

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Huge Rescue Undertaking Saves Tiny Georgia Shelter from Having to Euthanize Homeless Dogs
*Community Asked to Support #ProjectEmptyShelter with Contributions of Compassion***

ALPHARETTA, GA. APRIL 25, 2016:

Angels Among Us Pet Rescue, Inc. (Angels Rescue), based in the Atlanta area, will send a volunteer caravan today, Monday, April 25, 2016, to rescue 15 dogs from Barnesville Animal Control. The lifesaving mission has been labeled, “#ProjectEmpty Shelter” and marks the organization’s largest, single-day rescue operation this year.

Keith Bass, Executive Director of Angels Rescue, will be leading the caravan Monday morning. “Every time one of the compassionate shelter advocates contacts our organization with a plea for help like this one, we immediately pause. One simple glance at the faces inside the cages reminds us daily of the importance of our work and the need for community involvement. Tossed away, these animals are often faceless, nameless, and hopeless.”



Because Angels Rescue has committed to save so many animals, the shelter no longer faces an imminent need to euthanize this week. Barnesville Animal Control is a small shelter in rural Georgia that does not have the capacity to handle large multitudes of dogs and cats. The tiny cement building gets very limited help and relies heavily upon groups like Angels Rescue to help minimize the euthanasia rate there. As many as 300,000 dogs and cats are killed each year in shelters throughout the state of Georgia, many of which are adoptable and whose deaths are the direct result of limited animal welfare legislation, lax spay/neuter laws, and euthanasia practices that, in some counties, are chosen based upon cost with little, if any, consideration about whether or not the manner in which the animals are killed is humane or even ethical.

Volunteer transporters for Angels Rescue will drive more than five hours today to pull the dogs to safety. The caravan plans to arrive at the shelter, 300 Mill Street, Barnesville, GA, at 10 a.m. Volunteers will stay on site for several hours. Each animal will enjoy a freedom walk as volunteers personally escort them out of the tiny building, one by one. Barnesville City Manager, **Kenny Roberts**, will be on site to greet the caravan, as will the shelter’s one employee who, with the help of a tireless volunteer, is responsible for everything at the shelter and the care of the animals housed there. Once the building is clear, the caravan will head north and all rescued animals will be brought straight to an approved vet for intake exams, medications, a bath, and whatever surgeries, treatments, etc., are needed.

When asked about the operation, founding angel **LuAnn Farrell** commented, “We first began working with this shelter several years ago. They have our utmost respect for all they do with very limited resources. We have given the shelter every confidence that the dogs and cats pulled to safety by our rescue will all receive top-notch medical care and will go on to find amazing homes.”

Several of the dogs who have been rescued are dealing with health issues, including life-threatening heartworm disease. **The cost of this undertaking could easily reach, or exceed, \$10,000.** Tax-deductible donations from the community are welcomed and encouraged. To make a lifesaving gift, supporters can visit www.angelsrescue.org/donatenow, or send a check to: **Angels Among Us Pet Rescue, PO Box 821, Alpharetta, GA 30009.**

PROJECTED TIMELINE - #PROJECTEMPTYSHELTER

To coordinate on-site press coverage of this major rescue operation, members of the media are invited to join the caravan for live film footage, photos, on-air interviews, etc. An overview of projected times for interviews/film coverage/photos follow:

Freedom Walk for Animals Saved

Barnesville Animal Control

Monday, April 25, 2016

10 a.m. – noon

300 Mill Street, Barnesville, GA

Available to Film/Interview: City Manager Kenny Roberts, Angels Rescue volunteers, transporters, imagery of shelter pets being pulled to freedom.

Animals Saved Arrive at Intake Vetting Offices

Chattahoochee Animal Clinic

Monday, April 25, 2016

2-5 p.m.

1176 Alpharetta Street

Roswell, GA

Available to Film/Interview: Angels Rescue volunteers, veterinary partners, imagery of shelter pets being pulled to freedom, etc.

Peachtree Corners Animal Clinic

Monday, April 25, 2016

2-5 p.m.

4020 Holcomb Bridge Road

Norcross, GA

Available to Film/Interview: Angels Rescue volunteers, veterinary partners, imagery of shelter pets being pulled to freedom, etc.

VCA Pets are People, Too

Monday, April 25, 2016

2-5 p.m.

4280 N Peachtree Road

Chamblee, GA

Available to Film/Interview: Angels Rescue volunteers, veterinary partners, imagery of shelter pets being pulled to freedom, etc.

Angels Among Us Pet Rescue is a 501(c)3 non-profit, volunteer-based organization dedicated to the rescue of dogs and cats from high-kill shelters in Georgia. The organization operates through a network of foster homes in the vast metro-Atlanta area. The organization has rescued more than 10,000 dogs and cats, many from death row, since being established in 2009. Because Angels Rescue does not operate a facility, animals pulled into the program rest and recover in personal foster homes.

To learn how you can donate to the operation or foster or adopt an angel pet, please log onto www.angelsrescue.org, or follow the group on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/angelsrescue>. The organization's motto is to, "Rescue One Until There are None."