Dear Friends:

I am happy to provide our first annual report to you, which details Animals’ Angels work & accomplishments for 2011. Without your generous help and support our work would not have been possible. I want to take a moment to thank you personally from the bottom of my heart.

The past year has been a busy one for Animals’ Angels. We have increased our investigations significantly, our teams travelled 29,000 miles across this nation, we filed countless complaints against individuals violating animal protection laws and exposed animal cruelty. We told the animals’ stories, touched the lives of many animals and they at the same time touched our hearts and gave us the strength to carry on our work.

Inside this report, you will find a recap of our work in 2011; Information about our investigations, our accomplishments, our goals for 2012 and pictures of some of the animals we encountered this year and that will stay with us in our hearts forever.

Everything included in this report is a direct result of your support and help. Without you as our partners and friends we would not be able to let the world know of the suffering our animal friends endure each and every day. Without your support, we would not be able to seek justice for them and improve conditions. You are our life blood, and are just as important as our investigators in the field. Once again, thank you so much for everything you have done and I look forward to your continued support in 2012. Together we can make a difference for the animals!

Sincerely,

Sonja
2011 Key Accomplishments

- Animals’ Angels undercover investigations exposed horrific abuse of horses, pigs, dogs, birds and cows. Our team conducted 123 investigations in 13 states over the course of 145 days.

- Our documentation of the hidden trade with race horses led to felony cruelty charges being filed against the offender.

- Our meeting with auction management and local authorities in Sugarcreek, OH led to significant improvement of one of the most notorious slaughter horse auctions in the country.

- Our intervention saved two former race horses from a gruesome death at a Canadian slaughter plant. The horses were returned to the relieved owners.

- Evidence from our undercover investigations resulted in charges being filed against a PA livestock auction.

- Our awareness campaign gathered 34,000 petitions against animal abuse & for better enforcement of animal protection laws.

- Our work resulted in a record fine of $171,000 against slaughter horse trader Leroy Baker. The Ohio Northern District Court ordered garnishment of his wages.

- Executive Director Sonja Meadows was invited to speak at the 1. Equine Welfare Alliance Conference in Alexandria, VA.

- Our footage was used in two fantastic anti horse slaughter documentaries – “Saving America’s Horses” and “Wild Horses in Winds of Change”
EXPOSING CRUELTY & PROTECTING ANIMALS

Our undercover investigations bring the horrible abuse that farm animals face every day across the United States to light. No matter how remote the location, how dangerous the situation and how hostile the environment – our investigators are “there with the animals” to document the abuse and to hold offenders accountable in the court of law.
IMPROVING CONDITIONS & ADVOCATING CHANGE

The treatment of non-ambulatory animals ("downers") at auctions & during transport remains a huge concern.

We have developed a downer cow manual, that provides a protocol to auction management on preventing a cow becoming a downer, what steps are needed to care for a downer, and when and how to euthanize a downer cow. A lot of work and time has gone into developing this manual and we have started to present the manual to auction owners and representatives from industry. The manual requests that water & food is provided at all times and that a special pen for recovery is available for the animals.

Additionally, we have continued pressing auction owners across the country for better conditions & handling of all animals. (Example: Sugarcreek Auction, OH)
CREATING AWARENESS

Creating awareness is a very important part of our work against cruelty and abuse. In 2011, Animals’ Angels work was featured in 24 newspaper articles and our footage was used in 2 fantastic anti-horse slaughter documentaries.

We also produced our first professional anti horse slaughter film called “A Horse’s Nightmare”, which is used widely to educate about the atrocity of the horse slaughter trade.

Animals’ Angels Executive Director Sonja Meadows spoke at the Equine Welfare Alliance Conference about the horrors involved in the horse slaughter industry.
GOALS FOR 2012

- Increase the number of investigations and the number of states visited. The more we are able to send our investigators out in the field, the more animals we will be able to help. In 2012, we would like to conduct at least 140 investigations.

- Investigate the wild horse situation. Our wild horses are disappearing and the BLM has scheduled even more round-ups for 2012. We want to investigate where these horses are being transported and what happens to them.

- Investigate long distance transports to the export pens at the Southern border. USDA enforcement in this area is virtually non-existent; our documentation of the poor conditions will help pressure for improvement.

- Conduct long term and continuous investigations of the worst auctions, feedlots and individuals in order to show patterns and gather evidence to force authorities to act.

- Acquire more investigators. We have a small staff of 2 full time and 4 volunteer investigators which work around the country. In addition, the full time investigators also handle all of the admin work that is necessary to make Animals’ Angels compliant with every states’ business requirements. While I am very proud that such a small group of people manages to do all the hard and wonderful work they do, I also know that with more investigators we could help even more animals.

- Start a program titled “Auction Angels”. This program will fund volunteers to attend the worst auctions and provide care to at risk animals. While the volunteers have donated their time, we will need to provide supplies and equipment.
Financial Report for 2011

Program Expenses 74%

Fundraising 23%

Management 3%

2011 Ending Net Assets $118,060

Animals’ Angels is a 501 c 3 nonprofit organization, all donations are tax deductible. All our financial statements are audited by an independent auditor and can be reviewed at www.guidestar.org

Animals’ Angels received the Guidestar Seal of Excellence for our commitment to transparency

Organization Info

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Board of Directors:
Sonja Meadows – President & CEO
Keith Meadows - Treasurer
Brandi Turner– Vice President
Wendy Kowal – Secretary