

# Kelsey Deutsch

**Kelsey Deutsch**, a Daycare Attendant at Roaring Brook Kennels, started volunteering for Dog Star Rescue in September 2015. Kelsey, who always had an affection for dogs, received a bachelor's degree in Animal Science from the University of Connecticut. "Volunteering for Dog Star has allowed me to help one of the most special species on the planet," Kelsey said. "Each and every dog is special and to be a part of their journey is so rewarding." Kelsey started volunteering as a handler at adoption events and as a dog walker. Her volunteer responsibilities have grown tremendously since. She brings dogs to and from adoption events and is currently training to be a point person at transport. She became a Volunteer Coordinator, where she reviews applications from potential volunteers and helps new volunteers get started with the various activities within the rescue. Kelsey recently became head of the pre-approval screening team and also took on the task of co-running the official Dog Star Rescue Facebook page. It's a good bet Kelsey will take on more responsibilities in the future. Kelsey has adopted two wonderful, loving dogs from Dog Star, Rayne and Hendrix. At the first draft of this post, she had a third dog named Riley, who sadly passed away from cancer a few weeks ago. Her most memorable moments range from meeting her future dogs for the first time to witnessing dogs being adopted. Kelsey recalled a special story about a dog named Stacey. Stacey was from South Carolina and unfortunately tested positive for heart worm. The protocol is to move heart worm positive dogs off the adoption floor and their only chance at survival is to be pulled by a rescue. Thanks to The Heart Beat Goes On Program, Dog Star came across her information and pulled her to safety. She arrived in Connecticut in October 2015 and Kelsey's friend, Kylleen, became her foster. Kelsey became very attached to Stacey as the months went by. Finally in February 2016, after spending 112 days in the rescue, Stacey found a forever home. "I was beyond happy, even as I tearfully said goodbye to the dog that stole my heart and who has forever left such a tremendous impact on my life," Kelsey noted. "From that moment on, I have pretty much tried to delve into every aspect of the

rescue.” Kelsey is proud to be involved in such a phenomenal organization. “All of the volunteers are such caring and compassionate people,” Kelsey stated. “We are all working toward the same goal, and we are all ultimately here for the dogs. You become part of a systematic network that changes dog’s lives, one life at a time.”