AKI: supporting existing animal welfare organizations in Uganda, Ghana, Namibia, Botswana, Southern Sudan, Honduras, Jamaica, Armenia, and Bosnia.

Unlike most other funding organizations, Animal-Kind International does not dictate what our partner organizations should spend AKI funds on; instead, we support our partner organizations' priorities. We conduct a due diligence process to make sure our partner organizations' goals and priority activities are in line with AKI’s and that they use best practices in the animal welfare field. We do business this way because we believe our partners know what is needed to improve the lives of animals in their countries. We can do business this way because we have close relationships with our partner organizations so we can track the use of your donations and our partners' accomplishments. Please join us in supporting the priorities of the neediest of the needy--the animal welfare organizations in poor countries and the animals they serve.

Thank you very much for forwarding this AKI newsletter to your friends and family; only with your help can we spread the word about AKI and our partner organizations. Click below to forward:

Forward this message to a friend

As always, 100% of your donation goes directly to our partner organizations.

Dear Friends of AKI,

The Uganda SPCA’s shelter is known as the Haven, and it really is a haven for the dogs and cats of Kampala and surrounding areas that are homeless or have been mistreated. The pictures below are from July, during two weeks I spent in Uganda, when I was fortunate to be able to visit the Haven’s dogs, cats, staff, and volunteers several times, and to overlap with two Uganda SPCA donors, Nicole and Sarah. Nicole (green shirt in the 1st picture) from Toronto visited Uganda with her father, and brought supplies for the Haven; and Sarah from Washington state (pink shirt, 2nd photo below) gave an award from the Central Valley Coalition for Animals (California, USA) and AKI to the USPCA, and brought t-shirts for the staff and supplies for the dogs and cats. Also in the photos are USPCA staff (photos 1 and 2), USPCA dogs, Mary and husband Lazaro with Haven kittens; Lazaro is a weekend security guard at the Haven, and the last picture—Haven staff hard at work. More photos will be posted on the AKI website on the USPCA page, http://www.animal-kind.org/ugandaadvocate.html.

As mentioned, AKI supports the priorities of our partners; we require that our funds are used for animal welfare purposes only; and we require transparency in our partners’ financial management. The Uganda SPCA has used AKI donations to help cover rent of the shelter, to purchase vet supplies, for spay/neuter, and for the hire of Mary (pink dress below), whose role is to socialize the dogs and cats and to help dog Hope (shown with Dr. Alex, the Haven vet) adjust to her wheelchair by taking her on daily walks.
The Uganda SPCA has been in operation for about 14 years, and is well-established in Uganda. But they are growing beyond the carrying capacity of their current shelter and need more space to fulfill their vision. AKI wants to help the Uganda SPCA purchase land for a permanent sanctuary for Uganda’s dogs and cats to give them a larger space to play, and to provide comfortable surroundings for potential adopters to meet the dogs and cats and for volunteers to spend time with the animals at the Haven. The Uganda SPCA envisions a space where the dogs are free to move about and behave naturally; a cattery with room to play, rest, and hide; where visitors,
including children, from within Uganda could learn about pets, and where visitors from other countries would spend time during their stay in Uganda. The sanctuary would attract visiting vets and humane educators, and others interested in creating model shelters in their countries. The cost for 1 acre is about US$15,000, and the USPCA would like to purchase 3 acres, for a total of about US$45,000. If you are interested in helping the USPCA build a permanent sanctuary, one that we hope would be internationally recognized as a model, please contact AKI at karen@animal-kind.org. We’ll be posting more information about the plans for land purchase and shelter development in the coming months.

Donations from you, our supporters, to Animal-Kind International also help Pilar (Helping Hands for Hounds of Honduras) care for the street dogs and cats of Tegucigalpa and the animals at her sanctuary, the Refugio de Perros Nereida Montes de Oro. Donations to AKI help dogs and cats like the ones in this message from Pilar to AKI, sent on 27 July 2010:

I have three dogs that are really sick. One is Lucio, an old, old dog I picked up from Sta. Lucia after a friend called that he had collapsed in the middle of the street. He was skin and bones and full of lice and could not eat or stand. I have had him three weeks now. I have the lice controlled and he can now eat and stand, but he still throws up. I have him on subQ fluids, antibiotics and nutritional supplements but he still throws up. He is brown and black and about 50 lbs. He looks a bit like a shepherd. The second one has been here 8 days. He is pretty young, maybe 2 years old. But he was hit by a car and had the skin and muscles pulled off his front leg. The vet washed the wound real well and sewed it up as best he could. I keep cleaning it and injecting him with pain killers and antibiotics. He could not eat or move the first few days, but now eats fine. He is very sweet, has no tail, is white and about 18 lbs. He looks like a West Highland Terrier. The last one just came today. She is black mixed breed, about 30 lbs., size of a cocker. She is very old and sick. She only has a couple of teeth. In February, she was near the vet’s office with a huge venereal tumor, the size of a grapefruit. I had a watchman help catch her and had the vet apply chemotherapies. I had not seen her for about 3 months. The vet called me today that she had had puppies under an abandoned car in the midst of a huge rainstorm with the streets turned to rivers and the wind breaking branches and leaves off all over. I crawled under the car to get the 8 puppies!!! She was by the car leaning and put up no resistance. She will not eat and is so weak that when she tries to clean her puppies her head falls over. I also have a 3 week old kitten for the past week or so. She fell off someone’s roof and they could not find the mother.

For Namibia’s rural SPCAs, donations to AKI in the last quarter supported the purchase of food, blankets, bowls, and vet costs at Tsumeb, Walvis Bay, Rundu, Otjiwarongo, Keetmanshoop, and Luderitz shelters.

Donations to AKI during the second quarter of 2010 helped several dogs and cats in Jamaica, among them, the dog family in this message from Deborah with Kingston Community Animal Welfare: A portion of the money you sent is earmarked for a mother dog and 3 pups kept in a yard. I have until this weekend to take them or they promised to ‘get rid of them’. I have a great home for the 3 pups but not the mother yet. I will use the AKI money to have the mother and pups spayed/neutered and I have also been purchasing food for these and other dogs with AKI funds--I go feed them every morning on the way to work. The mother and one other dog in the yard are like skeletons. I have to give them food through the gate. I am not allowed to go in cause the first time I did and saw what a mess the place was, I made a big fuss. Now the people in there say all I can do is feed them at the gate- outside, I am not to come inside. They are in such bad condition that I have to take them this weekend.
UPDATE: Deborah did get those dogs that very weekend, the pups went to a great home, and the mama dog is still being cared for by Deborah at her sanctuary, and will be there until Deborah can find a permanent, loving home.

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We also sent your donations to the Ghana Horse Project (and we sent supplies and medication--thanks to Susan!--for the horses), to Save the Animals-Armenia to provide food for the shelter dogs, and to Bosnia Animal Foundation to support their spay/neuter campaign. These are the priority projects and activities of our partners, and we are proud that with your support we can help our partners help the animals in these poor countries.

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Following the close of the First Conference of Stray Animals in the Caucasus, ProPaws-Armenia sent AKI this message with their good news about the conference:
WE finally made it, yesterday everyone who heard about or was at the conference called to say how great were the speakers and how much they learned and they thanked us for arranging the conference, also asking when is the next one! Last word of Clarissa to me was," this is the beginning not the end." I think with this conference we have created a ripple that we have to continually pock the middle for motion to go for ever. Thank you for posting the announcement on your web page, I will send you a complete report to post it on the AKI website.

IN THE FUTURE< WE AT AKI HOPE TO BE ABLE TO SUPPORT YOUR EFFORTS IN THE CAUCASUS REGION.

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We’ve added two new supporters to the AKI supporters’ page, Juan and Nova. Please read about them here: http://www.animal-kind.org/supporters.html
and we hope you’ll also consider becoming an AKI supporter!

We’ve also added an option for you to choose a deferred giving program,
http://www.animal-kind.org/deferred.html

which allows you to continue your legacy of giving to AKI and the neediest of the needy.

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In closing, thank you very much to all of you who sent condolence messages and donations in the memory of my dog Lucy. Lucy was from Uganda, and had a very sad start to her life in Kampala. She spent about 18 hours a day chained to a wooden box, which was her "home" behind a food kiosk. During the day she was taunted by people who came to the kiosk. At night, she was let off the chain to guard, but she turned out to be a failure as a guard dog, and her owners asked me if I wanted her. From when she was about 1 1/2 years old, she lived with us in Uganda for four years, moved to Botswana, Ghana, and then Jemez Springs, New Mexico, USA with us, where she spent the last three years, two of them battling throat cancer, but she was always a sweet, gentle, and happy soul. There will never be another like Lucy.

100% of your donation goes directly to our partner organizations; we have 0% overhead. To donate to
AKI, please go to http://www.animal-kind.org/supportus.html or send a check or money order made out to Animal-Kind International, and mail to PO Box 300, Jemez Springs, New Mexico 87025 USA. If you'd like, you can choose which AKI partner organization(s) you would like your donation to be sent to.

Thank you very much to one and all for your support of AKI!

Karen Menczer, Director
and the AKI Board