

A Trailer Park Sanctuary

BY RACHEL PHELPS



©Shorty's Rescue

Shorty Rossi, star of Animal Planet's *Pit Boss*, runs a Pit Bull rescue called Shorty's Rescue in the United States and Mexico that brings awareness to issues that bully breeds and other hard-to-adopt dogs face. These issues typically include seniors with disabilities, mental illness or aggression.

After Shorty noticed an overwhelming number of Pit Bulls at his rescue who were not being adopted due to these issues, he created Shorty's Trailer Park, an animal sanctuary for these special-needs dogs where they can live out the rest of their lives in style.

"We really needed a separate place from our rescue to house these dogs, and we didn't want to just set up rows of kennels," Shorty says. "We were determined to make a place for them where they could live a life as close to what they would have received if adopted. As a result, the idea of a trailer park was born."

A new life

The trailer park is located in La Misión, Mexico, where each dog has his own 1970s-themed camper, completely furnished like a home with a bed, solar power, Wi-Fi, a TV and even an Alexa to listen to his favorite tunes. Each trailer has a unique and fun theme like flamingos, dolphins and glamping. Each doggie resident also has an individually fenced, shaded yard and full-time staff who take care of all the dog's needs. There is an outdoor kitchen to prepare meals, a medical clinic and a playground for exercise.

The very first resident, Achilles, came to the sanctuary due to aggression and

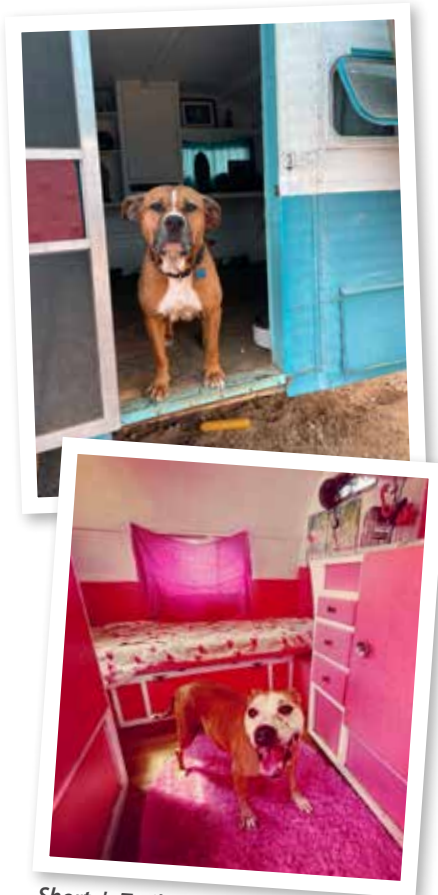
senior medical issues. He immediately moved into the first trailer, which is bright pink with a flamingo theme and a kiddie pool for hot days. After a few weeks, the staff saw a positive change in Achilles's personality: He seemed more relaxed and had no signs of aggression. He also made friends with some of the dogs who later came to the sanctuary.

Support from all over

The sanctuary welcomes supporters to get involved by sponsoring one of the dogs, which includes video calls with your "adopted" pup, or visiting and volunteering on special projects in Mexico. In the Adopt a Trailer program, people can sponsor certain trailers and even help decide the theme when new trailers are brought in and set up.

What's next for Shorty's Trailer Park Sanctuary? "The demand is so great for a sanctuary for these animals that we already have more requests than trailers," Shorty says. "We are already planning to purchase the lot beside us to double in size. We also want to have a place for cats, too, so we will be setting up some trailers just for them — away from the dogs, of course."

This innovative and creative sanctuary creates a comfortable and spacious forever home for these special dogs! 🐾



Shorty's Trailer Park provides these rescues with unique trailers and a fun, relaxed atmosphere.



Learn more at shortysrescue.org.

Rachel Phelps, "America's Pet Parent," is an award-winning writer, photographer and certified dog trainer. She keeps busy managing the career of her internet celebrity dog, Preston, from PrestonSpeaks.com. She has three Westies, who think they are mini-humans, and a cat, who rules the house. Learn more at RachelPhelps.com.

