

# KARUNA

## SOCIETY FOR ANIMALS AND NATURE

RECOGNIZED BY ANIMAL WELFARE BOARD OF INDIA  
*MRS. MANEKA GANDHI, HONORARY CHAIRMAN*

### ANIMAL RESCUE PROJECT

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## ACTIVITIES

### April 2002 – March 2003

**Animal Rescue Project** is a no-kill animal care center. We keep disabled animals and give them a protected life. We raise and nurse puppies until they are ready for adoption.

- ❖ **Medical care and nursing** free of cost for any suffering animal, whether inpatient or outpatient, stray or owned, large or small, wild or domestic. This year we treated 4,284 animals that received 45,156 treatments. At present there are 184 animals in our project to be nursed and fed. At present we have two part-time veterinary doctors who cover three days a week, plus emergencies and surgeries.
- ❖ **ABC program** (Animal Birth Control Program): These operations are for the reduction in the number of stray dogs. Since the beginning of Animal Rescue Project over 600 operations have been performed so far. (415 operations have been done between April 2002 and March 2003.) This summer we do not expect many puppies, which reduces a lot of suffering. Currently we had to stop performing the operations because the neighbors complained about the noise. We were lucky to receive 1,50,000 for the construction of an operation theatre in Karuna Sanctuary only for the ABC program and post-operative care.
- ❖ **Anti Rabies** vaccination: both treatment and prevention. In the last year 462 vaccinations have been given. In the last ten years no people have died from rabies in this area. However, once in a while “mad dogs” are seen and killed by local people. Dogs and cattle have been bitten. In most cases we have given post-rabies vaccinations. Though a few calves have died after the bite of a rabid dog, compared to other problems that animals are facing here, rabies is the least.
- ❖ **Adoption programs**: This year, 45 adult dogs and 13 puppies were adopted after recovery. Even eight donkeys found new owners.
- ❖ **Puppies**: Healthy pups (vaccinated for Rabies) are given away to farmers and other animal lovers. All puppies receive treatment when they fall ill. Although we have a lot of distemper and parvovirus, treatment is given till recovery or death. This year we have given 15,523 treatments to 608 puppies (in- and out-patients). 73 of these died a natural death and 22 were euthanised.

- ❖ **Holy Cow project** against cow slaughter and illegal and cruel transport: We visited Gorantla market and filed complaints with the police for cruelty to cattle. We distributed leaflets explaining the laws governing cattle transport. We stopped trucks for illegal transport and cruelty to cattle. We took 80 cattle into our custody at Karuna Sanctuary. Some of the rescued cattle provide labor and we use the urine and cow dung as manure to raise organic fodder. In the last year, 14 calves have been born to the cows and the buffaloes. Three buffaloes died for which we have post mortem reports. Court cases in Anantapur and Dharmavaram against the lorry drivers and cattle owners are underway, which takes a lot of our time and patience.
- ❖ **Donkeys:** In our Sanctuary we have 14 disabled or wounded donkeys. We picked them up from the road with wounds or they are brought to our attention in case of accidents.
- ❖ **Wildlife rescue:** permission has been granted for rescuing injured and illegally used wildlife. So far monkeys, deer, snakes, monitor lizards, painted storks, quails, and rabbits have been rescued, treated and released. We have one eagle with a broken wing permanently with us.
- ❖ **Animal sacrifices:** We are trying to receive a stay order from the High Court in Hyderabad to stop the animal sacrifices at Daduluru village and Kamavaripalli. We requested the police and District Collector to take action against animal sacrifices in the area. We distributed leaflets one week before the sacrifice and we pasted posters everywhere to create awareness against the sacrifice. We also tried to stop the sacrifice of a big pig in Chitravati road in Puttaparthi, in which we were not successful.
- ❖ **Educational programs:** Our Master trainer in animal welfare has given training on animal laws to 345 police officers in six districts. He also started animal welfare activities in 12 schools, to educate school children by organizing kindness clubs.
- ❖ **Draught relief program:** We have sent an application to the government for a 5-year draught-relief program. The objectives of this project are to raise fodder for five villages in 265 acres of government and private lands, to meet the fodder requirements of 2058 draught-affected cattle. In the summer of 2002, when there was severe draught in Pulivendla, we donated fodder for cattle for Rs. 100,000, and we handed it out so the animals would not be sent for slaughter.
- ❖ **Check-up** of pig breeding places and open slaughter: We write letters to the police and Health Department, bringing to their attention the extremely unhealthy conditions and surroundings of the pig breeding and open slaughter places.
- ❖ **Organic farming:** We grow fodder, ragi, rice and vegetables, and use them for the animals at the clinic. In the future, we will sell them and use the profits for animal care.

## Funding

- Our total cost to run the whole project this year was approximately 20 lakh rupees, including many small improvements, like the donkey paddock, improvement of the large animal shed floor, drinking troughs, new bullock cart, etc. (Auditor's report is yet to come.)
- We received Rs 18,800/-- from the Animal Welfare Board of India, Chennai, for medicines and maintenance.
- Our financial situation is quite desperate because we are still waiting for the Rs. 2,46,000/-- sanctioned to us by Animal Welfare Board of India for the upkeep of the cattle under court

order. In the last few weeks, we had to buy fodder for Rs 40,000 to cover the summer period for the 93 cattle in our sanctuary.

- We have applied for membership of WSPA, through which we hope to receive some financial assistance for rescued animals.

### **Plans:**

- First-aid Hospital for large animals
- An independent clinic for small animals in Puttaparthi/Enumulapalli
- Construction of separate operation theatre for ABC program
- Bio-gas plant
- Organic farming on a large scale
- Production of Spirulina to sell, in order to become more financially independent.