

Local Leaders taking on **Social Responsibility** while contributing to the **Social Scene**



## JULIA+ AND LUSEAL



Anyone could have guessed that life would change for Julia Morley, new student, when she moved to Pittsburgh to study biology, with plans to continue to Medical School, eventually specializing in Emergency Medicine – earning the new title: Dr. Julia Morley, Emergency Medicine Physician. But who could have foreseen that one of the BIGGEST life changes waiting for her in the Burgh would be a middle-aged, overweight, abandoned, and homeless dog?

With less than two years left in her Emergency Medicine Residency, Julia found herself at Humane Animal Rescue learning the tragic story of a “hard-to-place” Blue Merle Chihuahua named LuSeal by the staff - as a play on the traditional name Lucille. The poor girl was twice what her body weight should be, could barely walk, and because of her markings, and the way she waddled around, not to mention her large round eyes – looked like a seal.

LuSeal had special needs. Julia had training. So, the two became Mother and Daughter on October 11, 2016.

Being the excellent Mother/Doctor that she is, Julia consulted with several veterinary specialists to draw up a Treatment

Plan for her new child - complete with Short, Middle, and Long-Term Goals.

LuSeal was put on a restricted calorie diet, and instructed to at least ATTEMPT to walk a few steps daily, while being showered with all the hugs and kisses she could stomach.

Like all cool Millennial Moms, Julia started an Instagram Account to document her daughter’s progress and cuteness. And she was surprised where her path on this journey would lead, yet again! Follower Counts started climbing quickly, as Media Outlets started calling. So many were being inspired by the Slow-but-Sure progress LuSeal was making with the love and support of her mother.

In just over a year together, LuSeal has lost a little over 8 pounds – HALF of her body weight, and has been declared healthy. Not only can she walk, she RUNS! And what about all the Media Calls? Doc Julia and LuSeal Dog have had their story featured on The DoDo, Right This Minute, The List (ABC), The Daily Mail, Bravo Online, Little Things, Pet Insider, Metro, FitBark

Blog, and the list continues to grow...

The Mother/Daughter Duo are now advocates for Animal Fitness and Health, hosting LuSeal’s 8 Pound Party to raise funds and awareness, which was attended by several media outlets. The event included food trucks, vendor tables, fan meet ups, and of course weight checks for the pooches!

So, what’s the latest LuSeal news? She celebrated her tenth birthday, posed for pics with Santa - looking quite different from last year’s shot, recently began experimenting with a GoPro to give her Fans another viewpoint, has shared that she wears a pink FitBark (like a FitBit) to gauge whether or not she could use an extra walk, found out through a DNA Test – that she is 87.5% Chihuahua, leaving the other 12.5% a mystery to be solved, her bio has changed from “Overweight Dog” to “Fitness Model,” ... And her sweet journey continues with her mother’s love... Get in on the fun and see what the two are up to on Instagram.

📷📱@lusealdog ▪