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## **Bark Avenue Foundation to Fly 500 Dogs to Freedom “Flying Home for the Holidays and Forever” Event on December 5th**

**Los Angeles, CA (December 1, 2014)** – The Bark Avenue Foundation (BAF) is gearing up to fly 500 dogs out of high-kill Southern California shelters, and fly them to safety to non-profit animal rescue organizations across the Pacific Northwest and New York on December 5<sup>th</sup>. One plane will exclusively carry 150 small breed dogs, including Chihuahuas, to non-profit rescue organizations in greater New York. BAF is also partnering with volunteer pilots and private planes through *Wings of Rescue*, an organization which airlifts thousands of dogs to cities and towns where they may be adopted. This flight will mark their ten thousandth rescue.

“The first flight will carry 75 small dogs to North Shore Animal League America in Port Washington, New York for their holiday adoption event, with as many as 10 additional planes departing to shelter partners in Washington, Idaho, and Montana,” says BAF President and Founder, Melanie Pozez. “All of our rescue partners have a 100% success rate with adoption and will be taking in the high-kill shelter dogs for adoption into loving forever homes during this holiday season.”

BAF is flying dogs on LA shelter’s death row out of state as part of their successful “Fly Me Home” program, which has saved the lives of hundreds of dogs since its inception. The program is expanding adoption opportunities for pets who are at risk of euthanasia in overcrowded local high-kill shelters by moving them to no-kill organizations in areas with a demand for adoptable pets. The flights will leave Van Nuys airport, carrying all types, sizes and breeds of dogs in need of a second chance. Funds to fly these dogs home have been provided with the generous corporate sponsorship of Subaru of America, and a grant from the ASPCA as part of the ASPCA & Subaru “Share the Love” Event Rescue Ride program. The “Fly Me Home” program also received a generous donation from Marley’s Mutts, a non-profit organization that rescues, rehabilitates, trains and re-homes death row dogs from Kern County’s high-kill animal shelters.

BAF, through its partnership with Shelter Me and Wings of Rescue, provides air transport for dogs throughout the year. They have relocated more than 1500 dogs this year alone and plan to continue this work, with the help of donations. Lifesaving transports through BAF’s “Fly Me Home” program costs \$88 per dog. This rescue effort is manned by a team of unpaid volunteers, volunteer pilots and cargo planes, with every cent of donations going exclusively to the transports. For more information on donating to help save a dog’s life, please visit [www.FlyMeHome.org](http://www.FlyMeHome.org).

**Bark Avenue Foundation (BAF)** is a Los Angeles nonprofit organization dedicated to animal welfare. BAF is dedicated to addressing the pet overpopulation crisis through spay/neuter, supporting pet owners in underserved communities, and airlifting at-risk animals from overcrowded Southern California shelters to no-kill partners around the country. For more information, please visit us at: [www.barkavenuefoundation.org](http://www.barkavenuefoundation.org).