

10/13/05 Update from Carrie Ward:

Julie and I arrived around noon on Friday and drove to Camp Katrina in Tylertown (Louisiana Humane Society), where we immediately began working.

At Tylertown the biggest problem was folks trying to steal dogs for fighting rings. Volunteers were constantly on the lookout with bullhorns and walkie talkies. No dogs were stolen while we were there however, but there were several attempts. We need to get the pit bulls out of there. The pit bull rescue was supposed to come when we were there, but I never saw them.

The animals kept arriving every evening and some of Winn Dixie's overflow was released to Tylertown folks as well. As Tylertown seemed to have things well enough under control with supplies and volunteers, we went on to the Mutt Shack in New Orleans. Babs had already dropped off generators and supplies there.

The Mutt Shack seemed to be organized, but they are still with out power. Dogs and cats are still being rescued every day. They also have birds, fish, snakes, and others. Generators helped run aquariums lights and fans. Rescue organizations were taking the dogs to places all over the country for fostering. Some reunions occurred but they were few and far between.

The National Guard was very helpful and had set up a tanker truck full of running water so that we could bathe the dogs and cats that needed it. They even brought us their left over chow so we had decent food if you stopped long enough to eat it.

At the Winn Dixie site we took some supplies and \$ off for water and other essentials. They seemed to be in the worst shape of anywhere we went. They only had one vet and seemed completely unorganized and the animals were not happy. I just took it upon myself to find a job and do it. No one really appointed me to anything. I ended up doing vet work because I popped my head in the vet rooms and asked if they needed me.

If you know anyone ready to volunteer, they need to be "go getters", not "wait to be tolds." It is even hard to nail down someone who will stop and explain to you what is going on. I think because of this, many dogs were left in their crates and not walked as often as they needed because the volunteers thought someone else might have already walked them.

Mutt Shack and Winn Dixie still need: Volunteers; Small refrigerators; Small generators (especially the WD); Gallon H2O; Gatorade; Office Supplies; Duct tape, Scissors, and Can openers.