

The Kohn Foundation
2007 Progress Report

SCHOLARSHIPS

We are pleased to introduce several new scholars to our pool of talented students from West End. Bionka Pedican, Romal Russell and Brittney Stubbs were each awarded a \$1,000.00 scholarship for the scholastic year 2007-2008. These scholarships may be renewed in the spring of 2008 based on the student's grades and attendance. The money pays for one semester at the College of the Bahamas in Freeport.

The other students who continue to be supported by The Kohn Foundation's scholarship program are Rashelle Lightbourne, Maressa Hanna, Sasha Williams, Alexis Nairn and Marquita Cooper. We renewed each one of their scholarships for the current year.

We are most pleased to announce that Sasha Williams will be graduating from Bethune Cookman College in April 2008 with full preparation to attend medical school to become a cardiologist. She plans on taking her medical school entrance exams shortly thereafter. Although Sasha is counting on a full-ride tuition offer from a U.S. medical school, we hope to provide limited financial support throughout her tenure. Our financial and moral support has greatly assisted Sasha these last several years.

We plan on personally interviewing these students at Old Bahama Bay during the Christmas vacation break on December 27th at 1:00 p.m. We hope to have live press coverage so that their college successes will be an inspiration to others in the West End Community.

ANIMAL WELFARE

In January 2007, the largest single spay/neuter clinic of its kind was held in Eight Mile Rock, Grand Bahama. An 18 member team comprised of 6 U.S. vets, vet techs, and volunteers worked tirelessly for 5 days at St. Stephen's Anglican Church in Eight Mile Rock. It was a tremendous success, with 253

sterilizations and 3 amputations performed in a make-shift surgery unit set up in the parish hall. Please visit the News and Events link on our website: www.TheKohnFoundation.org to see the wonderful pictures of the clinic.

The majority of the funding for the spay/neuter clinic was provided by a private individual from California who visited The Kohn Foundation website and was extremely moved by the large homeless, sick and starving animal population. She had been searching for a grassroots organization where her dollars would go straight to the source without any money being paid for administrative expenses or salaries for foundation employees. Since the Kohn Foundation is operated strictly by volunteers and does not dispense any funding internally, this was a perfect match for this individual. She traveled cross country, devoted a week of her time and personally attended the clinic, which she described as “life changing.”

A second major spay/neuter clinic was held in Pinders’ Point from November 10th-17th, which was also comprised of a large team of U.S. vets and helpers. A significant portion of the funding for this second clinic was provided by The Pegasus Foundation, a U.S. non-profit which supports Caribbean initiatives such as ours. The same individual who funded our first clinic is also contributing, along with many others who have learned about our animal welfare mission. Over 250 animals were sterilized. This second clinic was extremely well received by the local community, and set the precedent for future spay/neuter initiatives on Grand Bahama. The volunteer pool is increasing, as is local business support.

The combination of both these clinics has enabled the Humane Society of Grand Bahama to reduce the euthanasia rate from 95% to 75% in just six months. Additionally, the international welfare organizations are very impressed by the early successes of these clinics and have been asking us to share the data we collected during the clinics. We are extremely encouraged by the large numbers of sterilizations made possible by the two U.S. veterinary teams/technicians that volunteered their time.

WEBSITE

Our fledgling website has been completely overhauled and redone. Please visit www.TheKohnFoundation.org to see the fresh new face and updates. Our News and Events page will guide all visitors through our accomplishments. A brand new video of the foundation was recently added to the website. We welcome you to listen to its important message.