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A BETTER WAY TO BOARD

Ruff Housing Dog Retreat is the region's premier pet hotel. Located in St. John Indiana, it offers a safe, stressfree boarding experience for your dog while you're away. Below is just a sample of what our passionate, caring staff proudly provides.

ONE-ON-ONE CARE

A 12 guest limit means anywhere from 5 to 10 times the one-on-one attention most boarding companies offer.

COMFORT

Whether they're playing ball, sharing a bedtime story, or being rocked to sleep, your pets are guaranteed a fun, stress-free stay.

SAFETY

Each guest gets his or her own cage-free private suite, and will never interact with unfamiliar pets.

About Page

OUR STORY

IT ALL STARTED WITH OUR FAMILY TRIP TO DISNEY WORLD. WE NEEDED THE PERFECT PLACE TO BOARD OUR DOGS, BUT NO MATTER WHERE WE WENT, WE JUST COULDN'T FIND THE RIGHT FIT FOR THEM. SURE, MOST OF THE BUSINESSES WERE CLEAN, INVITING, AND HAD A CARING STAFF—SOME EVEN FEATURING EXTRAVAGANT AMENITIES LIKE POOLS AND SPLASH PADS—BUT NO MATTER HOW NICE THE FACILITIES WERE ON THE SURFACE, WE ALWAYS SAW ONE BIG PROBLEM. SAFETY.

YOU SEE, THERE WAS A PATTERN AMONG ALL THE ESTABLISHMENTS WE VISITED. EACH ONE SEEMED TO ALLOW ALL THE DOGS UNDER THEIR CARE TO MINGLE TOGETHER IN LARGE GROUPS—WHETHER THEY WERE FAMILIAR WITH EACH OTHER OR NOT. SOMETIMES WE SAW AS MANY AS 50 PUPS PLAYING TOGETHER IN FENCED-IN AREAS, SUPERVISED BY ONLY ONE OR TWO WORKERS! AND THOUGH THE OWNERS WOULD TRY TO USE THIS AS A SELLING POINT, CITING THE BENEFITS OF DOG SOCIALIZATION, WE COULDN'T HELP BUT WONDER IF, IN REALITY, THEY WERE JUST FINDING WAYS TO BOARD AS MANY DOGS AS POSSIBLE, REGARDLESS OF SAFETY.

SO WHEN WE GOT HOME FROM OUR VACATION, WE MADE A DECISION. WE WOULD OPEN OUR OWN BOARDING BUSINESS, AND DO THINGS DIFFERENTLY. RATHER THAN FOCUSING ON QUANTITY OF CUSTOMERS, WE WOULD BUILD OUR COMPANY AROUND SAFETY, COMFORT, AND ONE-ON-ONE CARE. A YEAR LATER, RUFF HOUSING DOG RETREAT WAS BORN.