\$148,937.84

Expenditures

Adoptions & Rescues	\$2,364.44	Office Expenses	\$507.51
Dog Boarding	\$338.00	Postage	\$1,834.48
Dog Food (Rescue Pack)	\$630.13	Paypal Fee	\$929.11
Microchips	\$1,061.25	Insurance	\$4,098.00
Supplies	\$11,555.76	Legal	\$5,000.00
Transport Fees	\$3484.10	Service Fees	\$25.00
Vet/Medical Expenses	\$93,573.17	Software Subscriptions	\$1,763.00
Volunteer Training Classes	\$91.63	Taxes & Licenses	\$197.82
Automobile Expense	\$254.36	Website	\$4,312.95
Dues & Subscriptions	\$75.00	Domain	\$319.00
Fundraising	\$570.92		\$136,539.00
Fundraising Materials	\$210.00		
General & Administrative	\$616.04		
Advertising	\$2,221.33		
Insurance	\$506.00		

Looking to the Future

Long Term Goals

- Begin paying 50% of leadership positions by 2028
- Develop a strategic plan to build an Intake & Adoption Center by 2030
- Increase the number of Live Outcome by 20% annually
- Increase volunteerism by 15% annually
- Increase our annual budget by 20% annually

Goals for 2026

- Phase into paying our Co-directors full time over 12 months (April 2027)
- Build up the Fundraising Team
- Create a Self-Paced Automated Onboarding process for volunteers
- Update our Databases
- Host an annual Gala - Sept. 19, 2026 in Bartlett, IL
- Develop an accurate budget
- Add more foster homes in Missouri, Indiana, Wisconsin and Iowa
- Audit the Foster Manual and Volunteer Handbook

