



## FOR THE LOVE OF WESTIES

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Dear Westie Lovers,

Experiencing the feeling of pride and joy while watching rescued Westies thrive physically and emotionally in new loving adoptive homes is a powerful reward for anyone involved in rescue.

Sadly, due to the high cost of veterinary care and the limited budgets of most rescuers, not all rescued Westies are given an opportunity for restored health and a better life. Rescuers are often placed in the difficult position of making decisions based solely on available resources.

WestieMed strives to offer financial assistance to rescuers nationwide allowing them to foster, rehabilitate and nurture as many Westies in rescue situations as possible, worry-free of monetary constraints.

In this Premier issue of the *WestieMed Highlights*, the new official newsletter of WestieMed, we are pleased to tell you about WestieMed and to share with you a recap of the fourteen (14) Westies that WestieMed assisted during 2003. WestieMed's aid has allowed these Westies to move from a painful existence and, in some cases, certain death, to the happiness that every dog deserves. Giving Westies like these a second chance is the reason for WestieMed's existence.

WestieMed is making a difference...one Westie at a time!

### MISSION STATEMENT

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The Mission of WestieMed is to help raise the quality of life and adoptability of rescued West Highland White Terriers (Westies). WestieMed provides these Westies with a second chance at adoption and the opportunity to lead happy, healthy lives in stable, loving homes.

In addition, through its efforts and the example it sets, WestieMed aims to stimulate a dialogue, which will educate the general public about rescue animals and rescue organizations.

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***“There is no better reward to caring for animals than to see them improve.”***

# ABOUT WESTIEMED

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During its four years of operation (2000-2003), WestieMed, Inc. (WestieMed) has become a distinguished organization in the rescue community, providing financial assistance to save the lives of rescued Westies. Since inception, WestieMed has assisted 53 rescued Westies by providing financial support towards medical expenses that could not otherwise be borne.

WestieMed is an all-volunteer, non-profit corporation created to distribute financial aid to injured or ill rescued Westies. The organization was founded by a small group of Westie rescuers located across the country who saw a need to provide a resource where medical treatment funding for an abandoned or rescued Westie was unavailable or inadequate.

In August 2000 WestieMed was granted tax-exempt status under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The organization is registered in the state of Maryland as a charitable organization. Articles of Incorporation were filed in the state of Maryland. WestieMed is uniquely the only tax-deductible organization in the United States specifically providing financial help for rescued Westies in need of medical attention.

As an Internet-based organization, WestieMed is able to intercede quickly on behalf of rescued Westies in need of medical attention by using the communication powers of the Internet. Also, the organization maintains a toll-free, web-based voice mail message center at 1-877-853-9469 to better serve inquiries.

## **WestieMed Website**

The WestieMed website was developed in January 2000 and is currently being maintained under the direction of the Board of Directors. The website educates the public on various animal health and welfare issues through the information and updates published about the cases funded by WestieMed. Solicitation of volunteers and contributions is made via the website.

## **Support Independent Rescuers**

In addition to providing support to all Westie rescuers through the Mission of the organization, WestieMed also works to provide referrals to volunteers who can transport, foster and otherwise care for a rescued animal. The organization helps facilitate the contact of the appropriate volunteer with a specific rescuer's needs.

## **Presence at Dog Shows and Events**

WestieMed provides a presence at dog shows and other dog-related events across the country throughout the year to continue educating the public on WestieMed's Mission. This education includes information about Westie rescue, the Westie breed including care issues and also fosters public awareness of puppy mills and the prevention of animal cruelty. Presence at these events also facilitates contacts with rescuers, volunteers and donors. WestieMed develops brochures and magnetic business cards as outreach tools for use in this regard.

Throughout the year, WestieMed articles and advertisements are contained in the *Westie Imprint*, the news magazine of the West Highland White Terrier Club of America with a readership of over 1,100.



*“Thanks so very much for the financial assistance towards my surgery and giving me a second chance. I am a special little Westie and I found a special home.”*

## FUNDING ACTIVITIES

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The WestieMed Board of Directors is responsible for the careful screening of each submitted Application for Aid to ensure the Funding Guidelines are consistently and fairly met. WestieMed's Veterinary Advisory Board is consulted where there are questions about diagnosis, treatment and expected outcome. Further, the Board is responsible for appropriately disbursing funds in a timely manner for all approved cases.

The scope of WestieMed's Funding Guidelines was expanded in 2003. In its ongoing commitment to assist the Westie Rescue community, the Board extended financial assistance to not only rescued Westies in foster care but also to those recently adopted. Due to this change, WestieMed funding is now available for recently adopted rescued Westies up to 6 months from the date of rescue.

During 2003, WestieMed received sixteen (16) applications for financial assistance. Of these applications, fourteen (14) new cases met the Funding Guidelines and were approved to receive financial support towards medical expenses.

Since inception, WestieMed has continuously maintained a positive cash flow and has established an exemplary record in its ability to fund every eligible case.

To ensure that demand for future financial aid will continue to be met, WestieMed is responsible for the ongoing development of funding sources. The Board of Directors works year round on establishing and implementing numerous fundraising efforts to protect and maintain the organization's viability.

During 2003, these efforts included solicitation of individual contributions, club or group donations, corporate affiliations, planned gifts and donations of in-kind items. The Board also sponsored five (5) online eBay auctions and offered a variety of Westie merchandise in WestieMed's online Gift Shop including apparel, jewelry, stationary, ornaments and figurines. Additionally, the Board promoted special events held for the benefit of WestieMed such as the extremely successful WestieWalk 2003 in Gahanna, Ohio organized by volunteers.

Communication with supporters is accomplished through the WestieMed website, print media, email and direct mail.

## OUR SUPPORTERS

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Our deepest appreciation goes out to all who have given so generously toward the health and welfare of rescued West Highland White Terriers.

As a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) charitable organization, WestieMed is funded solely by contributions from the general public. Financial contributions may be deductible for federal income tax purposes to the full extent allowed by law.

Each year WestieMed's activities have been fulfilled, thanks to the donations from our supporters.

WestieMed has established two Funds to help rescued Westies - the **General Fund** and the **Goober Memorial Fund**. The Goober Memorial Fund was created in August 2001 to assist Westies with congenital orthopedic conditions. This fund was named for Goober, the little Westie who touched and inspired so many people with his courage and will to live. The General Fund is used to assist Westies with other medical conditions.

***“All we can say is thank you, thank you...and God bless the fine and generous people at WestieMed who care so very much!”***

# FUNDING ELIGIBILITY

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WestieMed will provide monetary assistance toward non-routine medical expenses for non-terminally ill West Highland White Terriers (Westies) or Westie-mixes displaying the physical and behavioral attributes of a pure-bred Westie who are abandoned, rescued or recent adoption cases (up to 6 months) and for whom no other funding is available or is insufficient.

WestieMed will accept applications for assistance from any group, organization, or individual who is of legal age (18 years).

The age of the Westie is not a limiting factor as WestieMed will decide each case as to the quality of future life for that dog. No funds will be released without specific assurances that the dog has been or will be spayed or neutered.

WestieMed will provide monetary support to reimburse or directly pay veterinary services for medical expenses of rescued Westies. No rescuer or other individual will be permitted to make a profit from funds disbursed by WestieMed.

# FUNDING PROCESS

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Just as each Westie is unique, each Westie's rescue situation and health condition is also unique. The following is the general process by which an application is submitted, eligibility is determined and financial assistance is disbursed for rescued Westies in need of medical attention.

## **STEP ONE: THE APPLICATION**

- Confirm your Westie meets all the requirements of the Funding Guidelines as stated on the WestieMed website;
- Submit an online application from the WestieMed website; and
- Email, fax or mail a photo of your Westie and the veterinary invoice or estimate to the WestieMed Applications Coordinator.

## **STEP TWO: DETERMINE ELIGIBILITY AND APPROVE FUNDING**

- The Board of Directors reviews application for eligibility in accordance with the Funding Guidelines;
- The Applications Coordinator may contact you, your veterinarian or the WestieMed Veterinary Advisory Board for additional information; and
- The Board of Directors determines and approves the funding.

## **STEP THREE: DISBURSE FUNDING**

- Write a summary of your dog's medical condition and rescue story for the WestieMed website;
- Approved funding will be issued by the WestieMed Treasurer; and
- Stay in contact with WestieMed while treatment is ongoing and for a period of at least one year following completion of treatment.

# WESTIES WE HAVE HELPED



Name of Dog: **Angus**  
 Age of Dog: 8 years old  
 Rescue State: Florida  
 Medical Condition: Mature Cataracts

Synopsis: Angus, an 8 year old deaf male, was found in the home of his owner, who had been deceased a few days. After legal action, he was released to Westie Rescue of Florida. In addition to the deafness due to chronic ear infections, Angus also had skin infections and was losing his vision due to cataracts. An exam by a veterinary ophthalmologist revealed that Angus had 35% vision in his right eye and only 10% vision in his left eye. WestieMed assisted with the cost of the cataract removal surgery. His cataracts were successfully removed and Angus was subsequently adopted. With his vision restored and appropriate treatment for his ear, eye and

skin infections, Angus has developed into a happy, handsome and playful Westie.



Name of Dog: **Casey**  
 Age of Dog: 6 years old  
 Rescue State: Missouri  
 Medical Condition: Protein-Losing Enteropathy

Synopsis: Casey is a 6 year old male who was rescued from an entire life of living outside due to the owner's allergies. Casey developed infections of his eyes, ears and skin from being exposed to year round severe weather and from lack of attention and affection. He was subsequently given to a kennel worker and her husband who began care for his Malassezia as well as his ear and eye

infections. During that time he began having seizures and diarrhea. WestieMed provided assistance with the diagnostic costs of a stomach lining biopsy and internal organ x-rays. Casey was diagnosed with Protein-Losing Enteropathy and treatment was begun. Not only have his medical issues resolved with appropriate treatment, but also with the help of his new Cairn and Poodle-mix siblings, Casey has now learned how to play and is able to sleep through the night. He has also become his new Mama's lap dog. His owners love him and are grateful that he was put in their path.

## Yes! I want to join other Friends of Westies™

Here's a donation in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to make this donation anonymously.

I wish to be added to the WestieMed email announcement list hosted byYahooGroups.

This donation is in memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

This donation is in honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check or money order payable to:  
**"WestieMed"** and mail to:

WestieMed, Inc.  
 8415 Canning Terrace  
 Greenbelt, MD 20770



Name of Dog: **Jody**  
 Age of Dog: 3 years old  
 Rescue State: California  
 Medical Condition: Bilateral medially luxating patellas

Synopsis: Jody is a 3 year old female Westie who was owner surrendered to the Rescue Program of the West Highland White Terrier Club of California because she was gone quite a bit and could no longer afford the dog sitting costs. During Jody's vet visit while in foster care, she was diagnosed with bilateral medially luxating patellas. WestieMed assisted with the cost of the surgery to repair both patellas. Surgery was successfully performed and Jody was adopted. Within a

few months, Jody and her new Mom were entering Agility Trials! Jody amazed everyone with her natural abilities as she took to Agility as though she had always been trained.



Name of Dog: **Oliver**  
 Age of Dog: 6 months old  
 Rescue State: Texas  
 Medical Condition: Fractured femur

Synopsis: Dallas Animal Control contacted Trinity Valley Westie Rescue, a committee of the TVVHWTC, to take Oliver, a 6 month old abused male Westie with a fractured femur. Surgical repair was recommended. WestieMed assisted the TVVHWTC with the surgical costs. After surgery, Oliver was placed into foster care for rehab with a TVVHWT club member and her

two other Westies. Oliver had a good post-operative recovery assisted by another club member who offered her swimming pool to Oliver for physical therapy after his sutures were removed. Oliver was adopted by his foster family and was soon running and playing with his new Westie sister and brother.



Name of Dog: **Pearl**  
 Age of Dog: 2 ½ years old  
 Rescue State: North Carolina  
 Medical Condition: Craniomandibular Osteodystrophy (CMO)

Synopsis: Pearl is a 2 ½ year old female Westie originally purchased from a pet shop. After a few months, she was returned to the pet shop because she was "sick" and had stopped eating. She was then released to a local rescue group, Friends Forever. Pearl's condition was diagnosed as Craniomandibular Osteodystrophy (CMO), an inherited disease that produces a noncancerous growth of bone on the lower jaw bone. As in Pearl's case, this condition can be devastating if untreated. The CMO had fused Pearl's jaw

leaving her just a 1/8" opening. Pearl was evaluated by Dr. Christine Hunt in Greensboro, North Carolina, who pioneered a new technique using ultrasound waves to break down the calcification of the jaw. Towards the end of 2003, Pearl began undergoing therapeutic ultrasound treatments at University Animal Hospital in Greensboro, North Carolina under the care of Dr. Hunt, funded by a grant from WestieMed. As her treatments continue into 2004, this innovative method may result in Pearl being able to open her mouth.

***"Thank you WestieMed, we couldn't have done this without you!"***



Name of Dog: **Molly**  
Age of Dog: 9 years old  
Rescue State: Minnesota  
Medical Condition: Bladder Stones

Synopsis: Molly is a 9 year old spayed female who was owner surrendered to a veterinarian in Minnesota because she was urinating uncontrollably. The vet, in turn, located Westie Rescue of Minnesota through the WHWTCA website. Molly was placed in foster care with Westie Rescue and underwent numerous tests when it was discovered that she had bladder stones, one of which was very large. WestieMed provided financial assistance for Molly's surgery to remove the stones. One of the stones measured 4cm x 3cm, with four other smaller stones. Molly's prognosis is good. With a proper diet, it is hoped she will have no further recurrences. Molly subsequently was adopted into a loving new home where she is treated with the affection and care she deserves.



Name of Dog: **Alex**  
Age of Dog: about 10 years old  
Rescue State: New York  
Medical Condition: Malassezia Dermatitis

Synopsis: Alex, a senior Westie about 10 years old, was found roaming the streets in Blue Point, New York. The woman who rescued Alex did not feel she could afford to keep him and took him to the local shelter for care. However, when she discovered the shelter would euthanize him due to his massive hair loss and severe ear and eye infections, she adopted him. She took him to several veterinary offices trying to identify him and posted signs in three neighboring towns trying to locate his owners but no one claimed him. Alex was diagnosed with Malassezia Dermatitis along with many associated problems. WestieMed assisted with the medical bills for his treatment and within one month, Alex dramatically improved. Initially, Alex could barely walk, but after four weeks he was running and playing with his toys. His owner states, "he is a very sweet dog and everyone loves him."



Name of Dog: **Suki**  
Age of Dog: 9 years old  
Rescue State: Florida  
Medical Condition: Mammary Gland Tumor

Synopsis: Suki is a 9 year old female Westie who, until 2001, had been kept in a cage and force bred for years. In 2001 she was placed in rescue with Westie Rescue of Florida and adopted. Unfortunately, the circumstances of the owners changed in 2003 and she was again placed into rescue. She was again adopted through Westie Rescue of Florida, after which a mammary tumor was diagnosed. WestieMed assisted with the costs of Suki's surgery for the tumor removal which proved to be cancerous. Suki is doing well playing with stuffed animals, taking walks with her new Mom and chasing after her two Golden Retriever housemates.

*"We cannot thank you enough for your generosity and compassion."*



Name of Dog: **Amica**  
Age of Dog: 6 years old  
Rescue State: New York  
Medical Condition: Periodontal care

Synopsis: A 6 year old female puppymill-bred Westie was surrendered to the Tompkins County, New York SPCA with 200 other dogs from the mill. She was evaluated and spayed at Cornell University and found to be malnourished as well as diagnosed with worms. The vet at Cornell highly recommended teeth cleaning and periodontal care with removal as needed, however, was unable to perform the procedure due to the large number of surrendered mill dogs. With the aid of Westie Rescue in New York, she was adopted by a family who had recently lost their senior Westie. Her new family named her "Amica", a Latin word meaning "beloved friend." WestieMed assisted the family with the cost of her periodontal care. Amica had much to learn as she did not respond to voices, did not play, wag her tail or bark. She sat in one spot staring ahead, but within three weeks of care, Amica had blossomed. Her owner states "Amica is such a gem and has completed our family in a special way. Although the work and learning continue, this rescue has been a wonderful, life-altering experience, and I encourage anyone who truly loves animals to consider this option. My family cannot imagine life without Amica. I want to thank WestieMed for your help and support. I really appreciate the financial help."

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Name of Dog: **Katie**  
Age of Dog: 6 years old  
Rescue State: Iowa  
Medical Condition: Tumors on belly and neck

Synopsis: Katie, a 6 year old spayed female, was owner surrendered because of the owner's failing health and inability to care for her to a member of the Northern Illinois Westie Rescue group who then adopted her. At the time of her rescue, Katie had a large protrusion under her abdomen and a growth on her neck. Additionally, her toenails were very long and her teeth needed a cleaning. WestieMed assisted with Katie's veterinary costs. Surgery revealed her abdominal tumor was the result of a large hernia that probably developed when she was spayed several years previously. Katie completely healed after her surgery and has not had additional problems. She is a little girl with a lot of energy and loves to play fetch with her tennis ball, anywhere and anytime. Katie can now look forward to a long and happy life with her new family and new Westie brother, Duncan.

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Name of Dog: **Rowdy**  
Age of Dog: 5 years old  
Rescue State: Oklahoma  
Medical Condition: Torn ligaments, left knee

Synopsis: Rowdy is a 5 year old Westie male who was abandoned at a vet's office in Oklahoma City and was rescued by an established Westie owner and member of the Great Westie Gathering. Rowdy subsequently injured his leg and was diagnosed with torn ligaments of his left knee. Friends from the Great Westie Gathering suggested contacting WestieMed for aid. WestieMed provided financial assistance for Rowdy's surgery. The surgery was performed and Rowdy has recovered, once again enjoying fun days of playing ball in the park.

***"Thank you, WestieMed, for helping make this rescue possible."***





Name of Dog: **Harry**  
Age of Dog: 5+ years old  
Rescue State: South Carolina  
Medical Condition: Diarrhea, Skin Infections, Gum Infection, Labored Breathing, Coughing, Upper Respiratory Infection

Synopsis: Harry is a 5+ year old male Westie who was owner surrendered to the Greenville, South Carolina Humane Society. Harry was kept as an outside dog and later surrendered due to his multiple medical conditions consisting of vomiting, diarrhea, skin infections, gum infection and upper respiratory infection with labored breathing and coughing. The Humane Society contacted a local Westie rescuer who immediately took Harry into foster care. Harry was neutered and his teeth were cleaned. With Lasix, antibiotics and medicated baths, Harry's overall health markedly improved and his prognosis is good. Harry has since become a permanent member of his rescuer's family, sharing attention and play time with his new mentor-Westie sibling and a senior Scottish Terrier who have taught him house manners and good behavior.

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Name of Dog: **Joey**  
Age of Dog: 10.5 weeks old  
Rescue State: Oklahoma  
Medical Condition: Patent Ductus Arteriosus (PDA)

Synopsis: Joey is a 10 ½ week old puppymill-bred male Westie with the congenital heart defect of Patent Ductus Arteriosus (PDA) in which a fetal structure remains open, causing excess blood flow through the lungs. The mill owner, who was going to euthanize the puppy, gave him to a family free of charge on December 23, 2003. The diagnosis of PDA was confirmed on December 26, 2003 by the family's regular veterinarian in Broken Bow, Oklahoma and referred Joey to the Animal Surgical Center in Oklahoma City for evaluation and surgery. After an exam, heart ultrasound and chest x-ray, it was determined that surgery was recommended with an excellent prognosis. Joey's surgery was scheduled for January 2004.

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Name of Dog: **Kaycee**  
Age of Dog: 2 years old  
Rescue State: Missouri  
Medical Condition: Tricuspid Valve Regurgitation

Synopsis: Kaycee is a 2 year old female rescued from a puppymill by Westie Rescue of Missouri and adopted by a family in New Mexico. Upon Kaycee's first checkup, a significant heart murmur was detected. Subsequent testing revealed Pulmonary Stenosis with Tricuspid Valve Regurgitation. Without treatment, Kaycee was at risk for heart failure. The medical recommendation was surgery consisting of either a Balloon Valvuloplasty or a Patch Graft surgery as determined by the cardiologist. As there were no qualified veterinary cardiologists in New Mexico to perform either procedure, the surgery was scheduled with the Colorado State University Veterinary Hospital in Fort Collins, Colorado. WestieMed made a commitment to pay Kaycee's surgical and veterinary costs. On November 5, 2003, Kaycee had a successful Balloon Valvuloplasty. She did wonderfully and returned home to New Mexico two days later. On November 13<sup>th</sup>, Kaycee developed post-operative labored breathing due to a blood clot. She was treated with oxygen and Heparin and returned home 6 days later, doing well. Kaycee has had a miraculous recovery. She now runs around the house with her Cairn terrier pal. Her owner states "Kaycee is a love bug. I know that without the heart surgery she received, she probably wouldn't be with us today." Kaycee enjoyed her first real Christmas and is quite content to live the life of a spoiled Westie.

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# HOW YOU CAN HELP

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There are a number of ways and opportunities you can help support WestieMed to raise the quality of life and adoptability of rescued Westies in need of medical attention.

## MAKE A DONATION

- Mail a monetary donation to:  

WestieMed, Inc.  
c/o 8415 Canning Terrace  
Greenbelt, MD 20770
- Credit Card donations are accepted online using **PayPal!**  
Our PayPal email address is treasurer@westiemed.com
- Donate items for WestieMed's online Auctions
- Make a Planned Gift consisting of such items as stocks, bonds, cash, personal property, bequests, trusts, life insurance and IRAs
- Make a donation with your company's Matching Gift Program

## MAKE A PURCHASE

- Obtain "ever-burning" online Tribute and Memorial Virtual Candles from the **Paws and Remember** program on the WestieMed website
- Shop in the online WestieMed Gift Shop for unique Westie items
- Shop with the affiliate companies listed on the WestieMed website
- Participate in WestieMed's online Auctions

## VOLUNTEER

- Help organize a Fundraising event for the benefit of WestieMed
- Offer your talents and time for a WestieMed Committee
- Help spread the word about WestieMed

*WestieMed is not affiliated with, nor endorsed by, any other organization or breed club. It is only through donations made directly to WestieMed that we are able to fulfill our mission of helping rescued Westies in need of medical attention.*

*"I thank WestieMed for the support and contribution. More importantly, thank you to every WestieMed contributor for making the assistance possible through the donations made to the organization."*

# OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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The WestieMed Board of Directors is comprised of a dedicated and caring group of Westie owners, rescuers and breeders who serve voluntarily without compensation for the love of the breed.

## WESTIEMED'S 2004-2005 OFFICERS

Angie Gittles, President  
Greenbelt, MD  
Founding Member

Sandy Gilmer, Secretary  
San Francisco, CA  
Founding Member

Lucy Ryley, Vice President  
Waterford, CT  
Founding Member

Naomi Brown, Treasurer  
Fairhaven, MA  
Member since 2002

## WESTIEMED'S 2004-2005 DIRECTORS

Pam Evans  
San Jose, CA  
Member since 2002

Kathy McNulty, Fundraising Coordinator  
Easton, PA  
Member since 2002

Becky Tucker, Auction Coordinator  
Edmond, OK  
Member since 2000

Bette Heidorn, Applications Coordinator  
Harrison, OH  
Member since 2002

Margaret Duffy  
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada  
Founding Member

Elaine Delgado  
Valencia, CA  
Member since 2004

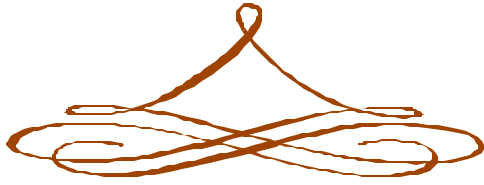
Lee Trudeau  
Stamford, CT  
Member since 2004

## WESTIEMED'S 2004-2005 VETERINARY ADVISORY BOARD

Rebecca Coleman, DVM  
Stillwater, Oklahoma  
Member since 2000



*“Honor your Westies by caring for those less fortunate.”*

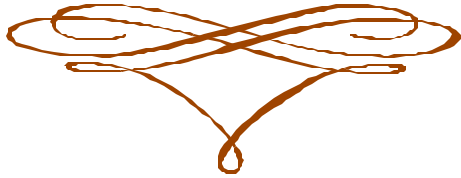


FOR THE LOVE OF WESTIES

WestieMed, Inc.  
c/o 8415 Canning Terrace  
Greenbelt, MD 20770-2703

Phone: 1-877-853-9469  
Website: [www.westiemed.com](http://www.westiemed.com)  
Email: [info@westiemed.com](mailto:info@westiemed.com)

*Rx for Rescued Westies*



## In Memory of Goober

Don't cry, Mommy,  
I'm okay!  
The Angels came,  
I couldn't stay.

God brought me home,  
He loves me, too!  
He said that I can  
Watch over you.

I know you love me,  
I love you, too.  
That's why I'll do  
My best for you.

That's my new job,  
To wait for you  
Until you come,  
Here's what I'll do:

I'll run and romp,  
And play with glee!  
(I'll lift my leg,  
When I have to pee!)

But most of all,  
I'll guard you well.  
I'm up here watching,  
Can't you tell?

Think of me,  
I'll hear your voice.  
And know you made  
The perfect choice.

You saved me once,  
I'll not forget!  
You took care of me,  
But better yet:

You loved me.

*In honor of Kathy McNulty  
by Jill P. Schlarb  
© July 19, 2001*



***In Memory of Goober : 6/21/00 — 7/19/01***

*WestieMed's Goober Memorial Fund was established in August 2001 for congenital orthopedic conditions. This Fund was named in memory of Goober, the little Westie who touched and inspired so many people with his courage and will to live.*