



## **For Immediate Release**

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## **80 OF THE "NAPLES 85" DOGS SIGNED OVER TO ONTARIO COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY**

### **ADOPTION IS NEXT STEP, BUT PROCESS WILL BE LENGTHY**

### **DONATIONS TO DATE REACH \$106,000 OF \$125,000 GOAL**

**HOPEWELL, N.Y., Wednesday, Aug. 21, 2019** — Eighty of the Naples 85 dogs have been surrendered to the Ontario County Humane Society and freed for adoption. The other five will remain in the care of the [Ontario County Humane Society](#) but continue to be the subject of ongoing litigation. The shelter will continue to push for custody of the remaining dogs.

"This certainly marks a monumental step closer to getting these dogs into loving homes," Ontario County Humane Society Shelter Manager Diane Faas said. "But this is not going to happen overnight. The dogs are still being treated, some for significant health issues. They're getting socialized and need to be spayed/neutered and microchipped before they can be adopted out. It will be several weeks to ensure the dogs are fit and ready for their loving homes and we identify qualified applicants to take them in."

The adoption process will take some time. Upon continued preparation of the dogs, the shelter now needs to process the 240 applications it received, identify qualified applicants and schedule a screening to meet the prospective owners. Qualified applicants will be selected in a lottery system to ensure a fair method.

Although the dogs have been surrendered, it does not relieve the original owners of their medical bills, thus the expense to spay/neuter, microchip, vaccinate, board, groom, feed and secure various veterinarian services for the Naples 85 is still placed on the Ontario County Humane Society.

The \$125,000 fundraiser will continue as the shelter applies the funds to cover each of the Naples 85's individual needs. Just over \$106,000 has been raised to date.

"This is a great day for us and especially for these dogs to finally get the love and life they deserve," Faas said. "This has been a community effort and we can't express how grateful we are to the community for the support and love that they've shown. More than 130 volunteer applications have come in, 240 foster and adoption applications, kids bringing their piggy banks in to help ... it's just amazing."

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For more information on the Naples 85, to donate, register to volunteer, adopt or foster, visit [ontariocountyhumanesociety.org](http://ontariocountyhumanesociety.org).

**ABOUT ONTARIO COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY**

Our mission is to reach out to our community to make our surroundings a better place for people and animals to live together. Focusing on dog and cat safety, care and education, we hope to improve our community for all. [ontariocountyhumanesociety.org](http://ontariocountyhumanesociety.org).