

January 13, 2009

Naomi Khalil, Principal  
Academy of the Americas  
5680 Konkel St  
Detroit, MI 48210

Dear Principal Khalil:

I am writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA). We understand that Academy of the Americas is struggling during these hard economic times and that you have reached out to your students' families to ask that they provide the school with rolls of toilet paper to help ease the financial burden. We would like to help by making a donation.

We hope you agree that compassion should be extended to all living beings, including factory-farmed animals who are killed for food. Although no one wants to think about it, these animals live miserable lives. They are denied everything that is natural and important to them, confined to filthy sheds or cramped, dirty cages—often with barely enough room to move or turn around. These conditions not only cause the animals to suffer but also contribute to diseases that are passed on to the consumer.

Approximately 10 billion animals are killed for their flesh in the U.S. each year. Because of the filthy conditions at factory farms and the fact that slaughterhouse floors are contaminated with feces, blood, and vomit, a great deal of meat is tainted with *E. coli*, campylobacter, listeria, or other dangerous bacteria that live in the intestinal tracts and feces of animals. With more than 75 million cases of food poisoning in adults and children each year in the U.S.—70 percent of which are caused by contaminated animal products—tainted meat is a major health threat.

In light of this information and to encourage students to wipe cruelty from their diets, we are sending a roll of toilet paper containing this factual message: "Slaughterhouses are so filthy that feces are found on almost every piece of meat." We will be happy to send additional rolls at your request.

We hope that our donation will help ease Academy of the America's financial burden while simultaneously educating your students about the suffering that animals endure on factory farms and in slaughterhouses. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Graffeo  
Special Projects Coordinator