

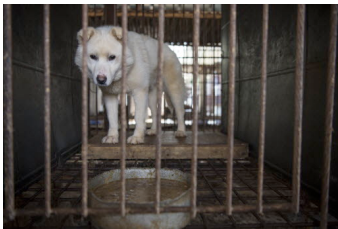


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AWA Joins Effort to Save Dogs Destined for Slaughter



B3-10 Jane- Depart 4/25
Meredith Lee/HSI



A3-6, A3-11, A3-8 (Mendy and
Cedric – depart 4/25) (L-R)
Meredith Lee/HSI



May 6, 2016

Voorhees, NJ: Animal Welfare Association (AWA) is drawing attention to the overseas dog meat trade by being a US partner adoption center for Humane Society International (HSI). More than 171 dogs were rescued by HSI's Animal Rescue Team. The dogs came from a dog meat farm in Wonju, South Korea. The case is part of an international effort to redirect farmers to pursue other economic activities and permanently end the farming of dogs for meat.

The farming of dogs is cruel. Dozens of dogs live in tiny wire cages that are two to three feet off the ground so their feces can fall through the wire. When they have gained enough weight to be profitable, they are transferred to smaller cages and driven to market. They are then displayed to buyers and killed.

"A decade ago when walking through Beijing, China, I cried when I turned the corner at a market to find a dozen 3' by 3' battery cages filled with puppies stacked six feet high and dead, skinned dogs waiting for butchering," says Maya Richmond, Executive Director of AWA. "I knew dog was on the menu at the hotel but tried to avoid thinking about how the dogs were farmed. To this day this terrible image has stayed with me. I couldn't be prouder that AWA believes "No-Kill" applies to all animals that face suffering on this scale."

The dogs were provided necessary veterinary attention so they were able to enter the United States. Once in the US, they are given additional medical attention before arriving at shelters like AWA that are able to provide the dogs with time to adjust, medical care and extensive behavior rehabilitation and training so they can be adopted. AWA is currently providing care to three dogs, Irving, Kermit and Hugh, and plans to assist more dogs in the coming weeks.

“We have to create a rehabilitation plan for each dog,” says Richmond, “so they learn that humans can be kind and learn things our dogs do like walk on a leash or sleep on a rug. We need to help them overcome any fear they may have after enduring so much.” AWA will provide them with the best medical and behavioral care possible. The dogs will be made available for adoption when they are ready. To learn more about AWA’s adoption center, visit www.awanj.org/adopt-homepage

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About AWA

Animal Welfare Association, a private, non-profit, 501(c) 3 animal welfare organization, serves the people and animals of southern New Jersey. AWA is dedicated to eliminating animal suffering, promoting the importance of the human-animal bond, and improving the role of animals in the well-being of people. Through a variety of programs including adoptions, veterinary services, pet therapy, and humane education, in 2015 over 23,000 pets were served through AWA programming. AWA is South Jersey’s leader in progressive companion animal care.