

The story of Penny

Penny was a “breeder dog”. She lived her life in a cage, being bred 2 times per year to produce puppies for a back yard breeder. Puppies were sold at flea markets, via Craig’s List, internet or newspaper ads. It was hard to know what breed she was because she was so sick, emaciated, thin hair, one eye missing and blind in the existing eye. At 5 lbs, she was too weak to stand as she was dumped at a kill shelter. They had made all the money on Penny that she was capable of making for them, so they were through with her. Penny stood little chance of being adopted. It looked like no one cared about a little black dog and the fact that she had never mattered to anyone.

Penny was rescued by a local rescue group and put into a foster home. She immediately had a dental to remove the rotted teeth that caused so much pain and were poisoning her system. She was fed high quality food, eating 5-6 small meals a day. Penny began to come alive. She loved to be held and loved. It seems that Penny had never had vision. Her eyes were genetically malformed so vision could not be restored, but Penny did not seem to mind. She began to take short walks on a leash, learning to trust for the first time. She was weak but each day her little legs grew stronger and she was able to walk a little further.

Penny has gained to 6.5 lbs now. She is still thin, but Penny seems to be filling up with love and gets stronger each day. There will be no more puppies for Penny. She will get all the attention she wants from her foster mom.

Penny is still looking for her very own forever home but for the time being, she is perfectly happy in her foster home and they are perfectly happy with Penny too! You see, Penny is “SPECIAL” and we tell her this every day.

UPDATE: Penny’s foster mother had surgery and needed a new foster home for Penny while she recuperated. Penny found a short term foster mother who was grieving the loss of her own dog. Both she and Penny found comfort in each other for a short while. Attending an adoption fair, Penny met a family who came LOOKING FOR A BLIND DOG! Imagine how lucky there were to find Penny! A Perfect Blind Dog! But the story gets even better. They actually ended up adopting Penny AND Journey, another special needs blind dog recently arrived from the Texas hurricane affected area. Now, Penny and Journey are adopted into a loving, caring family of their own. Both are doing quite well adapting to their new surroundings.

This is just one more lesson is about love and about rescue. Another lesson about how the rescued becomes the rescuer! Penny is indeed something “special” and her new family feels lucky to have found her. Dogs like Penny want the same thing every dog wants, a family of their own. Life is good for Penny, for Journey and for their new family! Please remember the special needs animals when you think about adopting. They are often overlooked yet can change your life forever.