



Sherri Franklin, Founder and CEO

Sherri Franklin, a long-time animal advocate and shelter volunteer, founded Muttville in 2007 to save the lives of the older dogs that were considered “unadoptable” and routinely euthanized in area shelters. Working from her house, she saved 27 dogs that first year. She said she “wanted to make senior dogs sexy,” and in fact, has turned the organization into a Bay Area favorite and a national model.

Sherri emerged as a leader in animal rescue when she was appointed to the San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare in 2000. She was elected Vice-chairman of the Commission in 2002. In 2003, she began work on an ordinance that both mandated minimum requirements for care for dogs and put some muscle into enforcement. The “backyard dog ordinance,” as it was known, went into effect in January 2005 and made headlines around the country. The ordinance continues to be an important tool for education and enforcement, and is being used as a model in other cities for similar legislation.

In 2010, Sherri received the Jefferson Award for Public Service, which recognizes those who “inspire others to service.” In 2016, CNN named Sherri a CNN Hero.

Laurie Routhier, COO

Laurie is an accomplished and passionate animal welfare professional who has dedicated her career to saving and improving the lives of animals. Equipped with a wealth of knowledge in the areas of organizational management and business administration, a robust community network, and an undeniable passion for the well-being of animals, Laurie joined Muttville in 2014. She is involved in all aspects of the organization, inspiring and collaborating with team members and community partners to reach new heights and save more lives.

Laurie got her start in animal welfare at the San Francisco SPCA and worked there for fifteen years in Adoptions, Humane Education, Behavior, and Volunteer Services. She was appointed to the San Francisco Commission of Animal Control and Welfare in 2002 and served as the Chairperson for six of her eight years of service. Through shared experience on the commission she and Muttville’s founder/CEO Sherri Franklin worked closely together to develop and champion legislation to address the animal welfare and community needs of San Francisco. Today they continue to be great partners, skilled at thinking out of the box and with contagious dedication to the animals who need them.

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