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GREY2K USA

Recently, I went inside a racetrack kennel, a place few people are allowed to go.

Dear Friend,

When the door opened, I saw "Lilly." She was a 2-year old dog cowering in the back of her cage – afraid of light, afraid of sound, afraid of life.

But Lilly was not alone that day. <u>Inside this</u> dark racing kennel, there were nearly one hundred greyhounds, all living in tiny, broken down cages and all hoping for a second chance.



As I moved through the rows and rows of dogs, many of them just laid motionless. They had already given up.

Some greyhounds barked, wanting attention. But as I reached to pet them, "spooked" dogs like Lilly shrank back in fear.



In the industry, "spooks" are the name given to dogs who are so frightened they recoil from human contact. If they survive racing, they can be the hardest to place.

That's why I wanted to rescue Lilly. Because I knew her time was short.

The kennel compound where I found Lilly exists at every dog track across the country. Guard shacks and barbed wire fences surround dirty concrete buildings. Inside, greyhounds sit alone in their cages, with just carpet remnants or shredded paper for bedding. There are no toys for them, no play.

To help dogs like Lilly, we need your support. Whether you give \$25, \$250 or \$2,500 every donation will directly support our campaigns to end the cruelty of dog racing and shut down racing kennels nationwide.

Ironically, greyhound dogs are exploited for their speed, yet they find themselves condemned to live in cages so small they can barely stand up or turn around. They spend twenty hours a day in these cages ... and when they are let out, **injury and death await**. State records show that many dogs are paralyzed, break their legs and necks, and die of heart attacks while racing.

PROTECTING GREYHOUNDS NATIONWIDE

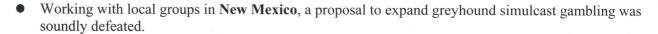
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Thankfully, since GREY2K USA's formation in 2001, the dog racing industry has been cut in half. Where there were nearly fifty dog tracks when we first began, twenty-three now remain. Thousands of dogs just like Lilly have made it home. But there are still thousands more waiting for help.

Already this year, we have won several major victories for the greyhounds:

- On New Year's Day, dog racing ended forever in Massachusetts when GREY2K USA's Greyhound Protection Act became law.
- In May, greyhound racing was prohibited in Rhode Island.
- In July, **New Hampshire** greyhounds also won when Governor Lynch signed our bill to make dog racing illegal in his state, too.
- GREY2K USA research led to news stories about dogs testing positive for cocaine in **Alabama** and **Florida**. We also exposed a severe case of greyhound neglect at the Pensacola dog track.
- GREY2K USA helped draft a new law that made dog racing illegal in the territory of **Guam**.



But these victories are not enough, and there is so much more to do. Dog racing still goes on in seven states, and twenty-three tracks operate year round in Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Iowa, Texas, and West Virginia.

Just imagine what these innocent and highly sensitive dogs endure each day. Imagine their panic and confusion when other dogs are pulled out of their cages and then disappear, never to be seen again. Where do they go? Are they safe? <u>Unfortunately, dogs that slow down or become injured are far from safe</u>. In fact, every day may be their last.

We can't stand by and let this happen any more. By offering your support today, we can end dog racing and stop the killing of innocent greyhounds by this greedy industry. Won't you please help?

Please make a donation of \$25 or more so that we can continue this vital work.

Use the enclosed envelope or give online at GREY2KUSA.org today.

For the greyhounds,

Carey M. Theil Executive Director

P.S. Sadly, I had to leave Lilly behind that day. As terrified as she was, she was still "in the money" and her owner refused to release her. Instead, another lucky dog came out with me, and is now with a loving family. The feeling of offering the first gentle touch, the first trustworthy embrace to an animal who has endured years of cruelty and neglect is something I will never forget.

Help us today by hanging the enclosed poster!
Visit GREY2KUSA.org to print out more or to find other ways to help.