

Greyhound Pets of America

Providing adoption as an option!

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

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The History of GPA

Early in 1987, what was then New England REGAP (Retired Greyhounds As Pets) invited various greyhound adoption groups across the country to join in the formation of a national greyhound placement organization that would take a neutral position toward the greyhound racing industry. On April 4, 1987, in Oxford, Massachusetts, representatives met to form Greyhound Pets of America.

In its first year of existence, GPA grew from the nine chapters to twelve. Its members wrote and instituted by-laws, incorporated, set up accounting procedures, acquired federal tax exempt status, developed a placement network across the United States, gained recognition on a national level, set goals for continued growth and development, and attained a professional business attitude. GPA's growth has been dramatic. GPA placed about 100 dogs in 1987, its first year. In 1993, GPA assisted in the adoption of 3,188 greyhounds. In 2000, the adoptions rose to 4,347 greyhounds and in 2003 adoptions reached an all time high of 4,580.

The Goals of GPA

Starting in 2002, GPA developed a program called 7x7. The name is derived from the numbers GPA strives to meet nationally by the year it will be met, 7,000 greyhounds by the year 2007. 7x7 is designed to ensure that all available greyhounds registered by the greyhound racing industry are adopted into loving homes. It entails working with all of our chapters, other adoption groups and the racing industry to meet these goals.

GPA began training early in 2002 through on-site training visits. Training continues at the National GPA Convention which is open to all responsible greyhound adoption groups. On-site visits have proven to be a success with a result of a 50% increase in greyhound adoptions. 7x7 will provide regionalized leadership. This will open communication lines between the chapters and national and give support each area requires. With the 7x7 program in place, GPA began recruiting new chapters in areas of the country where greyhound adoption is needed.