

# Capital Campaign – Case For Support



**As a leading not for profit organization, Denkai Animal Sanctuary** has provided assistance to more than 1,000 large and small domestic animals and over 300 community youth during the past four years. Currently, Denkai cares for approximately 150 animals in residence and countless others in foster care.

Every day, Denkai fights for the lives of animals in need, pregnant and nursing dogs that have been nearly **starved to death** by shelter workers. **Horses** that have seen the inside of a **slaughter plant** and lived to tell their tale, and a special **Miracle piglet**, who fell off of a truck in Iowa at the age of three weeks and was then run over by a car, left to die with a **broken back**. These animals are just a few of the many that we currently care for every day thanks to generous contributors.

## History:

Founded in May of 2004 by Floss Blackburn, Denkai Animal Sanctuary began with 25 animals on 15 acres with minimal facilities and a few volunteers. There were no large benefactors that started this organization, it has grown over the last three years through very hard work and hands on daily chores, sometimes lasting late into the evening. Thanks to a very dedicated group of volunteers who stayed with us through a very rough beginning, our sanctuary is now situated on 100 acres and includes large horse barns, a number of shelters and pasture, and we are caring for more than 100 animals. Denkai has actively operated using sustainable energies. Denkai has doubled its income in the past year, largely through our website. Individuals who have heard about our organization can log onto our website to learn more about our efforts, and can easily make monetary donations through Network for Good. Approximately 90% of our donors have never physically visited the sanctuary, and have learned about us by visiting our website, via media exposure, through mailings, events, fundraisers or through public outreach activities. Since inception, volunteers have logged more than 200,000 hours helping the animals and children at Denkai.

## Whom Served:

Denkai Animal Sanctuary is unique in that it aims to provide a combination of services for animals in need, at-risk youth, and environmental awareness. This will be accomplished through hands on educational opportunities.

## Sanctuary Resume:

- **December 2005:**

Denkai has assisted local animal control officers in Larimer County along with the State Veterinarian's Office with a neglect case regarding 5 miniature horses, a llama, and two pygmy goats by housing and caring for these animals.

- **June 2006:**

Facilitated the rescue of 200 cats from Cheyenne Animal Shelter in Wyoming to rescue groups throughout Colorado including: Fort Collins Cat Rescue, Flat Faced Friends Cat Rescue, Clear Creek County Animal Rescue

League, and Denkai Sanctuary. Cats were treated for Upper Respiratory Infection, spayed, neutered, tested for FIV/FELV and then homes were found for all.

- **November 2006:**

Transport to Hammond Louisiana, rescued 50 dogs and puppies, victims of Hurricane Katrina. All of these animals were successfully spayed, neutered, treated for heartworm, vaccinated and adopted into permanent homes.

- **April 2007:**

Denkai provided instruction and facilitation of the rescue of 33 "Miracle Horses" that were physically located in the Dekalb, Ill. Slaughter plant when it was closed due to a ruling in the supreme court. These horses were then shipped to Cheyenne Wyoming where Denkai worked hand in hand with officials from HSUS to facilitate this rescue and place these horses into rescue organization. The Sanctuary provided housing for seven of these horses, those who were in the worst shape with large wounds.

- **November 2007:**

San Diego Fire Disaster Response. Working together with Muttshack Animal Rescue, Sunshine Dogstar, and Animal House, Denkai rescued 63 dogs from the California disaster zone. Veterinarians from Fort Collins Animal Hospital and The Housecall Vet donated \$20,000 in veterinary care to these animals. Medical conditions included;

- **Paco**, an old Chihuahua with a heart murmur
- **Don Carlito**, an 8 month old Chihuahua with a hernia in which small intestines and one testicle had descended into his upper thigh area.
- **Daisy**, a 1 year old female Rottweiler, birthed her puppies one week after arrival to safety from the San Diego fires
- **Among other ailments:** Pneumonia, kennel cough, upper respiratory infections, chest cavity filling with blood.

All of these dogs and puppies have found loving, long lasting homes. One had to be euthanized due to a quality of life issue, blood filling her chest cavity.

- **February 2008:**

Rescue of 40 puppy mill puppies and dogs from the overpopulated areas of Oklahoma, Missouri and Kansas. These puppies were slated for euthanasia in high-kill shelters. We are still working to place them in lasting homes.

## **Need that Denkai Fills:**

There is an enormous need for longer-term shelter assistance for adoptable companion animals, as well as a holding facility for larger animals, as specified above. The American Humane Association states that 9.6 million animals are euthanized annually in the United States. According to statistics taken from the Metro Denver Shelter Alliance, 35,000 animals were euthanized in the state of Colorado in 2003. 56% of dogs and 71% of cats that enter animal shelters are euthanized. (More cats are euthanized than dogs because they are more likely to enter a shelter without any owner identification.) The number of animals euthanized nationwide will likely increase in the following two years. According to Roger Messick, Director of Weld County Humane Society, Weld County Humane Society took in 5,900 animals and euthanized 1,900 of those animals in 2004. In November of 2005, the Weld County Humane Society transferred

approximately 30 animals to other shelters or rescue groups in northern Colorado. Roger has since resigned and Elaine Hicks has taken his place as Director. Shelters in Wyoming, Georgia, Missouri, and Louisiana continue to use decompression chambers and carbon monoxide gas emissions from hooking a car up to a room/chamber to euthanize dogs and cats, even though law states that this is illegal. These helpless animals need a way out of a horrible situation.

Denkai has been successful in working with such shelters to take on the excess animals that would otherwise have been euthanized in such a manner. This has helped to reduce the number of unnecessary euthanizations due to overcrowding in shelters. Denkai has been instrumental in the development of educational programs that have been presented at area schools, at the sanctuary and at other mobile locations. These programs have included teaching compassion for animals and the environment along with planning for the future. For instance, [americanhumane.org](http://americanhumane.org) reports that between two and four pets are brought into just one Colorado shelter each month because their owner died and left no formal instructions as to the animal's care. We believe educating the public about the importance of spaying, neutering, vaccinations and preparing for the placement of a pet in the event of the owner's death will reduce overpopulation and overcrowding in shelters. The Sanctuary already has an established relationship working with low-cost spay and neuter clinics in the area. Residents in our rural area are at or below the poverty line and cannot afford the actual \$100.00 to \$400.00 cost of a neuter or spay surgery for their pet. Denkai, together with local humane organizations has been able to offer free and low-cost surgeries along with vaccinations and health checks for people in this income bracket.

Denkai houses more than 100 large animals at any given time. These animals have been victims of divorce, starvation, and beatings. Many of these animals have come to us through local law-enforcement, nationwide humane groups, other rescue and shelter organizations locally and nationwide, and owners that were no longer able to care for them. The Sanctuary has been instrumental in educating the local and national community regarding the plight of farmed animals and horses, the amount of feed, effort and care that goes into having such animals and the reasons for neglect, abuse or abandonment.

Through area youth programs, the sanctuary has helped to expose the pattern of abuse seen in humans when transferred from objects to animals, then on to people. Many of Denkai's animals have been subject to such a pattern in their past. Denkai works to prevent such abuses from happening through working with youth at-risk programs such as Turning Point of Fort Collins, Colorado and Weld County Mentors and Friends of Greeley, Colorado. Programs through Denkai help to teach compassion for animals, people and our environment. This paves the way to prevention of drug and alcohol abuse by encouraging these youth to become productive members of society through hands on activities at Denkai's facilities. Denkai has been influential in tutoring youth that would have otherwise dropped out of school due to academic hardship or problems at home. The Sanctuary has helped to house a homeless mother and her daughter along with their 8 horses and dog for a period of 30 days. They were able to successfully find a new home and care for their animals on their own. Their duties while living at the Sanctuary included helping to feed, water, and train horses in exchange for room and board.

### **Reputation for managerial and business expertise:**

Denkai Animal Sanctuary consists of a very talented and varied board of directors and advisors along with every day workers. Detailed resumes follow. Thanks to this group of talented individuals, the Sanctuary is set up to succeed and has been a leading influence both locally and nationally for other rescue organizations and individuals.

## **How This Furthers Denkai's Mission:**

Denkai Animal Sanctuary is set up to provide Sanctuary and rescue services to animals in need while working with our local youth enabling them to become productive members of our society. The Sanctuary has had plans over the last four years to operate in a sustainable manner, growing feed for the animals and operating our facilities through alternative energies.

This Grover property offers our Sanctuary the opportunity to further our goals and reach our maximum potential. The facility currently helps to pay for itself with the minimal funding that is already being generated through wheat crops and the Division of Wildlife's CRP program. Denkai is currently working with the United States Department of Agriculture regarding specialty crops and acting as an experimental facility for Sustainable Agriculture through crop production and use of wind turbines along with biomass fuels.

The goal over the next five years with this facility would be to continue adding sustainable buildings such as an office space, bunkhouses, a greenhouse, and more facilities for the animals such as barns, loafing sheds, and a cat house using passive solar designs and wind/solar energies.

This property would act as a holding facility for impounded animals due to neglect or abandonment issues with plenty of quarantine areas. This facility would allow housing and quarantine areas for all domestic animals, large and small, room for a veterinary clinic that will offer low-cost/free spay and neuter, vaccination and other veterinary care for large and small Sanctuary animals, low-income individuals and other rescue organizations in need. We envision extra housing units for guests, interns and youth that will be staying at the Sanctuary along with large barns, loafing sheds, and dog housing that will consist of yards for each set of dogs with a home-like atmosphere indoors; Couches, rugs and toys are not out of the question here!

Securing a permanent location for Denkai Animal Sanctuary is of the utmost priority and until we are able to fill this need, we cannot operate to our full potential.

The following financial information pertains to Denkai's 2007 income and expenses and the projected income and expenses for 2008 at the Grover Facility. This property will provide for an increase in income to the Sanctuary through grant making opportunities not currently available at the present facility. The Sanctuary will be able to take in more than double the number of pet animals in need and re-home them through mobile adoptions at facilities such as PetSmart in Fort Collins, CO, also drastically increasing our funding through adoption fees. Production and harvesting of wheat crops that are currently planted on the Grover facility will offer excess income this fall along with payments from the Division of Wildlife's Conservation Reproduction program on an annual basis equaling \$5,500.00. With this facility comes the acquisition of all mineral rights and equipment needed to farm and harvest the fields along with plenty of storage for the wheat crops.

Knowledge and expertise in farming this property will come in the form of Ray Reichley, current property owner. This land has been in his family since 1914. Ray has been farming wheat and other crops on this property since the age of 12 when his father passed and he took on the care of the property. Ray has agreed to walk Denkai through all of the equipment, farming practices, meeting of the neighbors whom he works in cooperation with equipment to harvest crops, and working the land together with Sanctuary workers over the next five years.

## Financial Information:

The projected income and expenses for the Grover facility includes several items that are donated in-kind such as salaries for the Director, Kennel Manager, Farrier, Feed for animals such as dog and cat food, and a percentage of veterinary bills. Though the Director, Kennel Manager and Farrier would eventually benefit from a small salary, they all feel it is important that the animals are cared for first. None of these individuals have had a salary since the Sanctuary's inception in 2004; this work is for the love of the animals in need. Workers are housed on site. The goal for 2009 is to begin implementing small salaried positions for the above mentioned positions.

Donations and income to Denkai Animal Sanctuary have increased from \$163,000 in 2006 to close to \$250,000 in 2007 and are projected to reach close to \$300,000 by the end of 2008. These figures include foundation support, cash and in-kind contributions to Denkai. ***The Sanctuary is and remains debt free due to generous contributions from other corporations, foundations and caring individuals in our nationwide community.*** All equipment including vehicles, tractors, tools, and trailers are donated. Repairs on this equipment have also been donated. Major contributors include:

- ASPCA
- Western Summit Constructors
- DCP Midstream
- The Summerlee Foundation
- Avrum Katz Foundation
- PetSmart Charities
- Petco Foundation
- The Chinn Family Foundation
- Houston, TX Community Foundation
- Humane Society of the United States