

## **Animal-Kind International Annual Report-2020**

AKI's main programs are (1) support for our Partner Organizations, (2) the AKI Africa-Based Animal Welfare Organization Grant Program, and (3) our newest as of 2020, Friendly Audits.

- Our Partners are animal welfare organizations that we've worked closely with and know well; they receive regular, ongoing funding from us.
- Our grantees receive funding based on a proposal they submit, with no guarantee that they will receive any further support, although we provide technical and administrative help to grow our grantees into organizations that can continue to attract funding.
- We use "Friendly Audits" with targeted organizations, as a means to help strengthen organizations in non-financial ways.

Our 2020 focus remained on Africa-based animal welfare organizations, with a secondary focus area of Latin America/Caribbean, and the "outlier," the Caucasus (Partner Save Animals-Armenia). Our 2020 Annual Report focuses on these three AKI programs.

### **1. Financial Support to AKI Partner Organizations**

We require that our Partners use AKI funds only for activities that are directly related to animal welfare/improving the lives of animals. Other than that, we don't restrict the use of AKI funds; our Partners can use AKI funds for their priority needs. This is critical because most grant making organizations place restrictions on use of funds, so while animal rescue/protection organizations may have money to implement projects, they don't have the funds for basic operating costs (e.g., staff salaries, fuel for rescue vehicles, improvements to shelter infrastructure). When grant funds dry up—which they usually do from year to year—the organization is back to struggling with a meagre budget. With AKI's guaranteed support for our Partners' priorities, our Partners can budget, plan ahead, and become stronger, more effective voices for animals (v. reacting to issues and situations, and at the mercy of grant funding for specific projects).

We provide financial support to our Partner Organizations based on the amount of donations received, including those designated for specific Partners; need and capacity to use the funds; and on the quality (accountability, transparency, clear communication) of the Partner's reporting. In 2020, given the effects of covid-19, we were able to provide an additional disbursement for *COVID-19 Emergency Response* to some of our most adversely affected Partner Organizations who were continuing to work during the pandemic.

When the AKI Board met in December 2020, Board members agreed to retain all 2020 Partner Organizations for 2021 and not to add new Partners.

Below is summary information about how our Partner Organizations used AKI funds during 2020.

### **AFRICA**

**Uganda Society for the Protection and Care of Animals:** In 2020, due to the effects of covid-19, the USPCA took in more dogs and cats and had fewer adoptions than in recent years; donations of



food decreased; and therefore, costs of operating The Haven increased. AKI support for the USPCA Haven animal shelter was approximately 33% of the shelter’s operating costs, whereas in previous years, AKI has covered almost 50% of USPCA Haven operating costs (the decrease in AKI’s % of support is due to the increase in USPCA operating expenses in 2020.). In 2020, The Haven had on average about 300 cats and dogs under their care. Staff rescued more than one animal/day on average even through covid-19 lockdowns.

As in 2019, thanks to a special fundraising project, AKI funded the salary for USPCA’s Assistant Shelter Manager, Jackie. Thanks to yet another USPCA fundraiser, adopt a kennel, AKI funds supported the feeding and caring of several USPCA kennels. AKI funds also covered: a salary supplement from January through December and Christmas bonus for Alex Ochieng, The Haven Shelter Manager (picture above of Alex spending time in the USPCA cattery); 5 months of rent of The Haven property; electricity at The Haven for 4 months; water for 5 months; firewood to cook dog food for 5 months; airtime for the USPCA phone for 2 months; transport costs for 4 months to rescue cats and dogs and for pre- and post-adoption home visits; and due to the increased number of animals in USPCA’s care and decrease in food donations, the USPCA used 46% of AKI funds received for dog and cat food. (Photo above: At the end of February, prior to the covid-19 lockdown, the USPCA held “awareness raising presentations at schools.)



We continue to raise funds to purchase land to create a larger Haven. Donations designated to the Land Fund are held in a separate AKI account until enough is raised and suitable land is identified.



**Bam Animal Clinics- Uganda:** Bam was made an AKI Partner Organization in January 2020 after having successfully implemented an AKI grant (humane saddle making and donkey welfare clinics) in 2019. As a Partner Organization, Bam uses AKI funds for their donkey program in eastern Uganda,

where the highest concentration of donkeys is found.

In 2020, Bam used AKI funds to hold community clinics and humane saddle-making courses in Bukwo and Kween Districts; funds were used specifically as follows: medications; supplies for making humane sisal saddles; donkey feed (The communities where Bam works faced two disasters in 2020, covid-19 and locust outbreaks. The locusts strip vegetation, leaving little to eat for the donkeys, other grazing animals, and people. Bam supplemented donkey feed during this critical time.); salary and accommodation for Bam staff who worked at the clinics and facilitated the saddle-making training; transport to clinic and training venues; and air time when in the field to arrange clinics and trainings. We also sent Bam covid-19 (and locust) emergency response funds to purchase a motorbike, which they needed to reach remote parts of their target districts. Our support to Bam helps hundreds of donkeys by providing direct care; and has allowed Bam to train more than 100 donkey owners to make and use humane sisal saddles and to improve the care of their donkeys.

**Tanzania Mbwa wa Africa:** Mbwa wa Africa used AKI funds to support their animal shelter, which typically has 30 dogs and 6 cats (that number can vary widely when they receive litters of puppies and kittens). Mbwa wa Africa used the majority of funds received from AKI for staff salaries and dog and cat food (84% of our support was put toward these two items). AKI support covered approximately 10 months of dog and cat food for shelter animals; 7 months of salaries for shelter staff, ranging from 2 to 6 staff members over those months; fuel, maintenance, and repairs of the MWA vehicle; shelter supplies, such as cat litter, washing powder, LED lights, and cooking gas for dog food; wheelchair bearings for the dog carts; and surgeries and medications, including vaccinations for new intakes. AKI support to Mbwa wa Africa helps keep their shelter operating! (Photo above: Sandra, one of Mbwa wa Africa's founders, nurses a puppy back to health.)



**South Sudan:** After having focused on Humane Ed in South Sudan from 2007-2018, and having received many messages about animal cruelty, in 2017 we put together a virtual group, connected by email, mostly comprised of people who work part-time in South Sudan. The group decided that a spay/neuter program combined with training South Sudanese to run a high volume community s/n clinic should be top priority. The group collected supplies and raised money through a GoFundMe fundraiser to cover two weeks of s/n surgeries in Juba, training of South Sudanese vets, vet techs, community organizers, and humane educators, and purchase of equipment and additional supplies for the 1<sup>st</sup> and follow-on campaigns. Then covid-19 hit and the country was on lockdown and borders were closed. We're hoping to organize the s/n campaign for 2021.

**Namibia:** Erika, a long-time animal welfare volunteer in Namibia, oversees AKI support in the country. She provides AKI funds to rural SPCAs, Have A Heart-Namibia, and the Katutura Pet Care Project. In 2020, AKI funds in Namibia were used for:

**Rural SPCAs** - dog and cat food, dip material, blankets, bowls, worm tablets, and leashes for Oshana, Rundu, Grootfontein, Otjiwarongo, Tsumeb, Walvis Bay, and Luderitz SPCAs; and

spaying, other surgeries, and other vet care of dogs and cats at Oshana, Rundu, Grootfontein, Otjiwarongo, Tsumeb, and Walvis Bay SPCAs.

***Have A Heart-Namibia*** - HAH used AKI funds in 2020 for booster vaccinations and parasite treatments for returning spay/neuter clients (as part of their promise under HAH's Lifetime Care Program) and for emergency vet care of HAH spay/neuter clients (the AKI-HAH Emergency Fund). Funds were used for: follow up vaccination and parasite treatment for 714 dogs and 54 cats; and for emergency vet care for 20 dogs and 7 cats (also includes s/n, vaccinations, and anti-parasite treatments, if needed).



We sent HAH-Namibia a covid-19 emergency response disbursement to help cover the huge increase in requests for help during the worst of the covid-19 lockdown. One of the recipients of the AKI-HAH Emergency Fund was Lady, who belongs to Gustav (photo right), and who was an old HAH spay client. Gustav's income as a car guard went to almost nothing during the covid-19 lockdown, so when Lady was attacked by someone or something, he came to HAH for help. Lady was stitched up and sent back home with Gustav. Without help from the AKI-HAH Emergency Fund, Gustav never would have been able to afford the needed vet care.

***Katutura Pet Care Project***- Erika's all volunteer team visits Katutura townships (outside Windhoek) monthly and gives out food, dips dogs, flea powders cats, de-worms, and provides basic check-ups and advice. When funds are available, they get dogs spayed. Thanks to Dr. Baines' mobile clinic, we were able to support a two-day spay/neuter clinic in Katutura in June, the 1<sup>st</sup> s/n campaign in Katutura in at least 5 years (photo left, cats s/n'd in Katutura). When Erika's team visits Katutura, owners sometimes show up with sick or injured dogs and cats and Erika's team helps them get the needed vet care. Erika uses AKI funds to improve the health and well-being of



Katutura's pets. Due to the covid-19 lockdown, the team was unable to visit Katutura in March, April, and May.

**Liberia Animal Welfare & Conservation Society:** In 2020, with AKI funding, LAWCS continued



their community animal care program in Voinjama, Kolahun, and Foya Districts and extended the program to Zorzor District, the 1<sup>st</sup> time animal healthcare has reached that district (photo left). During two weeks in Zorzor

District, LAWCS held free clinics in 8 villages, where about 525 cats and dogs received, as needed, rabies and parvovirus vaccinations, tick and flea treatments, de-worming, mange treatment, wound care, as well as other basic care, and pet owners were given advice on post-case.

Also, AKI funds covered 11 months of salaries for three LAWCS staff (Abraham (Abie) pictured above, Alex, and Joseph); rent of LAWCS animal care clinic/office in Voinjama for 12 months; gas and maintenance of two LAWCS motorbikes over a 9 month period; cat and dog food for LAWCS Community Dog Feeding Program to feed malnourished animals; various medications, rabies, and parvovirus vaccines for LAWCS Community Animal Clinics; and Humane Education materials. Even with tight covid-19 restrictions, including school closures, LAWCS was able to continue working in their target communities via text messages to students and safe at-home visits to check on animals and their families.

**Ghana Society for the Protection & Care of Animals:** GSPCA was able to take students on two field trips before schools were shut down due to covid-19. Typically, we support about six fieldtrips/year for GSPCA Humane Ed students (as well as the in-school Humane Ed Program). This year we funded one field trip for 20 Kukuruzua Junior High School students and 20 Zebilla Junior High School students to the Bolgatanga Veterinary Services Clinic in Upper East Region. These field trips provide one of the few opportunities for students to get hands-on experience with animals, learn about animal care fields, and see what other Ghanaians are doing to help animals. Before schools shut down, GSPCA also used AKI funds to cover transport for GSPCA Humane Ed volunteer, Aluizah, to visit and mentor Humane Ed teachers.

## **Latin America/Caribbean**

**Kingston (Jamaica) Community Animal Welfare:** AKI donors cover about 90% of the costs of



KCAW's program to care for Kingston's street cats and dogs and pets who belong to poor families. During 2020, due to covid-19, KCAW was forced to find new ways to reach dogs and cats in need. Because of strict curfews, Deborah (KCAW Director) was unable to travel her usual routes to bring pet food to needy dogs and cats, so she relied on her network (local people living in communities where KCAW feeds animals) more than ever. Deborah would bring about a

week's worth of food to people in the KCAW network, and they took over feedings. That way, Deborah only had to go to each location about once a week instead of 3 to 6 days/week. Once the city opened up again, Deborah found many pregnant dogs and cats and many animals recently dumped on the streets (photos above and right). In 2020, KCAW used about 65% of AKI funds for dog and cat food to feed 100s of animals every week and the remainder for spay/neuter (52 animals) and other vet costs and for meds and vet supplies (de-worming, mange treatment, flea and tick preventative, wound care, etc.).



**Helping Hands for Hounds of Honduras:** AKI donors cover about 90% of HHHH's operating costs. 2020 was a challenging year for HHHH between covid-19 and two strong hurricanes that hit Honduras. Due to strict lockdowns, Pilar was unable to leave the house except for a couple of hours



a week and only for critical needs. Two of her helpers, who usually cleaned the shelter grounds and helped feed Sanctuary dogs and cats, took on new roles, including transporting animals to the vet, buying dog and cat food, and picking up medicines. In 2020, HHHH used AKI funds for about 11 months of cat and dog food for the +/-25 dogs and 3-5 cats usually at the Sanctuary; to pay compensation for the helpers; and for medicines, surgeries,

and other vet care, such as blood tests, antibiotics, anti-parasites, and spay/neuter. As usual, Pilar stepped in to help other larger shelters during the double disasters facing Honduras: while continuing to care for the older dogs and cats, many with severe disabilities (photo right), at the Nereida Montes de Oca Refuge (the HHHH Sanctuary), Pilar also took on cats and dogs in need of intensive care that these larger shelters were



unable to provide. (Thank you to Ana Maria for the AKI-HHHH masks, pictured above. They help make sure all visitors to the HHHH Sanctuary remain safe.)

## Caucasus Region



**Save the Animals-Armenia:** SA-Armenia used the majority of AKI funds to feed the +/- 50 dogs remaining at the SA-A shelter in Yerevan and to feed street cats and dogs and dogs that are used for guarding, but often given little food-and certainly no attention except by Nune on her visits to them. During 2020, SA-A lost all shelter staff to lockdowns and no volunteers were willing to show up at the shelter, so Nune had to take on all shelter tasks, from cleaning to feeding to brushing and washing and taking dogs to the vet, when needed. 30% of AKI funds to SAA were

used for transport and vet care. Nune noticed that more dogs were being dumped near her shelter during the worst of covid-19. She is now providing food for more than 30 homeless dogs who are living safely outside the shelter's grounds, and who have been spayed by the municipality (thanks to Nune's facilitation).

## 2. Africa-Based Animal Welfare Grants Program

In 2020, we held our 3rd annual Africa-Based Animal Welfare Organization Grant Program. The grant program is designed specifically for African organizations, where there are fewer options for funding than in other regions. For the 2020 program, we requested proposals that were covid-19 compliant. We received 50 grant applications (compared to 28 received in 2019) and funded nine 2020 grants (in 2019, we funded eight). We awarded grants to:

- Animal Welfare Society-Cameroon: Improving the care of donkeys used by cotton-producing farmers. Working with SODECOTON, the association of cotton producing farmers, AWES is demonstrating the importance of good donkey care and thereby, is encouraging SODECOTON to include donkey care as one of their objectives, creating a long-term and sustainable role for AWES.
- Sauvons nos Animaux-eastern Democratic Republic of Congo: Construction of two new pens at the SnA shelter, one for 25 dogs, who were living at the shelter, but who didn't have a pen and one for quarantine of new arrivals, including dogs who arrive pregnant or with litters.
- Save Animals-Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo: Produce 5 "Save Animals Universe" TV shows and broadcast them on local TV.

- Animal Protection Foundation-Egypt: The grant to APF was revised post-award when APF was forced to move to a different location. At the new location, an isolation area became the top priority, and the AKI grant was used to construct a 30 room isolation unit.
- Nairobi Feline Sanctuary-Kenya: Construction of a spay/neuter clinic with office and recovery area, a play area for cats, and improvements to the sleeping area.
- One Health & Development-Nigeria: Launched a whatsapp hotline for pet and livestock owners to get virtual (and no cost) veterinary advice, and as needed, referrals to in-person care; started an online directory of veterinary and related services available in Nigeria; held in-person and virtual meetings to raise awareness of these services-all of which are geared to be covid-19 safe and are aimed at making vet care more accessible to Nigerians, especially in rural areas and for impoverished communities.
- Giving is Living-South Africa: G is L is building fenced yards for as many dogs as possible (costs and number of fenced yards built depend on size of yard, volunteers available, and donations of material). At least 10 dogs will be removed from their lives on chains and have the freedom to move, as dogs should. G is L works with local rescues to ensure that all the dogs are sterilized and the homes are monitored.
- Zambezi Working Donkey Project-Zambia: ZWDP is identifying and training 24 Community Liaison Officers to work in their communities to help improve the care and welfare of donkeys. The CLOs will be the Project's eyes and ears on the ground, expanding the Project's reach significantly.
- Tikobane Trust-Zimbabwe: Tikobane is making and repairing humane harnesses for working donkeys in and around Hwange National Park and educating donkey owners about the benefits of humane harnesses, and how they can use and repair them.

Information about each grant and progress reports from grant recipients is here:

<https://www.animal-kind.org/grant-program-2020>

### **3. Friendly Audits**

We started the Friendly Audit process in 2020, in part due to covid-19 and in part because it addresses a gap in administrative and technical support and capacity that many Africa-based animal welfare organizations have. Since so many people were homebound due to covid-19 and looking for virtual volunteer opportunities, we developed the Friendly Audit process to link volunteers with African animal welfare organizations.

The process starts by having an organization respond to a questionnaire about their status and needs as far as technical and admin support. Then we identify a volunteer who can help address their needs. So far, we've paired 8 organizations with 8 volunteers who are helping with website creation, website editing, social media posting, proposal writing, preparation of documents (brochures, forms, etc.), financial management, and whatever else the organization needs and the volunteer has the expertise, knowledge, and interest to work on. Five organizations are currently on the waiting list for a Friendly Audit.

Friendly Audits have become a great way-and much demanded route-for AKI to provide non-financial support to organizations far beyond our normal reach via Partners and Grantees. And most

importantly, they help grow Africa’s animal welfare organizations into stronger voices and forces for animals.

#### 4. Supplies to AKI Partner Organizations & Other Animal Welfare Organizations

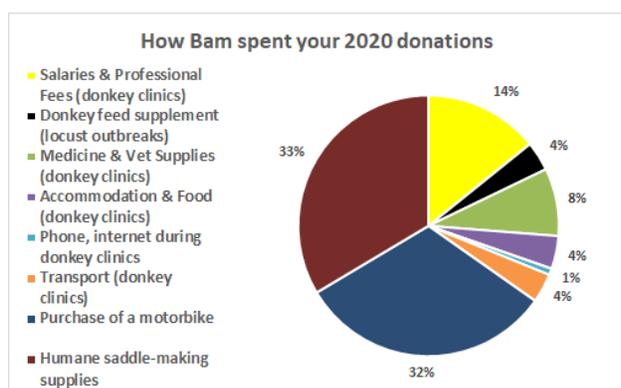
Besides financial support, AKI sends or carries supplies to our Partner Organizations and other animal welfare organizations, depending on donations we receive and organizations’ needs. In 2020, due to inability to travel because of covid-19 restrictions, we were unable to donate supplies; none of the supplies we have are easily, securely, and inexpensively sent through commercial carriers. For Uganda Society for the Protection & Care of Animals, we are in receipt of a dental scaler, thanks to Project VETS, which we intend to send with a traveler to Uganda in 2021.

#### 5. Other Animal-Kind International Activities and Support-2020

##### *Communication with AKI Supporters*

AKI is committed to transparency and accountability and we show this commitment by keeping our donors updated about our Partner Organizations’ and grant recipients’ activities and how they use AKI funds. In support of this, in 2020, we:

- Kept supporters updated about our two GlobalGiving projects (Have A Heart-Namibia and support to purchase land for a new USPCA sanctuary) by writing the required GlobalGiving Progress Reports every three months for each project.
- Assisted Partner Ghana SPCA in keeping their website up to date.
- Wrote/published 62 AKI Blog posts about the work of our Partners and grantees, and other animal welfare organizations working in difficult environments, in resource-poor countries.
- Sent out 12 monthly e-newsletters to AKI supporters with highlights about the work of our Partner Organizations and grantees.
- Kept the AKI website updated, creative, and fresh-thanks to AKI website designer/developer, Deb Newman.



- Prepared pie charts (example, left) showing how our Partner Organizations used AKI funds during the year. These pie charts are snapshots that quickly and easily inform our donors about how their donations are used (they are posted on the AKI website on our Partners’ pages).
- Updated our Guidestar profile for 2020 and obtained platinum level again (the highest).
- Organized a group of AKI supporters to participate in the proposal evaluation process

for the 2020 AKI Africa-Based Animal Welfare Organization Grant Program. Six supporters (in addition to the AKI Board and sector experts) participated.

- We regularly posted on Facebook and Instagram throughout the year. Thanks to a social media intern, our Instagram posts have remained current.

### ***Raising Visibility***

Even with social media, it remains difficult for animal welfare organizations in resource-poor countries to gain visibility and the confidence of donors. AKI tries to get information out about the work our Partner Organizations and grantees do, their challenges, and needs. In addition to the above (Communications with AKI Supporters), during 2020, we raised visibility of animal welfare work in our target regions through:

- An opinion piece published in the Santa Fe New Mexican about the difference between how animal welfare organizations in Africa and in the US are faring during covid-19.
- Articles in the online publication, Donkeys for Africa (published in South Africa).
- Articles on Drifter's Guide to the Planet's website
- An article on The Bark's online site, Smiling Dogs, about Mango, a Kingston Community Animal Welfare dog
- An article written by AKI Board member, Karen Rae, about her experience transporting two Nepalese dogs to the US for adoption.
- Obtaining Great Non-Profit 2020 status: GNP helps spread the word about the organizations on their site that receive GNP status.
- Creating videos for USPCA's land purchase fund and about KCAW's work that can be posted on various platforms.
- A matching donation from a generous AKI supporter helped us reach additional donors to the USPCA Land Fund.

### ***Requests to AKI for Financial and other Support***

During 2020, about 250 animal welfare organizations and individuals contacted AKI for financial and technical support, help with cruelty situations, or about other issues involving animals in countries where they live or visited.

We received requests for financial and/or technical support from the following countries (this list is not all-inclusive and in some cases, we received requests from multiple organizations in the same country):

Cameroon, Kenya, Ghana, South Africa (numerous), Nigeria, Uganda, Tanzania, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Somaliland, Somalia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Mali, Niger, Tunisia, Algeria, Morocco, Egypt, Mexico, Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Venezuela, Peru, Ecuador, Brazil, Colombia, Romania, Georgia, Bosnia, Serbia, Slovakia, Russia, Ukraine, Armenia, Georgia, Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq, Nepal, Sri Lanka, India (numerous), Pakistan (numerous), Indonesia, Gaza, Spain, France, and several Caribbean countries.

We received many reports about animal cruelty and requests to help in situations involving animals, including interest in adopting street animals. We always try to assist to the best of our ability. A few examples of the reports we received in 2020 are: (1) A report about a security company in Accra, Ghana that places dogs at homes, but the care of these dogs by the security company is questionable. We assisted GSPCA to respond to the security company. Conditions improved, but the situation is being monitored. (2) A puppy in Yerevan, Armenia who was living on the street. We

helped the finder by providing connections and advice for transporting and adopting the puppy. (3) Several cruelty reports in Uganda, in particular one that was highly unsettling to many, in which we helped craft letters of complaint. The situation is currently under investigation.

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2020 was difficult for all of us and in light of such difficult times, we always felt unsure about asking for donations when there was so much suffering around the world. But we are so grateful to you, our donors, that even without asking, you came through for us. Every year we've been in existence, since 2007, the amount of donations we've received has increased, and 2020 was not an exception, surprisingly. We continue to provide 100% of donations to our Partners and our Grant Program. The more we raise, the more organizations we are able to help and at greater levels of support. And most importantly, the more animals that will be helped and the more people who will learn to treat animals kindly. Your donations to AKI are helping to make the world a better place for animals!

*Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!*

