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Katrina evacuee reunited with dachshund puppy she left behind

Associated Press

AMELIA, Ohio - A 19-year-old displaced by Hurricane Katrina is cuddling with a furry bit of consolation - the puppy she had to leave behind when she fled the storm.

Emily Dow and Peanut, a 7-month-old dachshund, were reunited Saturday at an animal hospital in Amelia, 17 miles east of Cincinnati after weeks apart. Dow couldn't take the dog on the bus she boarded with her boyfriend when they evacuated the New Orleans area ahead of the hurricane, so she left it with a neighbor.

The neighbor, though, had to give Peanut to an animal rescue group.

Eventually, Peanut ended up on a bus, too, one of two dozen dogs headed north.

Sonja Felix, a Cincinnati woman who works with Labs4Rescue, helped find Dow at the home of an aunt she's been staying with in the Cincinnati area, where she grew up. Felix called Dow and told her she had Peanut safe and sound.

Dow got a faceful of licks when she walked into the animal hospital.

"I know," she told the dog. "I missed you, too."

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