

# Baark! neuters 101 pets in Mangrove Cay!



●ANIMAL LOVERS: Some of the Baark! volunteers with Mangrove Cay residents and their pets at the clinic



●MAN'S BEST FRIEND: A young man carries his dog into the clinic



●HARD-WORKERS: Vets Dr Kwesi Smith and Dr Dwight Dorsett with Baark! volunteers and Mangrove Cay residents at the clinic

★ **BAARK's** (Bahamas Alliance for Animal Rights and Kindness) outreach to the Family Islands continued with a clinic held in Mangrove Cay, Andros.

On the heels of the extremely successful "Operation Potcake" in New Providence in January, Baark! extended its efforts to host a low-cost spay and neuter clinic in *Little Harbour, Mangrove Cay*.

During Operation Potcake, *Lionel Rolle* of Mangrove Cay approached Baark! volunteers about the animal overpopulation in the settlement. He asked for assistance. Following the success of previous Baark! clinics in Fresh Creek and Cargill Creek, Andros, travelling south to Mangrove Cay was a perfect fit to Baark!'s continued efforts in Andros.

*Rick Goodlander*, an Andros resident, shared: "It is so great putting together these clinics and seeing the community members partnering with Baark! by donating accommodation, lunches, transport and a clinic site. People who had their pets spayed or neutered contributed what they could afford towards the costs."

The goal of 60 sterilizations was impressively exceeded. *Dr Dwight Dorsett* of *Nassau Pet Clinic* was extremely pleased with the results: "In total we spayed and neutered 101 dogs and cats. A combination of stray and owned pets."

One of the positive impacts of spay and neuter clinics is the educational benefits. *Dr Kwesi Smith* of *Marathon Pet Clinic* added: "People spend a lot of time with us at the clinic, observing what we do. It's great when the kids of the community come down and check out what is going on. It is an opportunity for them to learn about animal care and having compassion towards dogs and cats."

Captain *Joshua Green* of Mangrove Cay, who adopted a puppy that Baark! volunteers had found over the weekend stated: "Watching you guys throughout the weekend, and seeing the love you all have for the animals has changed my point of view." He also thanked Baark! for coming to help the community, saying: "This is the best thing to happen on Mangrove Cay for a very long time."

Baark! is continuing its Family Island spay/neuter campaign outreach with clinics scheduled for *Eleuthera this month* and *San Salvador in May*. Baark! feels strongly about assisting the Family Islands, especially those that do not have access to a vet on a regular basis. Through spay, neuter and education, we can attain a day when animals no longer suffer in The Bahamas.

As Baark! relies solely on donated funds, they are hosting the *first annual Purple Paws Live Auction* to raise money on *April 27* at the *Ocean Club Estates Beach Club*.

Chairman of Baark!, *Laura Kimble*, is very excited about the event: "We are bringing in a professional auctioneer from Florida and amazing prizes are going to be up for the taking. We'll have a range of values so everyone can participate in the bidding!"

Baark! encourages all pet owners to spay/neuter both their dogs and cats. Baark! can help with financing or transportation for low-income families.

If you would like to learn more, volunteer or ask questions, visit their website: [www.baarkbahamas.org](http://www.baarkbahamas.org) or call tel: 427-SPAY (7719).



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