

770 DOGS

(TOTAL) RESCUED FROM
DOG MEAT FARMS SO FAR



A couple that had long run a dog meat farm in Wonju, near the site of the 2018 Olympics, asked HSI for help getting out of the industry.

Taking on institutional cruelty to dogs

It was a year of heart-rending cruelty and life-affirming progress. Across the United States and in many parts of Asia, The HSUS and HSI worked non-stop to protect dogs. We exposed the awful truth behind the puppies in pet store windows (or internet websites), helped shelter dogs at high risk of euthanasia find forever homes through Puppy Friendly Pet Stores, teamed with activists here and abroad to combat the cruel dog meat trade and protected hundreds of thousands of people and animals through our street dog welfare program. Our dog campaigns drove change at the local, state and national levels.

The case began with a call to our tip line (877-MILL-TIP), one of many tools we use to stop puppy mills. Onsite, it was

a horrific scene: sick and injured dogs with matted fur, standing in mud and feces. Chihuahuas sat in their empty food and water bowls, the only way to get relief from the pain of living in metal cages with no solid flooring. Other dogs paced next to decomposing bodies. A female German shepherd in a dirty barn got fresh air through a hole in the door; inside the barn, a pup too weak to stand crawled through debris and waste. Our Stop Puppy Mills Campaign staff and Animal Rescue Team helped the Madison County (Arkansas) Sheriff's Office and local groups save 295 animals that day.

The USDA shut down seven breeders we'd named in our annual "Horrible Hundred" reports. One was sentenced to a year in jail and banned from selling or owning dogs for at

least 10 years; we assisted in the case. Through our Puppy Friendly Pet Stores program, which converts stores from puppy sales to adoptions of homeless dogs, we have helped more than 9,000 dogs find homes. In New Jersey, our investigators linked pet stores to puppy mill breeders. Such exposés have helped prompt over 200 localities to ban or restrict retail sales of mill dogs, with Boston, Philadelphia and Las Vegas among the dozens that did so in 2016. Maryland banned puppy sales at flea markets and other outdoor areas.

Overseas, dogs caught in the meat trade suffer similar deprivations. In South Korea, dogs are “farmed” in horrendous conditions. In 2016, in addition to partnering with Free Korean Dogs to rehome 41 dogs from two meat farms, HSI shut down a farm in Wonju that had more than 250 dogs, helping the owner transition to a humane trade and transporting the animals to other countries for adoption. Media coverage of the dogs’ arrival attracted potential adopters to local shelters. It commanded attention in South Korea, too, and the city of Seongnam is now following our model, helping vendors in the country’s largest dog meat market convert to alternative trades.

In China, we rescued and cared for 175 dogs and cats bound for slaughter at the annual dog meat festival in Yulin. We provided funding to train officials for improved enforcement of laws and assisted local partners in rescuing more than 3,000 dogs and 3,000 cats from the meat trade, a sign of the growing animal welfare movement in Asia.

In fact, the greatest growth in our dog protection efforts this year happened in Asia, where HSI’s street dog popula-



In September, HSI vaccinated 3,948 dogs in Payatas, Philippines, with the support of the local government’s rabies eradication campaign. A large open dumpsite in Payatas attracts dogs.

tion management programs are helping propel a wave of government interest in spay/neuter and vaccinations. Rabies is a serious public health concern on the continent, particularly in India. In that country, animal birth control programs are swiftly taking root. In 2016, we helped spay or neuter about 52,000 dogs in Asia, most in India, and vaccinated some 225,000 more. We also sterilized another 15,000 dogs and cats in Latin America, including Guyana, Bolivia, Chile, Puerto Rico and Ecuador.

In Jamshedpur, India, where for over three years we ran a dog sterilization and vaccination program with Animal Help Foundation, we transferred control of the program to the local civic authority. With more than 20,000 dogs—nearly 80 percent—sterilized, street dog population levels are stabilizing and the animals are in better health.



Our 297 Emergency Placement Partners are lifesavers, taking in animals we rescue from cruelty. Thanks to trusted partners such as the San Francisco SPCA, San Diego Humane Society and D.C.’s Humane Rescue Alliance, who took in dogs from the dog meat trade, our rescued animals find forever homes.