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Kindness to animals has no boundaries.

May 2014

When you donate to AKI, we send 100% of your donation to our partner organizations to use for animal welfare purposes only. AKI has partner organizations in Uganda, Tanzania, South Sudan, Namibia, Malawi, Ghana, Bosnia, Armenia, Jamaica, Honduras, and Suriname.

Read below about our partner organizations featured in this newsletter, check the AKI website, where you can read about all our POs, & donate here:

<http://www.animal-kind.org/supportus.html>, where you can designate an AKI PO, or let AKI decide where to send your donation. PLEASE FORWARD THIS NEWSLETTER TO YOUR FRIENDS & FAMILY--WE RELY ON YOU TO HELP GET THE WORD OUT ABOUT AKI & THE WORK OF OUR POs--THANK YOU!

The worst flooding in over 100 years....

A friend of AKI's in Bosnia told us, "This is the worst disaster since the war. Some experts have stated that up to a quarter of the population have had to temporarily leave their homes. Some have nothing to return to as their homes have collapsed due to landslides." Yet in these conditions, many people are working round the clock to help the animals.



A woman carries a dog on a flooded street in the village of Obrol, near the central Serbian town of Vrnjacka.

In their efforts to rescue animals affected by the floods, AKI is supporting our partner organization, Bosnia Animal Foundation (now known as Stray Dogs Bosnia), and has sent almost US\$1500 (arriving with a Bosnia-bound traveler during 1st week of June) to buy supplies like dog and cat food, veterinary drugs, and blankets, bowls, and storage bins. BAF/SDB will also use AKI donations to repair some of the shelters affected by floods.

As we all know, in situations like this, money is so desperately needed, but tracking what happens to the money can be a nightmare. That's not the case with AKI and BAF/SDB: SDB will evaluate where funding should be given based on cost-effectiveness and need; they will have a presence in Bosnia until their work is completed; and since SDB is an umbrella group headquartered in the Netherlands, they will provide independent oversight and monitoring.

The first priority is to take care of the dogs and cats and other animals that still need help and rescue. Rebuilding shelter infrastructure--to a much better standard than previously--is phase 2. BAF/SDB will be involved from start to finish, working closely with local animal welfare groups, and AKI will continue to support the rescue and rebuilding efforts.

Suze with BAF/SDB reported that, "People that were cold towards each other, are now working hand in hand! We need to use this opportunity to get all of us together, helping animals too." Please help the flood affected animals in Bosnia, and let's show Bosnia that kindness has no boundaries. Thank you for designating BAF for your AKI donation here:

<http://www.animal-kind.org/bosniaanimalfoundation.html>

A Surinamese Dog

Cynthia with Foundation Henk Abrahams-Suriname told AKI: This dog has been known to us for some time. He looked very beautiful. But suddenly we noticed a huge decline. He lies listlessly along the street, not even looking up. He has a severe form of scabies. Yet this dog has an owner. This past week, FHA visited her and the conversation went like this:



FHA: Did you take this dog to a vet?

Owner: Why? It is a mutt.

FHA: So if he was a purebred dog you would have taken him to a vet?

Owner: Yes, definitely.

FHA: But what makes this animal less than another?

[no reply]

FHA: When we arrived he barked, Madam. That means he watches out for you.

And he does this despite his illness. Protecting you is not rewarded!

[no reply]

FHA: Bottomline, we will bring this dog to a veterinarian for treatment. After all, we don't do this work for the owners, we do it for the dogs and cats!

I'm sure that those of you who have worked in rescue have had similar conversations; sometimes you feel like you're banging your head against a wall! It's no different in Suriname. It's often a tough decision, if an owner doesn't care, do you still help the dog or cat? You don't want to encourage this type of behavior!

But it's amazing what you can achieve by talking to each other, and that's what FHA does--their dedicated volunteers move around Suriname's communities every day, talking to people about caring for the animals. And sometimes FHA has to take an animal to a vet when an owner refuses to be bothered. But by being examples of compassion towards animals, FHA volunteers have had wonderful successes, they have changed attitudes like this owner's. **FHA is a strong voice for the animals of Suriname, and is AKI's newest partner**

organization:

<http://www.animal-kind.org/suriname.html>

AKI's GlobalGiving Project: Help 100 Poor Families in Suriname Care for their Pets

The District of Nickerie, with a human population of about 40,000, located about 400 km from Paramaribo, has so many stray dogs and no vet who will spay/neuter. Many dogs are allowed to roam, and the result is that most get pregnant and they also get pyometra; most males get transmissible venereal tumors.



When FHA was last in Nickerie in April 2014, they were "astounded at the amount of pyometra," which is extremely painful and can be deadly if left untreated.

AKI's GlobalGiving campaign will raise money so that FHA can spay/neuter about 100 dogs in Nickerie; will raise awareness among the population-children and adults-about s/n, pyometra, TVT, and other animal welfare concerns; and will provide de-worming and other vet care. (Photo above is of FHA's 2013 spay/neuter campaign in Saramacca, Suriname.)

To remain on the GG website and to be able to continue raising money through the GG network, we need to raise \$5000 from 40 separate donors between June 1 and June 30. Please read about our GG project here, where you can also donate--every little bit will help us reach our goal! THANK YOU!

<http://www.globalgiving.org/projects/help-100-poor-families-in-suriname-care-for-pets/>

Educating the Youth is the Key

That's what a longtime humane educator recently wrote to us when she sent AKI a package of humane education materials to distribute to Ghana SPCA (photo right, showing GSPCA President David Nyoagbe introducing the program and HE manual to GSPCA's two newest schools) and Liberia Animal Welfare & Conservation Society (photo below showing an LAWCS HE class).



Students in Ghana and Liberia so appreciate getting books of their own, and books about animals can make a lasting impression. If you can donate children's books about animals, we'll send them on to GSPCA and LAWCS. Also, both organizations need funds to copy humane ed manuals (about US\$3/manual) so each student can have his/her own. Won't you sponsor the cost of copying HE manuals for the students? You can donate securely and designate GSPCA's and/or

LAWCS's HE program here:

<http://www.animal-kind.org/supportus.html>



Thanks to Erica, we have a beautiful new AKI logo.

Also, thank you to everyone who has been using AmazonSmile and who has designated Animal-Kind International as your charity. We've had such positive reviews--it's easy to use, and it makes you feel good about shopping!

Just go to:

<http://smile.amazon.com/>

and designate Animal-Kind International as the charity you're supporting.

Thank you--as always--for your kind words, and your generous donations. Together, we can make the world a better place for the animals.

Karen Menczer, Director &
the AKI Board

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