

## WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Lani Christianson

The saying is that “It takes a village . . . .” and our GSRNC village is busy rescuing lost and abandoned pups that desperately need new homes and a family to love and care for them. We’ve successfully done this 4,671 times since the organization began in 2001. Wow! That’s a lot of GSDs!

Our village has learned a lot along the way. We have learned the value of our fabulous volunteers – our evaluators, our fosters, our adoption counselors, our fundraising crew, our adoption day workers, our Board members and officers, our transport team, our hotline and social media volunteers and everyone who performs the thousand little things it takes to keep the organization going.

We’ve also learned the value of all our supporters, our fantastic donors, the shelters that work with us, and the trainers and veterinarians who provide what help they can and discount their bills. We can’t forget our wonderful adopters who provide loving homes for our dogs. This is our village.

We do this because we love these beautiful dogs and we want to save as many of them as we can. We’ve successfully changed the world 4,671 times. Actually, I believe the statistic is much bigger than that. I think we’ve also changed the world for a lot of people. I know my world changed when we adopted our first rescue, Kai.

I’m not the same person that adopted that half starved 10 month old pup all those years ago. Kai’s life took a big change for the better. So did mine. I loved dogs, didn’t have much use for people. The GSRNC adoption experience was so good that I decided I wanted to do what I could to help German Shepherds needing homes. I joined the village.

This village of people, sacrificing time, money and effort, to save shepherds needing our help, worked its magic on me. Watching our dogs being adopted into new homes was extremely rewarding and I felt great about what we were accomplishing. Slowly I began to realize it wasn’t just our successes that was so rewarding, it was also working with people who were caring and ready to make sacrifices to help an animal in need.

We regularly hear from our adopters and volunteers about how these dogs have changed our lives and given us so much. Our world is richer for having them. I now care about the dogs and the people. I love my village.