Animal-Kind International Annual Report-2017

1. Financial Support to AKI Partner Organizations

AKI provides financial support to our partner organizations based on the amount of donations received, including those designated for specific partners; as well as on the quality of the partner’s reporting to us. We require that our partners use AKI funds only for activities that are directly related to improving the lives of animals. Other than that, we don’t restrict the use of our funds. 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 their basic operating costs (e.g., staff salaries, fuel for rescue vehicles, improvements to shelter infrastructure). Below we provide information on how our partners used AKI funds during 2017.

AFRICA

**Uganda Society for the Protection & Care of Animals:**

AKI support to the USPCA covers almost 50% of the cost of running the USPCA Haven, Uganda’s only cat and dog shelter. AKI funds covered: five months of rent for the USPCA Haven shelter; 6 months of air time for the USPCA phone (used for animal rescues); 5 months of transport costs (to rescue cats and dogs); fire wood for 5 months (to cook cat and dog food); staff salaries for October and the shelter manager’s salary for April through October plus a supplement to shelter manager salary; 4 months of The Haven’s electricity bill; cat litter for 4 months; cat/kitten food for 6 months; dog/puppy food for 6 months; staff uniforms and boots (photo above); plywood to construct dog houses; repairs to the water line and water tank and electricity line; new office locks; medicines and other vet supplies (e.g., thiopental, sevostat, lidocaine, xylazine, ketamine, chlorpromazine, rabies vaccinations, parvo vaccinations, vaccination cocktail for shelter dogs (76), drontal, flea powder, shampoo, syringes, surgical gloves, iodine, and more). On average, during 2017, the USPCA had about 200 cats and dogs living at The Haven and rescued at least one cat or dog/day during the year. “Without all your [AKI] support and donors, I am not sure if the USPCA would still exist today!”: a USPCA Executive Committee member wrote to AKI on 25 July 2017. (Photo: USPCA Haven staff in their new, AKI-funded, uniforms; photo by shelter manager Alex Ochieng (not pictured)).

**Tanzania Mbwa wa Africa:**

Support for the Mbwa wa Africa shelter, covering almost 1/3 of shelter costs, including cat and dog food (for about 30 dogs and 2 cats over a 2 month period); medicine and vets supplies, including vaccinations, milk thistle extract, bandages, various medications; 5 months of salaries for shelter staff.
(Philbert, Amoni, Mama Sande, Maiko, William, and Judith); surgeries and other vet care of shelter animals (amputations, sterilizations, x-rays); shelter supplies, such as washing powders, bleach, trash bags); construction material: plywood to build shelves in the MwA storage area; chain link fence and other fencing material (plastic-coated) to replace the old chicken wire in the free run areas in front of the kennels to make them puppy-escape-proof; and plumbing material to place a water line to the therapy pool, used for dogs with spinal injuries and other problems that affect their limbs (swimming in the therapy pool is a great way to build their strength). Mbwa wa Africa founder, Jens, said, “Running a dog shelter in Africa where there are more public known issues like wildlife poaching and providing communities with water and the children with education, we are thankful for our partnership with AKI. Otherwise we wouldn’t have money to do the ongoing improvements.”

Tanzania Animal Welfare Society:
Funding for 12 days of donkey vet clinics including the costs of: supplies, such as wound spray, ivermectin paste and injection, diminazine aceturate, hydrogen peroxide, tincture of iodine, 1000 syringes and needles, cotton wool, bandages, alcohol, hand sanitizers, gloves, antibiotics (oxytetracycline, penstreptomycine, amoxycycline), dexamethasone, and eye ointment; transportation from village to village as the volunteers traveled throughout the district during the 12 day donkey vet clinics; 2 weeks of transport and accommodations for a volunteer to mobilize the communities prior to the donkey clinics; food for the 6 volunteers working at the donkey clinics over 12 days. During the 12 clinic days, TAWESO treated 698 donkeys. They dewormed and treated wounds and diseases (e.g. tick borne, eye problems, lameness, and skin problems). They also talked with donkey owners and children about how to take care of their working donkeys. They formed TAWESO Football Teams composed of only donkey owners, combining Tanzanians’ favorite past-time with donkey welfare. TAWESO has AKI funds from 2017 for 2 more donkey vet clinics, which will be held during 2018. (Photo: Dr. Thomas Kahema at a donkey vet clinic, holds up a thank you note to 2 of AKI's main supporters of TAWESO's donkey clinics.)

Namibia Rural SPCAs & Have A Heart-Mobile:
- Namibia rural SPCAs (Rundu, Otjiwarongo, Tsumeb, Walvis Bay, Luderitz, and Oshona SPCAs): blankets, feeding bowls, leashes, cat and dog food, dip, flea and tick powder, and vet care.
- Katutura Pet Care & Feeding Project: 13 dogs spayed in Katutura and cat and dog food for pets in Katutura, handed out during monthly volunteer visits. Katutura is a sprawling area of
poor townships outside of Windhoek, where there is no accessible vet care. (Photo: A Katutura resident brings his kitty to the Katutura Pet Care and Feeding site, where volunteers gather once a month to help Katutura residents provide improved care for their pets.)

- The Aranos spay campaign: 11 dogs, owned by poor people, mainly subsistence farmers, spayed in Aranos.

- Have A Heart-Mobile: During the HAH-Mobile trip to the south of Namibia: treatment of a dog with a snake bite, many dogs with burns, cuts, and illnesses, and parasite treatment of horses and donkeys, and 38 cat spay/neuters. During the Okahandja Spay Day: 13 male dogs neutered, 5 female dogs spayed, and 5 male cats neutered. AKI funds cover the gaps in HAH-Mobile funding, such as vet treatment (other than spay/neuter) of all animals brought to the HAH mobile clinic (mainly dogs, cats, horses, and donkeys) and spay/neuter of cats.

HAH-Mobile said, “Although we help hundreds of animals during our spay trips, every dog and cat is truly special to us. We often are called upon to help beyond the routine spay, neuter and vaccination and thanks to the generous, on-going support of Animal-Kind International, we are able to provide such help.”

**Liberia Animal Welfare & Conservation Society:**

Compensation for LAWCS’s Humane Education staff (@ US$50/month); supplies to use at LAWCS’ Animal Care Clinics, including flea and tick repellant, multivitamins, mebendazole (de-wormer), vitamin B complex, and hand sanitizer; training with 2 US-based vets for 3 LAWCS staff in Ganta, Liberia; Humane Ed materials (poster sheets, markers, anti-dog meat eating stickers, photocopying of HE materials); Humane Ed radio program for 3 months (put on by LAWCS Humane Ed students); anti-dog meat eating radio program for 2 months (put on by LAWCS); one new motorbike; and gas, engine oil, and maintenance of LAWCS’s motorbikes. LAWCS’s HE Program is taught in 35 schools and reaches about 35,000 students/year. LAWCS has also established Animal Kindness Clubs in each of these schools: 3 of the schools have 2 clubs and 32 of the schools have 1 club, for a total of 38 Animal Kindness Clubs. Each club has 30 members totaling 1,140 club members. AKI covers almost all costs of LAWCS’s Humane Ed Program in Kolahun and Foya
districts, at 23 schools with 11 Animal Kindness Clubs in Kolahun and 12 in Foya. (Photo: Children bring their pets to LAWCS Animal Care Clinics, the only animal care available in Lofa County.)

**Ghana Society for the Protection & Care of Animals:**

Transport for GSPCA Humane Education Coordinators, David and Aluizah, to and from schools to organize new Humane Education Programs and to mentor Humane Ed teachers; printing of 100 Humane Ed Manuals for students; printing and lamination of group photos for 2 Humane Ed schools as prizes for participation in Spay & Neuter Day; and the full cost for five Humane Ed field trips to Lemlet Vet Clinic, Tafi Atome Monkey Sanctuary, and 3 field trips to the Livestock & Poultry Research & Education Centre at the University of Ghana. Cost for field trips includes bus hire, refreshments for students, and small stipends for teachers. Approximately 500 students participated in the 5 field trips that GSPCA sponsored during 2017. AKI is the sole supporter of GSPCA’s Humane Education Program. (Photo: Humane Ed students visiting Tafi Atome Monkey Sanctuary show off their Humane Education Manuals).

**Latin America/Caribbean**

**Kingston Community Animal Welfare:**

Renovation and construction of 4 new dog kennels, 1 cat kennel, and 1 quarantine kennel at the KCAW shelter; spay/neuter of 20 cats and dogs that live on the street and/or who are owned by poor families; vet care for many injured cats and dogs (street animals or belonging to poor families in Kingston), including maggot-infested wounds, dog with a fractured jaw, cat with a rotting tail that had been caught in barbed wire, euthanasia of dogs hit by cars and of a puppy with a huge tumor on his neck, vet care of a dog that was in a fight with other male dogs, amputation of dog Ella’s leg; cat and dog food to cover about six months of feeding street animals and pets that belong to poor people in Kingston; and medicines, including dip for mange, Prazivet, maggot spray and powder, and wound powder. AKI provides the only external support that KCAW receives and covers a significant portion of KCAW’s cat and dog feeding program and vet care. (Photo: One of many people whose pets receive vet care and food, thanks to KCAW. KCAW also treated this dog’s maggot-infested wound. The woman in the picture lives, along with her dog, behind the metal sheeting in the background).
Hope Sanctuary-Barbados:
Stronghold for the shelter’s >90 cats, to treat and prevent flea infestations, prevent roundworms, heartworms, ear mites, biting lice, and hookworms. (Photo: some of the Hope kitties who benefitted from Stronghold applications).

Helping Hands for Hounds of Honduras:
Helper to clean the HHHH sanctuary yard and feed dogs in June, October, and December; dog food for HHHH sanctuary dogs for about 10 months; dry cat food, canned food, and cat litter for sanctuary cats; blood tests for sanctuary dogs; medicines for sanctuary dogs (Drontal, Bravecto, eye drops, medicated shampoo, Rocefort, Dicynone); a dog bed; spays of 2 rescued shepherds, 1 rescued cat, plus treatment of pyometra (infection of the uterus), and 1 rescued kitten; and bird food for rescued wild birds being cared for at the sanctuary. AKI provides the only external (outside of Honduras) source of funding for the HHHH sanctuary. (Photo: Kitty with pyometra, spayed with AKI funding, treated pyometra)

Caucasus Region

Save the Animals-Armenia:
Surgeries to repair legs of 2 dogs (implants @ US$250 each; medical doctor did these 2 very sensitive surgeries at no cost); dog food for the approximately 160 shelter dogs for about 3 months; shelter staff salaries for about 3 months; electricity bill during the winter months (January-March and November and December); blood tests; and medications for shelter dogs, most of whom are older dogs and need daily meds. For several years, AKI donors have covered the cost of heating the shelter building during the cold Armenian winters. (Photo: some of the SA-Armenia shelter dogs, March 2017).
2. Supplies to AKI Partner Organizations & other Animal Welfare Organizations

Besides financial support, AKI sends supplies to our partner organizations, as well as to other needy animal welfare organizations. In 2017, AKI donated the following supplies:

**Liberia Animal Welfare & Conservation Society:** Humane Education material, including animal books for children and adults, animal coloring books and crayons, animal trinkets.

**Mbwa wa Africa:** 190 sutures, syringes, needles, gauze, sterile gloves, swabs, drapes

**Tanzania Animal Welfare Society:** 112 sutures

**Namibia rural SPCAs/Have A Heart:** 340 sutures

**South Sudan Volunteer Humane Educators:** Humane Education material—mainly children’s books about animals

**Malawi All Creatures:** 157 sutures, eye drops, gauze, needs, syringes, catheters, and 12 scrubs

**Kathmandu Animal Treatment Centre:** 260 sutures, leashes, providone;
To keep KATC shelter dogs warm during the winter, we requested that knitters knit dog sweaters for KATC dogs. Most of the dogs at the shelter have come from the streets of Kathmandu and are undernourished and many are ill and they are unable to retain body heat during the cold winter months. Phyllis with Friends of Mbwa wa Africa (Scotland) mobilized her group, who knitted many sweaters for KATC dogs, and she sent them to Nepal through an AKI contact.

**Sneha’s Care (Nepal):** 153 sutures, 19 sterile gloves, providone

3. Other Animal-Kind International Activities and Support-2017

**Partner Organizations**
We added two new partner organizations to AKI, Mbwa wa Africa in Arusha, Tanzania and Hope Sanctuary in Barbados. We dropped Foundation Henk Abrahams-Suriname as a partner organization.

**Coordination and Technical Support to AKI Partner and Other Animal Welfare Organizations**
AKI provides technical support (advice about their programs, assistance in writing proposals, ideas for fundraising, etc.) to our partner organizations, as well as to non-partner organizations. During 2017, we provided the following technical support and coordinated the following activities:
• AKI formed a Technical Advisory Group consisting of 4 members who have experience working in animal welfare in Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, Eastern Europe, and Asia. The purpose of the TAG is to coordinate on new initiatives, funding opportunities, and challenges/constraints, as well as to assist animal welfare organizations in these regions to get the help they need.

• Ghana Society for the Protection & Care of Animals: AKI provided technical support for preparation of a proposal to The Donkey Sanctuary to investigate the donkey skin and meat trade. GSPCA was awarded the grant and successfully undertook the investigation.

• Liberia Animal Welfare & Conservation Society: AKI submitted a proposal to Santa Fe Humane Society to request 1 month of training at the shelter for LAWCS’s Community Animal Care Officer, Abie. However, when a new director took over SFHS, they no longer were interested in providing this support.

• We successfully rescued Niger Rosie, an amazing rescue story, which started with a US soldier, who got in touch with our partner in Arusha, Tanzania, Mbwa wa Africa. MwA put the soldier in touch with AKI. We connected him with a US Foreign Service Officer in Niger and after more than 5 months of discussion and attempts at getting Rosie out of Niger (she was threatened with being shot, the common control method there, along with poisoning), Rosie was flown to Mbwa wa Africa, where she is currently enjoying her serene, secure life.

• South Sudan: Several people had contacted AKI during 2017 about the situation for dogs in South Sudan. We brought them together in an email group to discuss a strategy to improve the situation for homeless dogs and we began organizing a spay/neuter campaign and clinic.

• Martin from Humane Society International contacted AKI because one of their supporters got in touch with him about a “Sixty Minutes” episode on Abaarso School in Somaliland. Her concern was that the livestock shown in the background during the show were emaciated. AKI coordinated communications between Social and Animal Welfare Service-Somaliland and Abaarso School’s founder to discuss options of what might be done for livestock in the area of the school (ongoing).

• Social and Animal Welfare Service-Somaliland: AKI provided technical support by reviewing and contributing to a SAWS proposal to support donkey clinics and other donkey care.

• As part of The Donkey Sanctuary’s efforts to investigate the donkey skin and meat trade, TDS contacted AKI to request to be connected with some of our partner organizations in countries where TDS doesn’t have partners. We connected TDS to our partners in Namibia, Ghana, and Jamaica. Namibia and Ghana have since worked with TDS to investigate and fight against the trade.
We continued to keep our two GlobalGiving projects (Have A Heart-Mobile in Namibia and support to purchase land for a new USPCA sanctuary) active by writing the required Progress Reports every 3 months for each project.

Visits to Partner and Other Organizations
The following visits were made as part of work trips, not AKI funded:

- Liberia Animal Welfare & Conservation Society: AKI Director Karen took part in a community animal clinic in Voinjama, Liberia, met with LAWCS Kindness Club leaders, and met with LAWCS staff.

- Tanzania Animal Welfare Society: Karen took part in a TAWESO community vet clinic in Dar es Salaam and visited the TAWESO headquarters and kennel in Dar.

- Mbwa wa Africa, Arusha, Tanzania: Karen visited the Mbwa wa Africa shelter and local communities where MwA assists families to provide good care of their pets by providing them spay/neuter, vaccinations, and other vet care, as needed.


- Sneha’s Care (Nepal): Karen visited Sneha’s Care in Kathmandu and together with Sneha, helped the “oldest street dog in Kathmandu” by getting him a much needed bath and grooming. He returned to the street, where he has lived for as long as anyone can remember, and where he is well cared for (although this is by far not the norm for Kathmandu street dogs).

- Kathmandu Animal Treatment Centre (Nepal): Karen visited the KATC shelter.

Communications with AKI Supporters
AKI is committed to keeping our donors updated on our partner organizations’ activities and how our partners use AKI funds. We are also committed to transparency and accountability. In support of this, during 2017, we:

- Sent out monthly e-newsletters except in August because of Hurricane Harvey and the many fundraising requests to help hurricane victims; and sent 2 newsletters during December.

- Wrote 1 to 6 AKI Blog posts/month about how our partner organizations used AKI funds and about animal welfare organizations (non-partners) working in difficult environments, in resource-poor countries.

- Regularly posted on Facebook
• Sent thank you letters to all supporters and end of year letters to monthly supporters

• Became a Great Non-Profit for 2017

• Retained our platinum level Guidestar badge, the highest Guidestar level.

• Started an Instagram account

Deb Newman returned to AKI as our website designer and updater, to ensure our website stays current and engaging.

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 do, their challenges, and needs. In addition to the above (Communications with AKI Supporters), during 2017 we raised visibility of animal welfare work in our target regions through:

• An interview by Larry Lindner with AKI director, Karen, published in Your Dog (Tufts Vet School newsletter) about peoples’ attitudes toward dogs with a focus on our target regions.

• An article about Save the Animals-Armenia/Nune Mehrabyan on the “Just do Something” website.

• An article about traveling in poor countries and how to prepare for dealing with difficult situations involving cats, dogs, and other animals (not yet published).

Communications with non-AKI Partners
During 2017, many animal welfare organizations contacted AKI for financial and technical support and many individuals contacted us for help with cruelty situations or other issues involving animals in countries where they live or visited.

We received requests for financial and/or technical support from the following countries:
Venezuela; Bulgaria; Albania; requests for support from several groups in India; Thailand; Tunisia; Indonesia (cat shelter) Georgia (Caucasus) horse protection group; Morocco (several groups); Cameroon (3 groups); Mozambique; a US-based organization supporting groups in Egypt and the Maasai in Kenya; Albugnano, Italy; requests for support from several groups in South Africa; Ghana (humane and sustainable production of grasscutters and rabbits); Serbia (requests from several organizations and individuals); Lebanon; Bahrain; Turkey for Trap-Neuter-Release support; the Piedmont region of Italy; Zimbabwe for donkey ear tags (to prevent them from being hit by vehicles at night); Nepal (several groups); Dominica in the Caribbean; Bahamas for shelter start-up; Prigedor, Bosnia; Tanzania (several groups); Costa Rica; Bangladesh (several groups); France; Pakistan; Egypt;
Macedonia; Stephen in South Africa, researching animal welfare legislation in Africa (sent him Ghana’s, Uganda’s, and Nigeria’s legislation).

We received many requests for help with cruelty situations or other animal welfare issues. Some examples are:

- An individual from the UK whose nephew in South Sudan was interested in adopting a dog he had found (was adopted in South Sudan).
- A report about poorly kept dogs being sold in Accra (GSPCA visited the site, which is an area where people sell dogs on the street. There’s little, if any political will to enforce Ghana’s anti-cruelty legislation and cite the sellers).
- A cruelty complaint from an expat living in Accra, next to a Ghanaian family with 2 Tibetan mastiffs kept in small boxes, when outside, chained up, no water, etc. (The GSPCA visited the home a few times, they were never able to meet the dog owner, but left information about how to improve the situation for the dogs and how to contact the GSPCA.)
- A flight attendant’s husband in South Sudan, where he was taking care of feral kittens and wanted to get them fixed (connected to a vet).
- An individual working in Sudan, who found an injured dog (she found a home for the dog in Sudan).
- A report about a monkey kept in a small cage in Ghana (The Wildlife Division followed up).
- Several requests from visitors to Honduras, who found dogs during their holiday, and requested that the dogs be rescued (Usually these requests came toward the end of the visitors’ holidays, they were unable to assist in the rescue, no photos were available: A worthwhile lesson from this is to take along phone contacts of animal welfare organizations when you travel to a country, take a picture of a cat or dog that needs assistance, contact the animal welfare organization immediately.)
- We connected Anna from Sweden, to AKI partner Kingston Community Animal Welfare. Anna raised money for KCAW, and then, while visiting Jamaica, spent a day with KCAW, feeding and helping street cats and dogs.
- We connected Richard in Ghana, who is a horse lover and very knowledgeable about horses, to the Ghana SPCA to help them with the GSPCA horse project.
- We linked many visitors to Uganda, Ghana, and Armenia to our partners so they could volunteer while visiting or working in those countries.

We couldn’t do all this without the wonderful, generous support of our AKI donors. We so appreciate you!