

Food Animal Concerns Trust 2010 Annual Report

*"Shining a beam
of bright light
on behalf of
farm animals"*

FACT's mission is to improve the welfare of food animals, broaden opportunities for humane farmers, and address public health problems that come from the production of meat, milk and eggs.



A message
from the
executive director

Making Farms Humane and Healthy Places to Raise Animals

Dear Friends,

Welcome to FACT's 2010 Annual Report.

This annual report celebrates a year of accomplishments designed to improve the life of farm animals and protect public health. We could not have done this without the generous and ongoing support of our donors. We thank you.

FACT has distinguished itself by being a beam of bright light on behalf of farm animal issues. FACT works to bring about change by shining this light into the darkness of the political and regulatory systems and bureaucracies. We do this in numerous ways. We do it by advocating against federal government policies that allow factory farms to thrive, such as the lax regulations for antibiotic use and filthy feed on farms. And by exposing misleading food labels through our Bad Label Brigade investigations.

FACT also seeks to highlight humane farmers who raise their pigs, chickens and cows with care and compassion. We do this by promoting the sale of humanely produced products through our Humane Choices shopping guides. In addition, this year we piloted our humane education project designed to instill the desire to live with intention, compassion, and respect among young people and their families.

You helped to keep this light shining strong during this past year. We at FACT are deeply grateful for all that our supporters do to make farms healthier and more humane place to raise animals. We cannot let this beam of light dim during the coming year. With your kindness and generosity FACT can continue to be a beacon on behalf of farm animal welfare concerns.

Sincerely,

Richard R. Wood
Executive Director

FACT is improving the way that farm animals are raised by focusing on a few strategic areas of need. We do this through research to understand what is involved, advocacy that joins us with like-minded people and groups, and education that involves young children and adults alike.



In August 2009, FACT officially launched the Filthy Feed campaign by petitioning the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), to end the use of poultry litter as cattle feed. Every major national consumer organization endorsed FACT's petition, including groups like Consumers Union, the Humane Society of the United States, Consumer Federation of America, and the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition. To leverage public interest and pressure the FDA, we worked to educate consumers and public health professionals about this practice. FACT staff members presented on Filthy Feed at two national conferences. FACT, along with Consumers Union, also presented the FDA with a letter signed by more than 37,000 individual consumers in support of our petition.

The FDA has yet to substantially respond to our citizen petition and ban poultry litter as feed. We find this to be unacceptable. To commemorate the one-year anniversary of the filing of our petition and to urge the FDA to make a decision, we recently emailed an action alert to our supporters asking that letters be sent to the FDA Commissioner. FACT continues to apply pressure on the agency and is grateful for the diligent help we have received.

FACT believes it is vital to raise awareness about the importance of farm animal welfare among the next generation of citizens and consumers. FACT's humane education project for children is part of a larger effort to promote "humane living" as a lifestyle choice. FACT's brand of humane education relies on a creative mix of stories, puppetry, and movement.

Our approach seeks to instill the desire to live with intention, compassion, and respect among young people and their families. Since the project's launch, FACT has made 12 presentations to approximately 200 students. In the next year, we plan to expand the project by making the workshops available to more young people and sharing our innovative approach to humane education with a national audience.

FACT is also committed to reducing drug abuse on farms by focusing on policy change. As a leader in the Keep Antibiotics Working (KAW) coalition, we have made significant gains towards passing federal legislation and changing regulations that would end the misuse of antibiotics on factory farms.

Program Highlights

July 2009 - June 2010

- FACT kicked off the **Filthy Feed Campaign**, an initiative designed to end the use of poultry litter as cattle feed out of concern for animal and human health. After a year of research, FACT published a comprehensive scientific report on the practice, filed a petition with the FDA to prohibit litter feeding, designed a new website devoted to the issue, created an on-line grassroots letter of support for our petition to the FDA, and produced a short video pertaining to the practice. This past year we also worked with a student at a Loyola University to organize college students around this issue, communicated with leaders at both the FDA and in Congress regarding our petition, and urged food companies and livestock associations to take a stand on the issue. The issue was reported in several mainstream publications and blogs across the country, including the *Los Angeles Times* and the *Huffington Post*.

- FACT launched our Humane Education Project for youth in Chicago. FACT staff created three unique workshops and underwent training to become Certified Humane Education Specialists. FACT conducted outreach to community organizations and businesses, and established partnerships with several local yoga studios, as well as a chapter of the Chicago YMCA. In addition, FACT offered the workshops at numerous local events.

- FACT educated consumers looking for ways to help individuals make humane meat, egg and dairy purchases at the grocery store. We have worked hard to update, expand, and distribute our “Humane Choices Guide, Chicago Edition.” The guide highlights humanely-raised meat, dairy and poultry options and the stores where shoppers can find these items in Chicago. We provided this information to local shoppers at a variety of public events in the city.

Promoting Humane Farming

Animals that are humanely raised are generally happier, healthier and experience a better quality of life than animals forced to live in confinement. FACT believes that all food animals should be granted adequate space, access to the outdoors, clean water and air, the opportunity to express their natural behaviors, and safe feed. Animals raised on factory farms are not permitted these very basic freedoms.

Promoting humane farming methods makes a difference. The more meat, milk, and eggs produced humanely and sold to consumers, the fewer animals will be raised on factory farms. FACT seeks to promote meaningful production labels that help to create markets for humane farmers; we also assist consumers in making informed purchasing decisions.



Program Highlights

July 2009 - June 2010

- FACT continued to pressure the FDA to reduce the routine and unnecessary use of important antibiotics on farms. We submitted formal comments urging the agency to make data on antibiotic sales public, presented to an interagency consortium on the need to improve sampling of resistant bacteria on farms and in food, and performed analysis demonstrating that the FDA's proposal to ban only growth promoting uses of antibiotics would have little effect on reducing antibiotic resistance.
- FACT collaborated with researchers at Cornell University to determine whether or not deadly methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus Aureus* (MRSA) bacteria are present on U.S. dairy farms. Samples of milk were collected on farms in New York, Oregon and Washington. Preliminary results indicate that MRSA bacteria have not been found in any of the samples tested to date, which is not surprising as the first samples were all from organic farms. Sampling and analysis will continue into 2011.
- FACT secured recommendations in an international agreement that would protect consumers and animals from resistant bacteria in food and feed. FACT's Public Health Program Director provided expertise to these negotiations in South Korea, where FACT was the only group present representing consumers.
- FACT participated in School Food FOCUS, a national initiative designed to enable large, urban school districts to redirect food purchasing toward healthy, local and sustainable vendors. FACT promoted the purchasing of chicken raised humanely without antibiotics.



Protecting Public Health

FACT believes that healthy animals are essential for maintaining a safe food supply. The unsanitary and crowded conditions on factory farms create health problems for both for the animals trapped within them and the people who eat their meat, milk, and eggs. Farm animals are the major source of many of the most common bacteria that cause disease, otherwise known as foodborne pathogens. Large cattle, swine, and poultry farms can be ideal environments for the growth of *Campylobacter*, *Salmonella*, and *E. coli* O157:H7.

These bacteria can directly contaminate food, causing flu-like symptoms that can be life-threatening for the very young, immune deficient or elderly. They can also move beyond the farm through the application of contaminated manure or irrigation water and contaminate ground water, infect wild animals, and spread to leafy greens and other produce. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that foodborne pathogens cause approximately 76 million illnesses, 325,000 hospitalizations, and 5,000 deaths in the United States each year. Livestock farms can also be the source of serious human bacterial infections not commonly considered foodborne such as urinary tract infections and drug resistant staphylococcus (staph) infections. Unnecessary antibiotic use on farms can create resistant bacteria that are difficult to treat. Infections caused by resistant bacteria can be more severe and lead to hospitalization and even death.



FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Year Ending June 30, 2010

	TOTAL FY 10	BUDGET FY 11
REVENUE:		
Contributions	\$ 383,208	\$ 427,020
Reimbursements	12,500	12,500
Bequests	149,929	60,000
Investment & Dividends	21,236	30,000
 TOTAL REVENUE	 \$ 566,873	 \$ 529,520
 Realized/Unrealized Gain (market securities)	 57,353	
EXPENSES:		
<i>Programs</i>		
Public Health	265,551	210,766
Humane Farming	211,880	186,330
<i>Total Program</i>	<i>477,431</i>	<i>397,096</i>
Fund Raising	111,877	93,011
Management & General	69,830	61,775
 TOTAL EXPENSES	 \$ 659,138	 \$ 551,882
 DECREASE IN NET ASSETS	 (34,912)	 (22,362)
NET ASSETS		
Beginning of Year	1,224,964	1,190,052
End of Year	\$ 1,190,052	\$ 1,167,690

A copy of FACT's audited financial statements may be obtained from the New York State Office of Charities Registration, Albany, NY 12231 or directly from FACT.

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*non-voting

Your Help is Needed



FACT's mission is to improve the welfare of food animals, broaden opportunities for humane farmers, and address public health problems that come from the production of meat, milk and eggs.

Factory farming is an inhumane and unhealthy way of raising animals. FACT is committed to improving the lives of farm animals and protecting public health - but we can't do so alone.

Please support our efforts. Your contribution enables FACT to improve the lives of farm animals. There are numerous ways to give to FACT. **Donations by check or credit card can be sent to our office at 3525 W. Peterson Avenue, Ste. 213, Chicago, IL 60659.** Supporters can also donate online through our secure Donate page at www.foodanimalconcerns.org. There you will find options to make a onetime contribution, an honorary/memorial gift, or a monthly donation. Contributors may elect to receive FACT Sheets, our monthly e-newsletter to stay up-to-date.

Privacy Policy

FACT maintains a database with names, addresses and a record of donations from contributors. This information is maintained only on a computer in our offices and is never provided to other organizations on a rental, name trading, or other basis. Donors who wish to review the information kept on them at FACT may request a copy and then make any desired changes.

Food Animal Concerns Trust
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www.foodanimalconcerns.org

FACT's Caring Corner

FACT would like to graciously thank the foundations that provided support to our program work. With their help, we were able to make progress towards achieving our mission of improving the welfare of farm animals, broadening opportunities for humane farmers and addressing public health issues. The following foundations generously provided FACT with funds between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010.

William & Charlotte Parks Foundation
Walter & Karla Goldschmidt Foundation
Fred & Jean Allegretti Foundation
Helen V. Brach Foundation
Gustavus and Louise Pfeiffer Research Foundation
Pfeiffer Research Foundation
The Panaphil Foundation
Steven Leuthold Family Foundation

We are deeply appreciative of our donors and want to recognize their extraordinary generosity and exceptional commitment. The following individuals provided FACT with *Bequests* between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010.

Mrs. Charlotte A. Allen	Mrs. Clarita H. Bright
Mr. Don M. Church	Mrs. Irene Heiner
Mrs. Mildred A. Lillis	The Rachel Marie Maren Fund
Ms. Alice L. McCutcheon	Estate of William John Roberts
Mrs. Elaine Shepherd	Estate of Florence Sussman
Helen L. Titus Trust	Mr. & Mrs. Henry C. Zimpelmann

FACT also received *Honorary or Memorial gifts* from:

Bonnie Gretz	Dr. Tom Hansen
Maryanne Worden Harvey	Josie the Cat, beloved pet of Ms.
Dale Harding Smith	Elizabeth Anita Quinlan
Dr. Tom Hansen	

Finally, FACT would like to recognize the following individuals for their generous *Wish List* donations:

Mrs. Frances Krohn	Ms. Linda Maglio
Ms. Elsa L. Parli	Ms. Julie Serocki

There are numerous ways to give to FACT. Donations by check or credit card can be sent to our office at 3525 W. Peterson Avenue, Ste. 213, Chicago, IL 60659. Supporters can also donate online through our secure Donate page at www.foodanimalconcerns.org. There you will find options to make a onetime contribution, an honorary/memorial gift, or a monthly donation.

FACT also gratefully accepts bequests and other legacy gifts. For more information on how you can make a difference in the life of a farm animal please call us at (773) 525-4952.