

atlanta humane society

Animals Surrendered by Florida Shelter Headed to Atlanta

January 25, 2015 (Atlanta, GA) – Two animals removed from an overcrowded Florida shelter are making their way to the Atlanta Humane Society this Sunday, January 25th at noon.

Dozens of animals were surrendered to the ASPCA by the Sabbath Memorial Dog Rescue Center in Okeechobee, Florida in October. The shelter is a self-described no-kill rescue group that lacked sufficient resources and proper care. This led to the deterioration of the center and the conditions of the dogs. The shelter continues to operate with a more manageable number of dogs.

Upon their removal, animals were transported to various animal welfare agencies in over a dozen states where they received medical care and behavioral enrichment. Rescued animals were treated for a variety of conditions including skin conditions, parasites, ear issues and eye issues. The dogs are now ready for new homes and two will make their way to AHS. Parker is an 8-year-old male Lab mix. Chestnut is a 5-year-old Shepherd mix. Both would benefit from experienced dog owners.

Senior animals can prove more difficult to adopt as many potential adopters are in search of puppies and younger animals. Senior animals are often already crate trained, house trained, and current on all vaccinations. They also eat less and require less exercise.

Critics complain that by rescuing out-of-state animals, animal welfare agencies ignore those in need here at home. Tara High, VP of Operations at the Atlanta Humane Society explains it's really about helping to combat a bigger problem.

"Pet overpopulation is one of the biggest reasons animal welfare agencies exist. It's important we work with organizations like the ASPCA to help rural and overwhelmed shelters care for the dogs. Atlanta is home to countless animal welfare agencies, approximately 83 organizations exist in the greater Atlanta area alone. We are helping combat companion animal homelessness nationwide by reaching out to areas that don't have the resources that Atlanta shelters have. Furthermore, the ASPCA helps organizations across the country in times of need. When called upon to assist them, we will always do what we can."

For more information, contact media@atlantahumane.org



About Atlanta Humane Society

The Atlanta Humane Society is the oldest private charitable organization in Atlanta, founded in 1873. AHS places approximately 8,000 animals into forever homes each year. We are committed to finding homes for all adoptable pets. It is our **mission** to prevent neglect, abuse, cruelty and exploitation of animals and to assure that their interests and well-being are fully, effectively and humanely protected by an aware and caring society. We are proud to be a part of the solution to ending pet homelessness and overpopulation in the Southeast United States. For more, visit www.atlantahumane.org.