AKI News: Summer 2011

Helping animals....without borders. Because animal welfare has no boundaries.

We support animal welfare organizations in Honduras, Jamaica, Uganda, Tanzania, South Sudan, Namibia, Malawi, Ghana, Armenia, and Bosnia.

Dear AKI Friends,

As I imagine you do also, we believe that spaying and neutering dogs and cats is part of the answer to animal over-population and cruelty problems. And I think you'll be happy to know that many of your contributions to AKI have supported our partner organizations' sterilization campaigns.

Our partners spend--on average--$20 to spay a dog or cat and $15 to neuter. With your help, we can continue to support spay/neuter and other important initiatives of our partner organizations--for example, this Lilongwe SPCA rural clinic (above), during which pets who normally would never have a chance to see a vet are provided care, including sterilization. To continue to help AKI support these efforts, please visit the AKI website site, http://www.animal-kind.org/supportus.html or email me at karen@animal-kind.org. And please read below about the impact AKI donations have had and what we can continue to achieve.

While the number of sterilized animals is important, for our partner organizations, it's not all about reaching the magic number where populations stabilize or even decrease. A sterilization campaign in the poor countries where our partner
organizations work is an opportunity to provide lessons in animal care and kindness—as you can see from the pictures above of a Tanzania Animal Welfare Society Sterilization Campaign. AKI donors have helped make this TAWESO campaign possible (read more about TAWESO here, http://www.animal-kind.org/tanzania.html).

Sterilization campaigns can have unexpected results. They can teach humane lessons that last a lifetime. For example, I visited Kamwokya, a poor area of Kampala, eight years after our last spay/neuter campaign there (below, a sterilization campaign in Kamwokya in 2002). I met a woman who remembered me and told me her son used to watch us sterilize the dogs and cats in the area, and he now has dogs that he loves and protects and he teaches his children to be kind to the dogs. With support from AKI, the Uganda SPCA continues to provide spay/neuter in rural areas and in urban slum areas (read more about Uganda SPCA here, http://www.animal-kind.org/ugandaadvocate.html).

I think the best thing about sterilization campaigns is when children--often for the 1st time, see that our partner organizations take such good care of the animals during the clinics. The children in turn learn the message of animal care and kindness. I bet in this picture below from a Lilongwe SPCA vet clinic, we've won some animal welfare converts, and maybe even a budding vet or two.

(Read more about AKI's support for LSPCA here, http://www.animal-kind.org/malawigroup.html)

And in this Helping Hands for Hounds of Honduras spay/neuter clinic, I think some animal welfarists were born! (read more about HHHH here, http://www.animal-kind.org/honduras.html).

To help in our partner organizations' campaigns, AKI has funded the purchase of medicines and other vet supplies, stipends for vets, humane education material, and fuel to
get staff to rural areas where they conduct sterilization campaigns. We also have supporters who send sutures, syringes, gauze, and other supplies--items that are beyond value because they can't even be found in many of our partner organizations' countries. In the picture to the right, Bernard Chiomwe, a vet in Namibia, is conducting sterilization campaigns in Namibia's rural areas using funds and supplies donated by AKI. To read more about AKI support for Namibia's rural SPCAs, click here, http://www.animal-kind.org/nambiaadvocate.html.

In the end, it's all about the animals. As Deborah, with Kingston Community Animal Welfare can tell us--she's having all these dogs sterilized--22 adult dogs and 5 puppies living in this yard, who are cared for by a 92 year old woman, with help from Deborah who supplements the food. AKI is helping Deborah by providing funds and supplies to have these dogs sterilized and cared for. Just a few months ago, these dogs would have starved and died without Deborah's care and AKI donors' support. With your help we can continue to make a difference in the lives of animals.

Very Sincerely Yours,

Karen Menczer, Executive Director
&
the AKI Board

We send 100% of your donations to our partner organizations. We have no overhead.