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Pet dogs get new custom homes

21 July 2010

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Pet dogs without adequate shelter in East End are benefiting from new kennels as part of the Home to Call My Own project, spearheaded by Cayman Animal Rescue Enthusiasts and funded by Ogier's Animal Welfare Fund.

Lesley Agostinelli of CARE said that the dogs in the district had been specifically targeted by the non-profit over the past few months. Mrs. Agostinelli, who works in East End, has been actively promoting a spay and neuter programme in the community.

During her lunch break, she delivers lunches throughout the district as part of the Community Meals on Wheels programme.

"This has given me a great opportunity to get to know the people of East End and also discuss the issues of pet over-population and how we can solve the problem by spaying and neutering", she said.

"The residents have been very receptive as the main issues for not previously spaying and neutering their pets was due to lack of transportation to the veterinary clinic and the cost of the surgery", she said.

Through CARE's fund-raising efforts and with the help of its volunteers and the assistance of the Island Veterinary clinic, more than 15 dogs in East End have been neutered.

Tracey Goldie, a member of Ogier's Animal Welfare Fund and a member of CARE, came up with the idea of the Home to Call My Own project after realising that several of the puppies that had been 'fixed' had no shelter in their yards.

With financial assistance from Ogier's Animal Welfare Fund, Ms Goldie contacted Ransdale Rankine at Northward Prison's woodwork shop and placed an order for four kennels. The custom-built shelters offer ventilation as well as protection from the elements. Another six kennels have been ordered. Owners who receive the kennels are encouraged to provide a donation to the project.

Transporting the kennels from the prison woodwork shop to East End and delivering them to each yard was the next hurdle. Fortunately for CARE, Androgroup offered to donate not only the use of one of their large pick-up trucks for the day, but also two Androgroup employees, David Goffe and Roger Hines, who spent a Saturday morning doing the bulk of the heavy work alongside CARE volunteers Ms Goldie, Mrs. Agostinelli and Alana Julie.

"It was a fantastic morning and despite the hard work involved, it was not only extremely rewarding, it was a lot of fun," Ms Julie said.

CARE, with the financial support of Ogier's Animal Welfare Fund, plans to roll out the Home to Call My Own project throughout Grand Cayman and is waiting for more kennels to collect.

According to the Department of Agriculture, a section of the Animal Law dealing with the protection of animals requires that owners provide adequate shelter for their dogs from the elements.



Alana Julie makes a fuss of one of the puppies.

Photo: Submitted

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Pet dogs get new custom homes
Posted by Animal enthusiast on 7/21/2010 8:30:32 AM

The people of Cayman need to be thankful they have an organisation like C.A.R.E out there doing such amazing work for the animals of Cayman, and all on a 100% volunteer basis. Come on everyone, give these people your support and donations - and a huge pat on the back for such a