

2025 Mission Stats



85
Missions



126,736
Miles



2,325
Souls

Pilots To The Rescue (PTTR) is a non-profit, volunteer- driven, 501c3 public benefit aviation organization.

The mission of Pilots To The Rescue is to prevent at-risk animals from being euthanized by transporting them via air and ground transportation to give them the best chance at adoption. Volunteer pilots fly animals from critical situations to safety, ultimately saving lives.



I would love to hear from you!

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Pilots To The Rescue
P.O. Box 220040
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WE FLY TO SAVE LIVES



Pilots To The Rescue News

Happy New Year! 2025 was our biggest year yet, and our sights are set even higher for 2026. But lofty goals come with even loftier challenges. Thanks to Mother Nature, we were put to the test very early into 2026 with a snowstorm for the ages. Fueled by your support and sheer grit, we were able to push past the snow and ice to rescue 221 furry lives (142 dogs and 79 cats) on 7 rescue missions within a single month!

Thank you for making sure we didn't lose any of the momentum we worked so hard for in 2025. Read on to learn how inclement weather nearly derailed our first mission of 2026 and meet some of our brave paw-ssengers, including a very special puppy who showed us that hope is bulletproof.

When Winter Said "No" We Said "Watch Us"

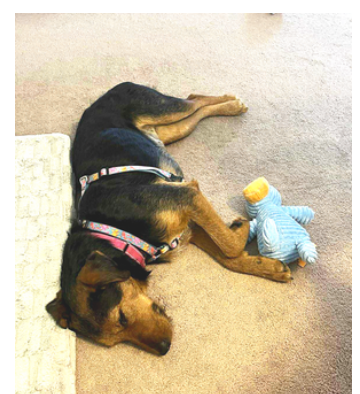
We wish we could say 2026 got off to an easy start. Instead, January tested everything we stand for. On our very first mission of the year, 48 animals were counting on us and the odds were stacked against them. Multiple stops. Long distances. Lives on the line. And then the storm hit.

Our rescue plane, Big Paw, sat frozen in place at our home base, Essex County Airport. **It seemed the mission was doomed**

But this is what makes the Pilots To The Rescue community extraordinary. Volunteer pilot Stephen Nur and co-pawlet Logan Burt refused to give up. They quickly called in the airport's de-icing squad. As they sprayed de-icing fluid, a white cloud of vapor emerged around Big Paw, and we could hear an audible hiss as the ice released its grip. **With Big Paw freed, Stephen and Logan took off into the darkened skies with one purpose: Bring them to safety.** The route was long. First to South Carolina, where our longtime rescue partner, Seuk's Army, entrusted us with precious cargo. Then onward to Albany, New York, and Manchester, New Hampshire, each stop delivering second chances.

The weather was unforgiving, but your support made the impossible possible. Because of you, these furry souls are starting their new year curled up in soft beds and being showered with squeaky toys as every dog deserves.

That includes our paw-ssenger Daisy, who was adopted just days after the mission. Here she is in her cozy fur-ever home!





Adoption Pup-Date: Levi the Tennessee Lap Dog!

In November of 2025, we transported 17 dogs in our rescue van from Knoxville, TN, to East Hampton, NY.

This mission was particularly memorable because of Levi, a chihuahua/terrier mix who had already been through too much suffering in his young life. Levi had previously been hit by a car, badly injuring his femur. His owners could not afford the required surgery, so they never picked him back up from his former shelter. f you’ve ever broken a bone, you know how much pain this poor boy was in.

Levi needed a miracle, and because of your generous support, he got one!

Here is brave little Levi after his major surgery!



Soon after, Levi was adopted! If you can't tell from his triple sweater, he is going to be one spoiled boy.

His new family is taking him to undergo regular physical therapy to help with his recovery and showering him with love and treats every single day.

Congratulations to Levi and his new human mommy!

Valentina Survives Cruelty to Find Freedom



Have you ever seen anything more precious than Valentina? Originally from South Carolina, she is just as tough as she is cute. When Valentina was undergoing spay surgery, veterinarians discovered and removed two pellets from her body. In more rural areas of South Carolina, there are so many stray dogs roaming around that some people have apparently resorted to shooting them. Somehow, Valentina survived.

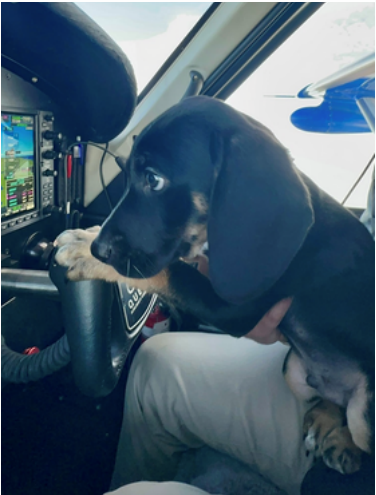
On January 23rd, volunteer pilot Stephen Nur and co-pawlet David Lechter took to the skies to rescue Valentina along with 26 other animals with the help of **SE Coast SC Rescue Collaboration**.

As you can see below, Valentina knew she was on her way to a better life. Rather than hanging back like the other paw-ssengers, Valentina was all eyes up front, soaking up some well-deserved love from David!

Valentina is now safe in the care of **Mt. Pleasant Animal Shelter**, where she will most definitely find her

fur-ever home very, very soon. And who does she have to thank?

No, not just us, **because there’s no Pilots To The Rescue without YOU.**



If we couldn’t rely on your support, Valentina would be growing up in an overcrowded shelter, instead of a loving home. On behalf of Valentina and her fellow January paw-ssengers, **thank you so much for staying loyal to us** as we head into 2026.

Our goal for this year is to save 2,800 souls, and at this rate, we’re on track to surpass it. But we can’t do it alone.

Will you help us save more dogs like Valentina in the months ahead?

Remember: Every dollar goes directly towards essential expenses for our life-saving missions, so even the smallest contribution can make a difference.



Keep PTTR rated as a five-star non-profit! Take a few minutes and visit Great Nonprofits to share why you support our mission.



MAIL-IN DONATION FORM

Online: www.pilotstotherescue.org/ways-to-donate/

Pilots To The Rescue is a registered 501c3 non-profit organization.
All donations are tax-deductible (EIN #47-3415146).

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☐ My check made payable to Pilots to the Rescue is enclosed

☐ CREDIT CARD #: _____ DONATION AMOUNT: \$ _____

SECURITY CODE: _____ EXPIRATION DATE: _____ ☐ Add a little extra to help with fees (6% of your donation to help cover the service, transaction, and credit card fees).

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of: _____

Please send acknowledgement to honoree or family

Name: _____

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Sentiments/Message: _____

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SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

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How did you hear about us?

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P.O. Box 220040

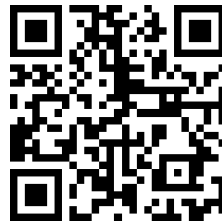
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We sincerely appreciate your support.
Pilots To The Rescue



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