

February 2018

Dear AKI Friends,

What happens when in a 2-day period (February 25 & 26), 18 new dogs are admitted to the Uganda SPCA Haven? Lucky for the dogs, they are welcomed with loving arms, given food and comfort.

Also, luckily, The Haven has recently seen several really heartwarming adoptions. But the adoptions never balance the number of cats and dogs admitted to The Haven.

That's just 1 reason why AKI's and Uganda SPCA's dream is to purchase land for a larger Haven. **And with your help, 2018 is the year we hope to realize our dream!**

Here are 2 ways you can donate to this effort:

- **Donate on the AKI website and designate USPCA land purchase**<https://www.animal-kind.org/uganda-aki>
- **Donate on our AKI-USPCA GlobalGiving page (the more we raise here, the more benefits and visibility we get from GlobalGiving; also, you can read about our vision for The Haven)**<https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/transform-ugandas-only-animal-shelter-the-haven/>

Several people have gotten in touch with me recently with questions about this fundraising effort, and I thought it would be worthwhile to answer their questions here. **But 1st, the reasons for the fundraiser are.....**

Bella & her 9 puppies

On February 26, Lindsay found this mama dog with her 9 babies dumped on the road. She gathered them all up and brought them to The Haven. The mama's name is Bella.....she certainly is!



Tiger cares for 5 puppies

Tiger's owner is being transferred to Karamoja and he brought Tiger and her 5 puppies to The Haven claiming he can't take Tiger and her pups with him.

These 14 puppies won't be sticking so close to their mamas and nursing for much longer and will need nutritious puppy food, 3 feedings/day for a while, and lots of space to play.

(The 17th and 18th dogs admitted during these 2 days, not pictured, are 2 adult, male brown street dogs, both



of them needed to be rescued from the street, both just want to be loved.)

And then there was this dramatic USPCA rescue on February 22....

of a mama dog in the middle of Kampala city, where--the word on the street was--she had been for some years, regularly giving birth to puppies who would get hit by cars or taken away by people. After receiving a WhatsApp message about the dog and her puppies, the USPCA team found mama standing guard over her puppies in a pothole (picture right). Alex took the opportunity to not only rescue the family and bring them to The Haven, but also to talk to people who gathered around about the USPCA's work.



This is why we need a larger Haven: to rescue, educate, provide sanctuary, and to become a center of excellence--a training facility for shelter and rescue workers throughout Africa!

Why is the price of land so high when Uganda is such a poor country?

Just a few of the reasons are: vacant and accessible land is becoming rare; many donor organizations are headquartered in Kampala and Entebbe, and their ability and willingness to pay high prices means that land prices are inflated; and oil and gas exploration and drilling will resume soon so land speculators abound (buying up land so they can sell or rent later).

Have we considered purchasing land outside the Kampala-Entebbe corridor, where it would be less expensive? We certainly have! But given the Uganda SPCA's focus and visibility and the need along the Kampala-Entebbe corridor; that staff and volunteers live in this area; that we expect most rescues, adoptions, and visitors to The Haven will be from this area; and that the highest human population density is there, it makes sense to keep the USPCA presence there.

What is being done in Uganda to try to find and raise money for land? While we estimate that the price of a plot of land could cost as much as US\$100,000, we hope that the USPCA's supporters will be able to negotiate a lower price and a favorable payment regime. Besides our Animal-Kind International fundraisers, the South African Women's Association in Uganda is raising money for land purchase. In addition to the land, the USPCA will need to move kennels and other infrastructure to the new location, which will also be costly. So while we hope that \$100,000 is higher than what the actual cost will be, certainly any additional funds will not go to waste! The daily needs of the animals, staff salaries, and other costs to run The Haven will still have to be covered!

Land prices are only going to go higher. We need to raise money now and purchase land before the end of this year--the animals and the USPCA just can't wait any longer!

The AKI Blog

This month we have 3 new [AKI Blog](#) posts, 1 about our AKI partner, Liberia Animal Welfare & Conservation Society and 2 about our partners in Namibia.

Other ways you can help....

Send me a message and I'll send you our AKI Volunteer Packet with many ideas about how you can help our AKI partners. If you have 10 minutes/week or 10 hours, we have ideas for you! (And we'd like to hear yours too).

Of course we need your support to continue to help animals in some of the poorest countries!

Please click the picture to the right or the link below to get to our donor page, where you can then choose your preferred donation method and amount. As always, we send 100% of your donations to our partner organizations to support their priority animal welfare needs. And through the AKI Blog, we always let you know just what your donations have accomplished (you can always send me an email message too to find out more).



<https://www.animal-kind.org/aki-donate>

Our partner, Ghana Society for the Protection & Care of Animals, has a new Facebook page. Check them out, like them, find out more about their amazing Humane Education Program, <https://www.facebook.com/GhanaSPCA/> (100% supported by you, our AKI donors!)

Soon after April 30, we'll have AKI's 2017 Annual Report available and on our website. Why does it take us several months into 2018 to publish the report? Our partners send their reports to us by April 15 about how they used their final 2017 disbursement from AKI. So we're gathering and compiling 2017 accomplishments through April.

You can donate to help animals in any of the countries where we work: Uganda, Tanzania (2 partners), South Sudan, Namibia, Liberia, Ghana, Armenia, Jamaica, Honduras, and Barbados.

AKI always sends 100% of your donations to our partner organizations.

When you shop online at **Amazon Smile**, please remember to designate Animal-Kind International! Thank you!

Next time you hear from me will be from Liberia where I'll visit with Liberia Animal Welfare & Conservation Society.

Karen Menczer, Director &
the AKI Board

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