



For Immediate Release

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COMMUNITY RALLIES FOR "NAPLES 85" DONATIONS EXCEED \$133,000 of \$125,000 GOAL

All Funds Used Only for "Naples 85" & Shelter Cruelty Fund

Adoption is the Next Phase in the Rescue Mission

HOPEWELL, N.Y., Thursday, Aug. 22, 2019 — The saying goes, "It takes a village"... to raise a family. It also takes a village to provide the proper care and response necessary to take in 85 extremely sick terriers at once.

On Aug. 1, the Ontario County Humane Society fulfilled its duty to responsibly and compassionately take in the "Naples 85," but the resource strain was so spectacular that the shelter was forced to put out a call for support — and the community rallied. A lot. In less than three weeks of the "Naples 85" being seized, the outpouring of financial support tallies more than \$133,000.

The fundraising goal was set at \$125,000, as the Ontario County Humane Society calculated the cost for three months to continue treating the 85 dogs: \$15 a day per dog x 85 dogs x 90 days = \$114,750 + additional dollars for boarding, feeding, veterinarian care and more. Legal cases like this can take up to eight months, so the shelter prepared for the worst.

"We are just blown away by the tremendous support we've received," Ontario County Humane Society Shelter Manager Dianne Faas said. "We cannot begin to express how grateful we are. Each and every dollar will be used solely for the good of the dogs in this case and applied to future cruelty cases that come to us. Sadly, we'll endure this work again in the future."

On Aug. 20, 80 of the 85 dogs were surrendered, which allows the shelter to expedite the adoption process. Funds received are designated solely for the surgeries for the dogs freed for adoption, including spaying, neutering and other treatment required to get them well. Any remaining funds are earmarked for the remaining five dogs and the cruelty fund.

"Processing the 80 dogs freed for adoption is the next phase in this mission, and it's going to be several weeks to do so," Faas said. "Between the surgeries for the dogs, screening the more than 240 applications we've received, matching the healthiest dogs ready for immediate adoption with the best caregivers alone will be a tremendous undertaking."

(more)

The shelter will manage the adoption requests on a lottery system to ensure the fairest way to select the owners. Adoption forms will be accepted through Friday at midnight. A universal fostering/adoption form can be found on the shelter's homepage at ontariocountyhumanesociety.org. Anyone who still wants to apply can complete the form, write "Adoption" on the top of the form and it will be sorted properly.

The Ontario County Humane Society is respectfully requesting applicants not call the shelter about their application, as it will put an additional strain on volunteers and staff whose attention needs to be on the dogs at this time.

For more information on the Naples 85, visit ontariocountyhumanesociety.org or Facebook.

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.