



Sadie Uyehara.
Photos by: Steve Uyehara

GREYHOUNDS HEALTH AND WELLNESS QUARTERLY



www.greyhound.osu.edu

Sadie & Katie
Uyehara



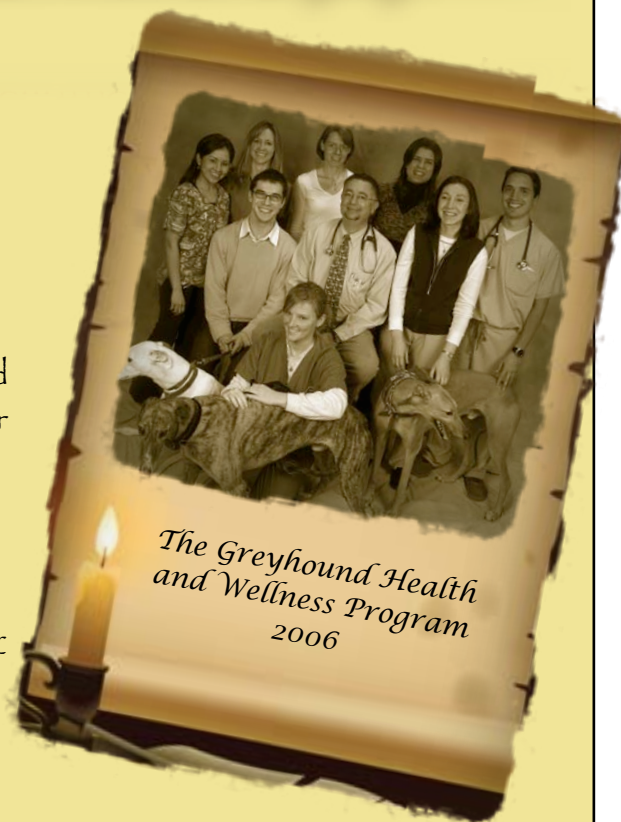
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Greyhound Health and Wellness Program, How did we start... Where are we...Where are we going...

*Dr. Couto has been helping Greyhounds for quite a while, working primarily with Greyhound Adoption of Ohio. He adopted his first Greyhound (Clyde) in 1991.

1997... Dr. Couto took over the animal blood bank at The Ohio State University, placing 25 retired racing Greyhounds that lived in the hospital into new homes where they live as pets. Under the new program, retired racers are adopted or fostered by students, faculty, or staff and donate blood 4 to 6 times per year.

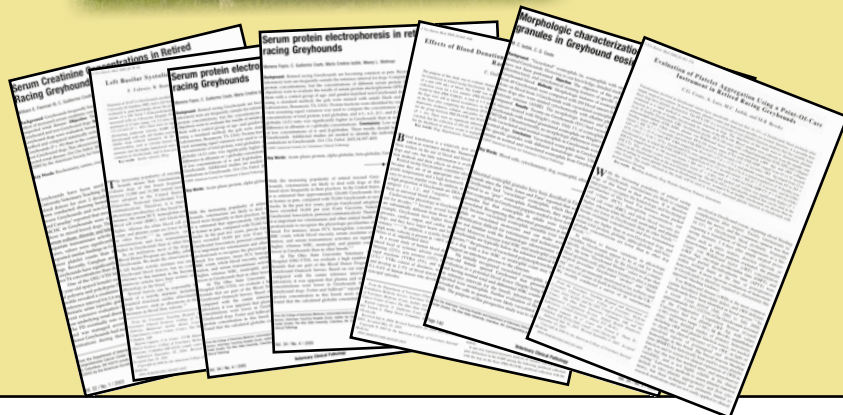
2003... Dr. Couto started collaborating with Scooby, an animal shelter in Medina del Campo, Valladolid, Spain, devoted primarily to the rescue and adoption of galgos (Spanish Greyhounds).



Dr. Couto, Aro and Bengy

Back then Dr. Couto adopted his first Galgo (Bengy)....

For quite a while he realized that many of the characteristics of Greyhound's labwork and physical exam were different...



Then with collaboration from vet students and OSU vet hospital clinicians, Dr. Couto started developing and publishing studies related to the breed.

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GREYHOUND

2004... Dr. Couto created the Greyhound Health and Wellness Program (GHWP); the program is not funded by The Ohio State University, it operates based on donations from Greyhound owners and from research grants. The program started with Dr. Couto as Head, and the collaboration from the oncology residents and Blood Bank personnel.

2005... The College launched the first Greyhound Health and Wellness website, in order to provide additional information to owners, veterinarians, and Greyhound adoption groups.

2006... The GHWP had its first graduate student (Dr. Vilar Saavedra), sponsored by a scholarship from Spain. The same year, with funding for a 1-year study, the program hired a veterinarian (Dr. Marín) to help coordinate the studies and to assist with the Greyhound blood, serum, plasma, DNA, and urine repository from healthy and sick Greyhounds.

2007-2009... Thanks to donations, corporate sponsorship, and grants the GHWP was able to provide at no cost:

- * A website with current Greyhound health information
- * Free consultation for Greyhound owners and veterinarians via phone and e-mail
- * A quarterly newsletter.
- * Student-driven spay/neuter/dental clinic
- * A list-serve for Veterinarians for Retired Racers, and an annual scientific conference on this area
- * Educational/extension programs for Greyhound owners and veterinarians
- * Free chemotherapy for retired racers with cancer
- * Financial assistance (through development funds and research grants) for Greyhound medical and surgical care at the OSU VTH
- * Maintain the Greyhound blood, serum, plasma, DNA, and urine repository from healthy and sick Greyhounds.

2007... The GHWP started a student rotation in the Scooby animal shelter in Medina del Campo (Spain), that expanded to a collaborative effort with the University of Zaragoza Veterinary School in 2009. In 2009, UC Davis students joined Dr. Couto during the Summer trip. As of 2010, we do 2-4 trips/year; during the time at Scooby (one week), students and veterinarians spay/neuter and care for all types of animals (but mainly Galgos) at the Scooby Shelter.

2009... Two graduate students were enrolled in the program (Drs. Marín and Zaldivar), both funded by scholarships, they help with the studies, newsletter and email/phone consultations.



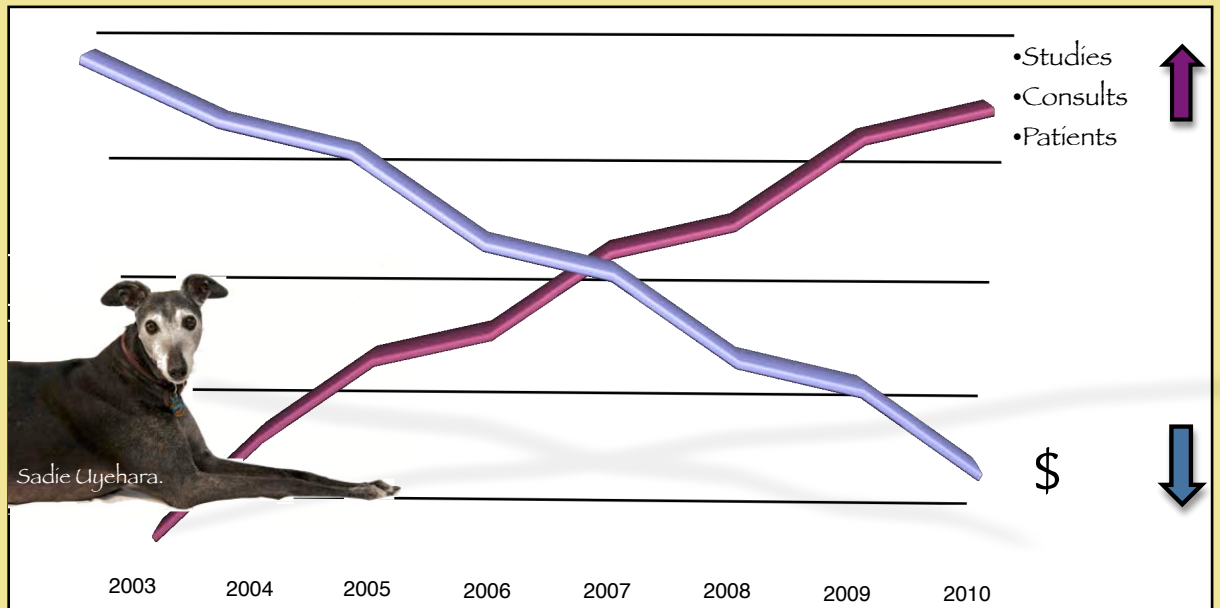
GREYHOUNDS



Back row: Cristina Iazbik-DVM (Blood Bank Director), Guillermo Couto-DVM (Head of Oncology, Blood bank and Greyhound program), Joelle Fenger-DVM (Oncology resident), Bridget Urie-DVM (Oncology resident), Dawn Hudson-RVT (blood bank tech), Ashley DeFelice-RVT (Oncology tech)
Middle row: Liliana Marin-DVM and Sara Zaldivar-DVM (Graduate students), Matt Sherger-DVM (oncology resident).
Front row: Tiny and Aro.

2010... The first GHWP annual conference for owners, adoption groups and veterinarians was conducted at The Ohio State University.

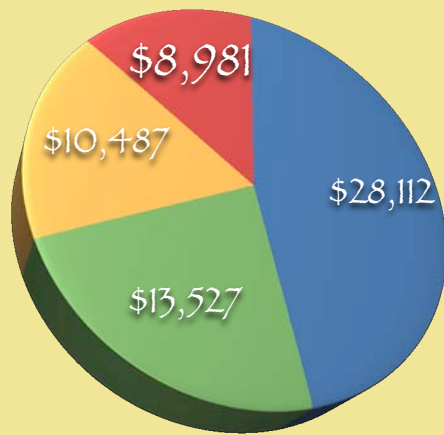
Currently, we are still an unfunded program within the OSU College of Veterinary Medicine. The program is funded exclusively by donations, corporate sponsorship, and grants.



Currently, between Dr. Couto (full-time oncologist), Drs. Marin and Zaldivar, both full-time grad students, we do 20-30 consults on Greyhound health issues a day, by phone and e-mail (about 8 hours a day-literally a full-time job); we also see Greyhounds every week, even when Dr. Couto is not on clinic duty. We also continue to do clinical research on the breed. Unfortunately, due to a variety of administrative and financial reasons, we cannot continue with the current system. As of now, the only 2 choices we have are to grow the program through a mechanisms that allows us to support it in a stable way, or to eliminate it altogether.



GREYHOUND



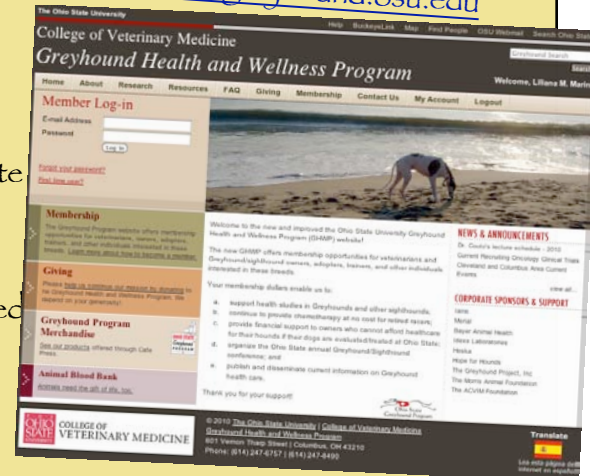
- Financial Assistance to OSU patients
- Chemotherapy
- Research
- Personnel

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On May 6, 2010 we launched a new and improved "Membership Based Website".

We believe this mechanism is a reasonable way to generate funds to expand the GHWP.

The funds generated through the new website will be used for the exact same things that all the other donations:



MEMBERSHIP DOLLARS ENABLE US TO

1. Support health studies in Greyhounds and other sighthounds.
2. Continue to provide chemotherapy at no cost for retired racers.
3. Provide financial support to owners who cannot afford healthcare for their hounds if their dogs are evaluated/treated at The Ohio State University Veterinary Medical Center.
4. Organize The Ohio State Annual Greyhound/Sighthound Conference.
5. Publish and disseminate current information on Greyhound/Sighthound health care.

The GHWP will have a NEW official Greyhound clinic service. If you wish to have your Greyhound seen by a veterinarian at the OSU-GHWP, you may contact [The Veterinary Medical Center](#) at (614) 292-3551, to schedule an appointment.

GHWP Team

- * C. Guillermo Couto, DVM
- * Cristina Iazbik, DVM
- * Liliana Marin, DVM
- * Sara Zaldivar, DVM
- * Dawn Hudson, RVT

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