NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND MARKETS
DIVISION OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY
10B AIRLINE DRIVE, ALBANY, NY 12235

SHELTER INSPECTION REPORT - AI-SIR

Rating: **Non-Compliant Critical - 7**

Purpose: **Inspection**

DATE/TOA: **3/3/26 10:45 am**

License No.: Expiration Date:

HELPING HOUNDS DOG RESCUE
7268 CASWELL ST
SYRACUSE NY 13212

Inspector #: **847**
Inspector #: **64**

These are the findings of an inspection of your facility on the date(s) indicated above:

Agriculture & Markets Law - Article 26C - Regulation of Animal Shelters

A. General Facility Standards

1. Facility Article 26 C, §424.1 — Satisfactory

2. Surfaces Article 26 C, §424.2 — General Deficiency

The surfaces of floors and walls of facility where animals come in contact with are not impervious and are in need of minor repair.

Article 26 C; Section 424.1 All indoor building surfaces in direct contact with animals must be constructed of materials that are impervious, non-porous, non-toxic, and able to withstand regular cleaning and disinfection.

3. Power/Water Article 26 C, §424.3 — Satisfactory

4. Sinks Article 26 C, §424.4 — Satisfactory

5. Temperature Article 26 C, §424.5, 6 — Satisfactory

6. HVAC Maintenance Article 26 C, §424.7 — Satisfactory

7. Ammonia Article 26 C, §424.8 — Satisfactory

8. Isolation Article 26 C, §424.9; 425.8 — Satisfactory

9. Sound Article 26 C, §424.10 — General Deficiency

No record of completed sound log.

Article 26 C, Section 424.10
Each animal shelter must use a decibel-meter at minimum of once weekly to measure the level of sound in the kennels during cleaning and resting times. A record of measurements logging the date, times, measurement, and location, at feeding and resting times must be maintained by the shelter.

10. Lighting Article 26 C, §424.11 — Satisfactory

11. Drainage and Waste Article 26 C, §424.2; 425.3, 16 — Satisfactory

12. Pest Control Article 26 C, §424.12 — General Deficiency

No written pest control plan.

Article 26C, Section 424.12: Animal shelter must maintain a written plan for pest and vermin control.

13. Drop Box Article 26 C, §424.13 — Satisfactory

B. Animal Housing

1. Primary Enclosure Article 26 C, §425.1, 3, 10, 12; 424.2 Critical Deficiency

Primary enclosure does not allow normal postural adjustments. Primary enclosure does not allow movement without encountering bowl, or beds.

Article 26C, Section 425.1, 3, 10, 12, Article 26C, Section 424.2
Primary enclosure shall provide sufficient space to allow normal postural adjustments, fully stretch body and have sufficient room to circle, lie down, and stand upright without head or tail touching sides of enclosure even in the presence of food or water bowls, beds, litter boxes, and other normal cage objects.

2. Group Housing Article 26 C, §425.5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 14 Satisfactory

3. Whelping Box Article 26 C, §425.8 (b) Satisfactory

4. Outdoor Housing Article 26 C, §425.2, 15, 16 Satisfactory

5. Identification Article 26 C, §431.2 (d), (v) Satisfactory

C. Sanitation

1. Sanitation Article 26 C, §426.1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11; 428.1 (e) General Deficiency

Dedicated cleaning and disinfecting equipment not available for separate housing areas.

Article 26C, Section 426; 428.1 Dedicated equipment for cleaning and disinfecting for use in each separate area. ie: isolation, holding area, adoption area.

2. Outdoor Enclosures Article 26 C, §426.9 Satisfactory

D. Shelter Management and Animal Husbandry

1. Number Housed Article 26 C, §425.12; 427.2,3 Satisfactory

2. Observation Article 26 C, §428.1; 427.4 Satisfactory

3. Food and Water Article 26 C, §428.1 General Deficiency

Observations not recorded.

Article 26 C, Section 425.2
Observations must be recorded at feeding time.

4. Restraint Article 26 C, §428.2 (a), (b), (c) Satisfactory

E. Behavior

1. Routine Care and Handling Article 26 C, §430.1, 2, 3 Satisfactory

2. Exercise and Enrichment Article 26 C, §430.4 (a), (b), (c), 5 General Deficiency

Daily exploration for dogs is not documented. Additional enrichment not documented for all animals.

Article 26 C, §430.4 (a), (b), (c), 5
Additional measures for enrichment and stress reduction shall be implemented and documented for any animal showing persistent hiding, hostile interactions, reduced activity, depression/social withdrawal, barrier frustration or aggression, self-injurious behavior, repetitive non goal-oriented movement or stereotypic behaviors.

3. Behavior Evaluations Article 26 C, §430.6, 7 (a), (b) General Deficiency

Behavioral evaluation history not disclosed. Behavioral evaluations not performed by trained staff; not documented for all animals.

Article 26 C 430.6, 7 (a), (b) Documentation of every behavior evaluation performed shall be added to record. At time of animal's transfer, shelters must disclose all available information regarding behavior of animal. This shall include (but not limited to) prior history, observed behavior in shelter, results of behavioral evaluations.

F. Transportation

1. Vehicle Article 26 C, §431.1 a-f	Satisfactory
2. Vaccinations Article 26 C, §431.2 (d), (i-vi1)	Satisfactory
3. Health Certificates Article 26 C, §431.2 (d), (iv) 3	Critical Deficiency

Health certificate not supplied with animal transported.

Article 26 C, Section 431.2 (d), (v)
Health certificates shall accompany each animal during transport and be completed and signed by a licensed veterinarian.

4. Visual Identification Article 26 C, §431.2 (d), (v)	Satisfactory
5. Destination Shelter Contact Article 26 C, §431.2	Satisfactory
6. Animal <1 year not from USDA Breeder Article 26 C, §431.5	Satisfactory
7. Mandatory Holding Period Article 26, §384.1; 384.2	Critical Deficiency

Animals brought into New York, do not have a documented 48 hour holding period prior to adoption.

Article 26 C, §384.1, §384.2
Animals must be held a minimum of 48 hours after arrival in NYS before being adopted.

G. Record Keeping and Protocols

1. License Status Article 26 C, §421.1 Satisfactory

2. License Displayed Article 26 C, §421.4 Satisfactory

3. Required Training Article 26 C, §422 Satisfactory

4. Unique Animal Identifiers Recorded Article 26 C, §423.1,2 General Deficiency

Identification not recorded.

Article 26 C, Section 423
Each animal shelter shall examine every animal upon intake for unique identifiers that would allow for reunification with the animal's owner.

5. Record Requirement Article 26 C, §423 General Deficiency

Records contain incomplete information.

Article 26 C, §423
A record for each animal in the shelter's care shall be created and must contain (at minimum): • Unique Identifiers: tattoo, microchip, tags (license, rabies, etc.) • Name, address, phone # of individual surrendering animal • Location where the animal was found • Date of intake & departure from shelter • Disposition of animal (adopted, transferred, euthanized, etc.) • Basic animal description- physical, species, age, gender, color, spayed or neutered if applicable to determine • Behavioral and/or health history (including bit history, vaccine history, if available) • Veterinary & behavioral health exams • Veterinary care, behavioral exams, treatments and procedures while in care of the shelter

6. Record Retention Article 26 C, §423.3 Not Applicable

7. Bite History Notification Article 26 C, §423.4 Critical Deficiency

Bite history not disclosed in history.

Article 26 C, Section 423
Previous bite history shall be fully disclosed in writing to the adopter, transfer partner, or reclaiming owner.

8. Animal Intake Article 26 C, §423.1,2 Satisfactory

9. In House Protocols Article 26 C, §423.8 Satisfactory

10. Veterinary Protocols Article 26 C, §423.2 (g),9; 429 General Deficiency

Protocols not available for inspection or approved by a licensed veterinarian.

Article 26 C, §423, 429
Written protocols must be approved by a veterinarian for the following categories:
• Nutrition and Feeding
• Physical Examination
• Emergency Vet Care
• Pain Management
• Vaccinations
•Parasite Control
• Anesthesia and/or Surgery (if done on site by the organization)
• Humane Euthanasia
• Outbreak Management/Control of Infectious Diseases

11. Pest Control Plan Article 26 C, §424.12 General Deficiency

No written pest control plan.

Article 26 C, 424.12
Animal shelter must maintain a written plan for pest and vermin control.

12. Staff Authority/ Roles and Responsibilities Article 26 C, §427.1 Satisfactory

H. Veterinary Care and Records

1. Veterinary and Emergency Care Article 26 C, §429.1-6 General Deficiency

Written medical protocol not available, not approved by duly licensed veterinarian. Written emergency protocol not available.

Article 26 C, 429.1-6
Written protocol required for emergency care.

2. Examinations Article 26 C, §429.3, 7, 11, 13 Critical Deficiency

Animals not provided with a complete exam within 24 hours of intake.

Article 26 C, §429.3, 7, 11, 13

Each animal in custody or possession shall be provided with complete physical examination by trained staff within 24 hours of intake. Animals are to be specifically examined for bite wounds to determine potential rabies exposure (if applicable, shelters must comply with reporting requirements 10 NYCRR 2.14).

3. Drug Logs Article 26 C, §429.2 General Deficiency

Record of drug treatments not documented for medications given.

Article 26 C, Section 429.2
All prescription medications and treatments must be in accordance with written veterinary protocols. All drugs must be documented and dispensed in accordance with local, state and federal laws/regulations.

4. Vaccinations Article 26 C, §429.8, 9 Satisfactory

5. Deworming Article 26 C, §429.10 Satisfactory

6. Weights Article 26 C, §429.12 Satisfactory

7. Grooming Article 26 C, §429.14 Satisfactory

8. Spay/Neuter Article 26 C, §429.15 (a), (b. i, ii, iii, iv, v, vi), (c) Satisfactory

9. Dog Licensing Article 7,§ 109 General Deficiency

Missing dog license for "Raven" Fostered on 2/1/2026.

Article 7, Section 109
Dogs in NY foster for more than 30 days, 4 months and older are not licensed.

I. Foster Care

1. Foster Care Providers Article 26 C, §423.6 Satisfactory

2. Provider Requirements Article 26 C, §432.1 Satisfactory

3. Records Article 26 C, §432.2 Satisfactory

4. Infectious Disease Protocol Article 26 C, §432.3; 422.9 General Deficiency

Missing infectious disease protocol.

Article 26 C, Section 243.3; 422.9
Must have written protocol for Infectious and/or Contagious disease.

Additional Information for Inspection:

REMARKS:

REPRESENTATIVE PRESENT FOR INSPECTION: **Lisa Somers & Kathy Gilmore**
TITLE: **Animal Care Taker & Executiv**

REVIEWED BY: **Inspector #: 846**
REVIEWED DATE: **03/06/2026**