



THE PUPPY PROJECT

Kagyudpa Monastic Institute, Bylakuppe, Karnataka, India

ani.samten.3@gmail.com +91 8757153683

'The Puppy Project' is the name a volunteer vet gave to my work. I am mother to 150 monks ages 6-70, teach hygiene and sanitation, care of our stray dogs; and act like the nurse. All educational materials, hygiene supplies and sports equipment for the monks; and medicines for the monks and dogs are donated.



WHO AM I?

I worked in Eugene for over 25 years before ordaining as a Tibetan Buddhist nun, retiring early, and moving to India to be of service.



WHERE DO I LIVE?

I live at Kagyudpa Monastic Institute, Bylakuppe, South India.
Bylakuppe is the largest Tibetan refugee settlement in India.



WHAT DO I DO?

I am the only woman, only foreigner and 'mother' to 150 monks ages 6-70.



I teach hygiene and sanitation to 111 school monks ages 6-17...



And care of our 25 stray dogs to all the monks.



I also act like a nurse.



WHAT HAS CHANGED?

2011:

Over 100 school monks with chronic runny noses, coughs; and fungal and bacterial infections all over their bodies. Hygiene and sanitation are not part of their culture.

20 sick, starving puppies that had not been de-sexed or vaccinated against rabies.



WHAT HAS CHANGED?

2018:

111 school monks with less colds and skin infections because: they wash their hands before eating, their hair and bodies daily, their robes and bed sheets weekly; and brush their teeth. They cover their mouths when they sneeze/cough, blow their noses, and use the dust bin.

A stable pack of healthy, socialized, de-sexed and vaccinated dogs that comfort and play with the monks; and protect the monastery.





Thanks to all of you from all the monks and pups at Kagyu Gonpa

