



SPECIAL HOLIDAY APPEAL

Please help us to continue to fight for the animals!

Dear Friend of the Alliance:

The Alliance was established to give a **voice to the animals** before our state legislators and government officials in an effort to enact laws to protect animals from abuse and neglect with a special emphasis on addressing the shameful puppy mill problem in Missouri. Our mission from the start included advocacy work to ensure the *effective enforcement* of our laws and regulations protecting the animals.

Thanks to your generous support the Alliance has achieved many major accomplishments for the animals over the past years and we take great satisfaction in the numerous animal protection laws that we are responsible for enacting.

Without a doubt, the Alliance has drastically changed the environment for animals in Missouri and has helped to make the state a more humane place for animals.

One of our most gratifying achievements was the passage of the Canine Cruelty Prevention Act which has closed down hundreds of puppy mills in Missouri. According to statistics from the Missouri Department of Agriculture, there are now **50,000 fewer breeding dogs** confined to a lifetime of misery in a puppy mill and **over 300,000 fewer puppies being churned out every year in Missouri mills.**

Unfortunately, this past legislative session there was an all-out assault on Missouri's animal welfare laws which threatened to undo much of our past successes on behalf of the animals. The Alliance was fortunately able to defeat over a dozen bills that would have seriously weakened our existing anti-cruelty laws and undermine the welfare of animals in the state. **With your support** we were able to triumph over the puppy millers, the cattlemen, and other agricultural trade groups that exploit animals solely for monetary gain.

One of our more pressing concerns has been the failure of the Missouri Department of Agriculture (MDA) to refer inhumane dog breeders to the Attorney General's office for legal action. Regrettably, MDA has been turning a blind eye to cruel and unscrupulous dog breeders despite the severity of the violations and the number of dogs suffering from lack of veterinary care.

Our efforts are making a difference as some of the worst dog breeders in the state have finally been referred to the Attorney General's Office for legal action. These referrals came about as a result of our efforts in publicizing these atrocities and garnering editorials in both the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* and the *Springfield News-Leader* and as a result of our meeting with Governor Parson and in follow-up meetings with his staff.

In response to the failure on the part of the U. S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to effectively enforce the federal Animal Welfare Act (AWA), **the Alliance has employed a federal lobbyist.** We have been lobbying Congress to request that the Office of Inspector General (OIG) audit USDA in an effort to expose USDA's malfeasance regarding its lack of enforcement of the AWA especially with regard to puppy mills.

I am pleased to report that our efforts have succeeded. We have recently been informed that the OIG has placed USDA on their 2019 priority list for a performance audit to assess USDA's failure to enforce federal laws on puppy mills.

This is significant as a similar audit by the OIG in 2010 resulted in significant improvements in enforcement by USDA.

It is for the above reasons that it is critical that the animals have a **voice** with our lawmakers and government officials.



Please help the Alliance to continue to be the voice of the animals.

The Missouri Legislature will be coming back into session soon and once again the Alliance will be the prominent voice for the animals at our state capitol and the sole organization lobbying in Jefferson City on a full-time basis to protect the animals.

Please help us continue our important work for the animals this coming session. We have achieved monumental progress for the animals over the past years and especially towards ending puppy mill cruelty in Missouri. **This has only been accomplished because the animal had a presence at the Capitol.**

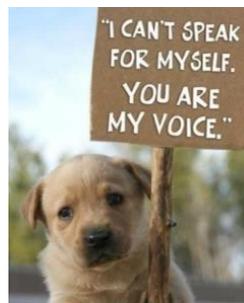
We very much need your financial support to maintain our advocacy efforts in Jefferson City as well as in Washington and to give a voice to the animals before our lawmakers and government officials. Please consider a donation today to *help us help the animals.*

Thank you for your consideration of this request and for all that you do for the animals.

Sincerely,

Bob Baker

Bob Baker
Executive Director
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HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE ALLIANCE

YES! I want to help the Missouri Alliance continue its important work in advancing animal legislation in the state of Missouri!

Enclosed is my gift to help protect all animals:

\$150 \$100 \$50 \$35 Other

Check enclosed made payable to Mo Alliance

Charge my credit card: **MC Visa Amex Dscvr**

Name _____

Card # _____

Address _____

Exp Date _____ CVV _____ (back of card)

City/State/Zip _____

Email _____

Due to our IRS lobbying status, donations are not tax-deductible.

Questions? Contact us at 314-361-3944 or admin@maal.org