

Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue

August 11, 2018

To: PVDR Board of Trustees
GreenFound

It is with a heavy heart, that I must acknowledge that our efforts on Sint. Eustatius were useless.

Peaceful Valley has spent nearly \$200,000 (US) to Save Statia's Donkeys. This included:
Regular deliveries of hay and bagged feed
Vaccinations
Dewormer
Hoof Trimming
Fencing materials
Sending US based personnel
Buying a vehicle and having it shipped to the island

We are now being told that the donkeys are still starving and not being cared for. Several years ago the government collected the donkeys and let them starve, this is what created the local Donkey Sanctuary under the direction of Laurens Duiveman and his family. Laurens reached out to Peaceful Valley for financial help. With the approval of our Board of Trustees, help was granted and feed shipments and fencing supplies arrived almost immediately.

Since that time, Laurens decided to leave the island and left his foundation, GreenFound, in charge of the donkeys. Peaceful Valley continued to send feed, equipment, people and medical supplies. We tried to send an employee to live on the island and even rented an apartment. It was a failed attempt, the employee proved untrustworthy and the donkeys were once more in GreenFound's care.

Everything that Peaceful Valley does is carefully documented. We have the proof of every dollar spent. I can honestly say, that we did our part for Statia's Donkeys, it was Statia that failed them. Peaceful Valley even investigated the possibility of bringing the donkeys to the United States but the cost was almost a half of a million dollars and our donors were not interested in spending that much money, not when Peaceful Valley is in the process of saving thousands of wild burros here in the United States.

I have always said that "Either All Donkeys Matter, Or None Of Them Do" and I honestly believe that. I could save Statia's Donkeys, but it would require me moving to the island. With my responsibilities at Peaceful Valley, that just isn't practical.

It is my sincere hope that the government will sanction the release of the donkeys and let them forage on the island as they have done for centuries.

Very Truly Yours:

PEACEFUL VALLEY DONKEY RESCUE



Mark S. Meyers
Executive Director