

# Buddhists rescue dogs from Katrina aftermath

The Kunzang Palyul Choling Buddhist center is doing their part to help animals who have been affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Eleven members of the KPC have been volunteering in the Gulf Coast area to save abandoned animals.

KPC members have currently helped rescue 20 dogs from the devastated Gulf region, according to a news release.

In addition, KPC made arrangements for the airlift of 94 dogs from the region to the Humane Society in Marin County, Calif.

At the direction of Jetsunma Ahkon Lhamo, KPC's spiritual director, plans are in progress to

create and oversee a network of Buddhist communities to provide rapid-response relief for future disasters, with an arm dedicated specifically to animal rescue.

She is currently heading an effort to airlift 160 dogs and two dozen cats to KPC's 150-acre retreat facility in the Tonto National Forest for treatment and rehabilitation.

As part of the Buddhist relief effort, Dr. Pema Mallu, of Sedona, has been the primary veterinarian on-site at the Best Friends shelter at the St. Francis Sanctuary in Tylertown, Miss., where hundreds of animals have been taken.

KPC is seeking community support to provide for the animals

while efforts are underway to reunite them with their owners or place them in new homes.

Items are needed to provide for every phase of their recovery, from materials for shelter, food, transport vehicles, medical supplies and even toys for the animals.

Veterinarians' services are also needed to help with the medical treatment of the rescued animals, as well as carpenters, foster homes and individuals who wish to help with daily caretaking of the animals. KPC is a 501(c)(3) organization.

For more information or to become involved, call Ani Palmo at 203-0781 or 282-5195 or visit [www.buddhistrelief.org](http://www.buddhistrelief.org).