



ANNUAL REPORT 2015



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Photo credit: Eylem Cantadurucu



Photo credit: Andrea Arden

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

We are pleased to present our annual report for 2015. Veterinarians International (VI) received its 501(c)3 non-profit status on September 22, 2014 and what a phenomenal first year it has been! As a result of your generosity and commitment to our cause, we were able to send a veterinary team to join our Chilean partner, the Global Alliance for Animals and People (GAAP) in Todos Santos, Guatemala to conduct a veterinary services clinic focused on humane education last March. Together, with 29 veterinarians and animal nurses from all over North and South America, we vaccinated over 600 dogs and cats and sterilized just under 200 while emphasizing the importance of responsible pet ownership to children and adults in the community.

We also laid the groundwork to build an Asian Elephant Veterinary Care Program in Thailand by officially partnering with the Zoological Parks Organization in Bangkok. This program, which is now 30% funded, will consist of two Mobile Elephant Clinics servicing the 65 elephants in and around Boon Lott's Elephant Sanctuary in Sukhothai, and the 200 elephants at the Surin Elephant Kingdom at the Cambodian border as well as a baby elephant research project focusing on Elephant Endotheliotropic Herpesvirus (EEHV) surveillance.

In June, we sent public health expert Katherine Shapiro to the GAAP's headquarters and veterinary clinic in Valdivia, Chile, to lay the groundwork for a monitoring and evaluation program adapted from CDC's 6-step public health evaluation framework. The GAAP is now better equipped with the tools needed to evaluate any specific component of their operation, at any point in time, allowing for detailed future reporting.

We expanded our initial board to include Treasurer Benjamin Stewart, CPA; Hotelier Gerald Barad; and Finance Director Gabe Robles.

On September 22, VI celebrated its public launch reception at Tutto il Giorno in Tribeca where over 200

guests attended. Animal-rights advocate and cruelty-free handbag designer Cornelia Guest chaired the event, with Talk Stoop's Cat Greenleaf hosting. The honorees were philanthropists Gerald Barad and Andrew Sabin. The event raised \$84,000 with \$30 000 in in-kind contributions. For more event highlights, please visit Vanity Fair, Downtown or Gotham magazines, online.

Our Program Committee has been busy surveying future potential projects as we plan to expand into livestock health and food security initiatives, while focusing on sound monitoring and evaluation protocols ensuring continued integrity and transparency of our work.

As our realization of the interdependence we have with animals increases, the work of VI becomes more and more important. Kindness to animals is our message, and insuring their health and welfare is our responsibility. We thank you for supporting us, helping us achieve our mission and we look forward to growing with you in the coming years!

With gratitude,

Dr. Scarlett Magda
Founding President

ABOUT US

Veterinarians International is a network of dedicated professionals who share a common goal: to reduce the illness and suffering of animals in underserved regions while enhancing the well being of humans. Since over 60% of all human diseases come from animals, our work directly benefits both animals and people. We create or support programs that provide sound veterinary expertise and training, and collaborate with local groups to educate communities about sustainable and replicable solutions.

WHERE WE ARE



TODOS SANTOS, GUATEMALA

We work in this remote highland community of traditional Mayan people to reduce canine rabies and educate children about responsible pet ownership.



VALDIVIA, CHILE

We help provide equal access to preventative veterinary care to all members of the community at our GAAP partner clinic.



THAILAND

We are building two mobile elephant clinics to provide veterinary services to elephants in need living in remote areas.

Photo credit: Andrea Arden

OUR PROGRAMS

THE HEALTHY DOG PROGRAM THE ISSUE

Not only does the lack of responsible pet care have devastating consequences on the welfare of the animals, but also poses serious health concerns for people who are in contact with infected animals. With over 210 million people living below the poverty line (World Health Organization) the ability to provide the necessary veterinary care to treat and prevent animals is limited.

“In Latin America, people tend to have different cultural beliefs about animal ownership— they are often left to roam streets on their own, with no supervision. Yet the impacts of allowing owned dogs to roam the streets unsupervised and unsterilized are seen in the often poor condition of the dogs themselves, uncontrolled reproduction, high disease and mortality. Rabies and cystic hydatid disease are two examples of canine zoonoses (diseases transmissible to people) that result in enormous social costs and human losses. On top of that, children are common victims of dog bites and attacks that are sometimes fatal. “

-Dr. Elena Garde, Program Director, The Global Alliance for Animals and People

THE SOLUTION

Global Alliance for Animals and People Veterinary Clinic, Valdivia, Chile

Vets International has partnered with the Global Alliance for Animals and People (GAAP), a registered charity in Chile who works with marginalized, remote, and often indigenous communities and families. In October 2014, the GAAP opened a community veterinary clinic in Valdivia as a platform to reach less privileged community members. The overarching philosophy of the clinic is to offer subsidized preventive medicine services and use these opportunities to talk to owners about human-dog relationships and needs. The goal is to create closer bonds between people and their pets and promote animal welfare. The services are provided on a sliding scale basis according to their household income.

The GAAP Clinic's objectives are to:

1. Keep dogs healthy.
2. Reduce the collective reproductive rate.
3. Increase the human-animal bond.
4. Extend these services to those most in need.

In 2015 Veterinarians International

- Supported the salary of 2 veterinarians
- Purchased \$8000 veterinary supplies and pharmaceuticals
- Sent a public health expert to Chile to assist in strategic planning

Todos Santos Rabies Project, Guatemala

The Global Alliance for Animals and People (the GAAP) has been working in Todos Santos, Guatemala since 2010. The original request for help in this community was to assist with the reduction of human-directed aggression and the prevalence of rabies in dogs. Our activities have greatly expanded over the years, and now include educational activities in the schools and the public town square for children, youth and adults, a veterinary service campaign focused on sterilization, rabies vaccination and general health and welfare exams, and a family sponsorship program to keep children in school.

2015 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Veterinarians International sent two veterinarians, and two animal nurses to join the GAAP in Todos Santos, Guatemala in March 2015 for the annual rabies prevention/population control program. In total there were 29 volunteers from all over Canada, the United States and Latin America. We spent 2 days focusing on community education of responsible dog ownership and rabies prevention. The following 5 days involved running a cat and dog clinic offering veterinary services, rabies and distemper vaccines, and spay and neuter surgeries.

PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Provided age-appropriate messaging about child safety in the face of dog aggression and attacks, basic sanitation, humane animal education, and responsible dog ownership using various teaching models to students aged 5 to 17 in the public school system

Reinforcement of above messages for all ages via community activities in the town square

Performed 177 sterilization surgeries

Vaccinated 486 dogs and 119 cats against rabies virus

Vaccinated 350 dogs against distemper virus



Kids getting excited for their lesson on humane treatment and behavior towards dogs.

Kids practicing to crouch down like a rock when being attacked by a dog. Traditionally they would run or throw rocks, making the dogs more aggressive, increasing the likelihood of getting bitten.



Kids illustrating what responsible dog ownership means to them.



Animal nurse Michelle Hartman showing Wilbur how important it is to be kind to dogs, especially puppies!



Animal nurse Michelle Hartman and Dr. Amy Kantor spaying a dog.

KIDS WITH CAMERAS PROJECT FUJIFILM

In a small rural village called Punucapa, the GAAP invited 10 children to participate in a workshop to learn about photography, and asked them to tell a story about their lives with animals through the photographs that they produced over the five weeks of classes. The children presented their best shots at a local exposition and we will also present their work at our November dog-themed fundraiser in New York City in 2016. Fuji generously donated 5 cameras to us, which we sent to Chile.



One of the winning entries.



After a touching speech from Dr. Elena Garde, each child received their own diploma certifying their participation in the project.

OUR PROGRAMS

ASIAN ELEPHANT VETERINARY CARE PROGRAM

Once used in warfare and the logging industry, the Asian elephant remains central to the cultural and religious identity of Thailand. A little over a century ago, there were over 100,000 elephants. Today, they are endangered; their estimated number is between 3,500 to 5,000. Ivory poaching, illegal logging, and elephant “camps” catering to the tourist trade further threaten their survival. The BLES elephant sanctuary in Sukhothai is a safe place where injured or ill elephants are rehabilitated and live a life of rest and relaxation, free from having to work or entertain.

Surin, is an elephant kingdom in Northeastern Thailand, designated by His Majesty the King, to allow elephants to live in more natural settings with access to forests and a balanced diet. Up until a few years ago, elephants were forced to beg in the streets of Bangkok where their welfare was severely compromised. The Surin elephant kingdom was created for these elephants to live in harmony with their mahouts and families through a government-sponsored program. The Zoological Parks Organization looks after 200 elephants but, currently, only has the capacity to conduct health checks twice a year.

Photos credit: BLES

OUR GOALS

Our goal is to improve the welfare and living conditions of captive Asian elephants as well as the communities' livestock and companion animals through our veterinary care program.

THE PROJECT

Since BLES was established in 2007, the need for a veterinary clinic has been paramount. There are currently only two elephant hospitals in Northern Thailand providing care for sick or injured elephants. Both are at least a six-hour drive away, so local elephant owners are helpless if their animals get sick. Although excellent veterinarians from these facilities make on-site visits, their services are in great demand, and owners wait for days before a veterinarian is available. Follow-up treatment presents another challenge.

Veterinarians International has partnered with the Zoological Parks Organization (ZPO) to create two mobile elephant clinics (MEC) for the approximately 65 elephants living in and around BLES, and for the 200 elephants in Surin province. We anticipate that this project will be fully funded by the end of 2016.





HELEN FICALORA



We have partnered with *Helen Ficalora* who created an elephant cut out charm for us. This is a Charity Charm with 25% of the proceeds from the 14k Yellow, White and Pink Gold Elephant Cutout Charm and 100% of the Sterling Silver Elephant Cutout Charm going to Veterinarians International.



SEPTEMBER 22 VETS INTERNATIONAL TRUNKS OF LOVE GALA

Our public launch event kicked off with a VIP cocktail reception chaired by animal-rights advocate and cruelty-free handbag designer Cornelia Guest with Talk Stoop’s Cat Greenleaf as host. In addition, an elephant charm designed by jewelry designer Helen Ficalora and a clothing line entitled, *Éléphant*, designed by celebrity photographer Leslie Hassler, were unveiled, with a portion of the sale proceeds each going directly to benefit VI’s work in Thailand.



Photo credit: Fabrizio Duque

SEPTEMBER 22 VETS INTERNATIONAL
TRUNKS OF LOVE GALA PICTURES



Photo credit: Fabrizio Duque



Photo credit: Fabrizio Duque

SEPTEMBER 22 VETS INTERNATIONAL TRUNKS OF LOVE GALA

Event Chair Cornelia Guest opened the evening’s program, which included an awards ceremony presentation to hotelier Gerald Barad and philanthropists Gerald Barad and Andy Sabin. A short video by Dominic Musacchio focusing on the elephant vet care program was screened, and a ‘Fund-a-Need,’ auction, where guests bid on such items as ‘covering the cost of an elephant’s annual medical care,’ took place. The Event’s Benefit Committee included Ed Burns, Jackie Cittone Magid, Robert Dankner & Maude Davis, Dr. Jennifer Faga, Bobby Flay, Katie Lee,

Leslie Hassler, and Laura Killeen.

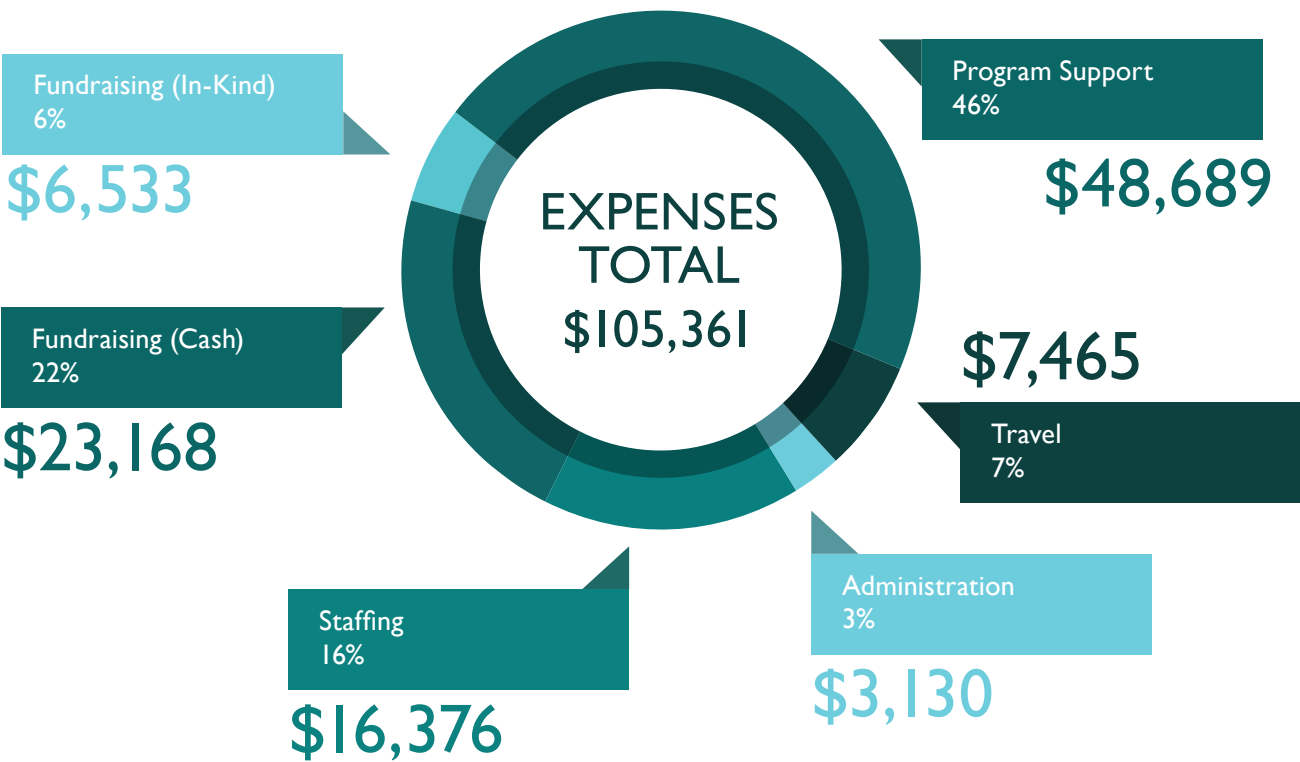
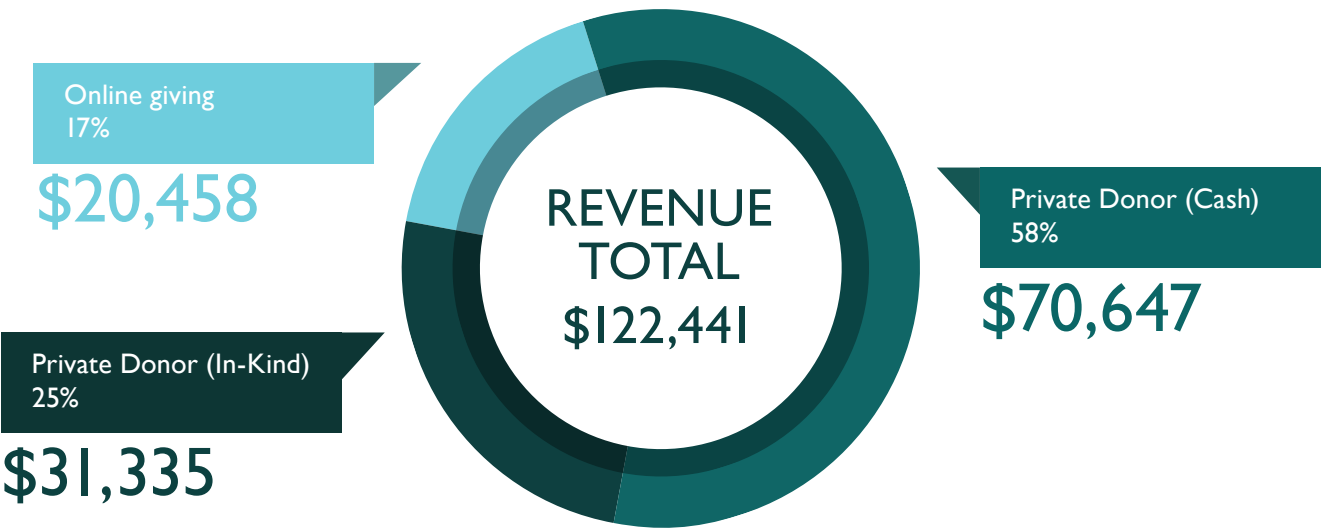
We are extremely grateful to Maurizio Marfoglia of Tutto il Giorno who donated food, cocktails and the venue, Alteneve for donating prosecco for our signature white elephant cocktails and to presenting sponsors Mutual of America and Andrew Sabin Family Foundation as well as the Gloss studio for donating beautiful prints and display materials. Triumph hotels generously donated hotel rooms for out-of-town guests.

| Silent Auction Donors | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Cipriani | Hornblower Cruises | Juni Restaurant |
| Rose Hill Riding Club | Fabio Doti Salon | Kali Dragonslayer |
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| White Elephant Hotel – Nantucket | Suzy Baker | Richard Wrightman Designs |
| Ed Burns | Eva Makk | Aga Winnicka Couture |
| Bobby Flay | Hotoveli - Rick Owens | Leslie Hassler |
| April Gornik | Kenneth Broad – National Geographic | Cornelia Guest |
| Sen Restaurant – Sag Harbor | Dan Toothman and Kim Toothman | TENET |
| The Dog Pound | Hotel Chandler | Carl Safina |
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| Downtown Magazine | Gotham Restaurant | Cru Oyster Bar- Nantucket |
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|--------------------|-----------|
| CONTRIBUTIONS | \$122,441 |
| OPERATING EXPENSES | \$105,361 |
| NET* | \$17,079 |

*Earmarked for Asian Elephant Vet Care Program



Photo credit: Eylem Cantadurucu

ORGANIZATIONAL SUCCESSES

Although we are still in the early stages of development, we have come a long way in our first year. A talented communications team was put together consisting of 4 writers, 3 graphic designers, and a web programmer and web developer with a newly added digital marketing director and social media manager. An exceptional program committee with a wide array of expertise in livestock health and food security, wildlife health and companion animal health has been

working together since last January, and a finance committee has been put in place. We also have legal counsel with non-profit expertise guiding us, as we continue to grow. It is remarkable how generous and dedicated our team members have been, particularly as they are all volunteers. We would like to express our deepest gratitude to the following, for without whom this organization would not exist:

Board of Directors

Dr. Scarlett Magda: President
Margaret Zawadzka: Board Chair
Benjamin Stewart Treasurer
Erika Mansourian: Secretary
Gerald Barad
Dr. William Karesh, Sr Technical Director
Maurizio Marfoggia
Gabe Robles, Finance Director

Communications Team

Valerie Low
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Zachary Mongillo
Hiroe Welby
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Jena Taylor
Katie Jenkins
Manisha Dev
Alain Baburam
Rachel Precious
Lianne Castellanos

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Finance Committee
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Gabe Robles

Legal Counsel

Gayle Boeski, Esq.
Martha Golar, Esq.

Program Committee

Dr. William Karesh
Dr. Carrie LaJeunesse
Dr. Beth Miller
Joyce Turk
Dr. Boripat Siraroonrat

Advisory Council

Dr. David Waltner - Toews



DONORS

Veterinarians International would like to acknowledge and offer our appreciation and support to our generous donors – the individuals, foundations, corporations, and small businesses who contributed to our Launch Reception, Dollars to Spay Campaign, eGifts Campaign and our December Trunk Show. Your on-going support makes it possible for us to help achieve our mission of helping animals and healing the planet.

\$15,000

Andrew Sabin Family Foundation
Mutual of America
Mauricio Marfoggia and Tutto il Giorno (in-kind)
Gloss studios (in-kind)

\$5,000

IVG Hospitals
Jackie Cittone-Magid

\$2,500
Dr. Manfred P Staff

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Durst Organization
Cornelia Guest
Dr. Barry & Charlotte Eisenkraft
Maude Davis and Robert Dankner
Dr. Kali Dragonslayer
Zach Erdem
Bonnie Harland
Lucy O'Byrne -Kuddly
Dr. William Karesh
Dr. Justin Carlson
David Gravelle
Cat Smollen
Margaret Zawadkza
Dr. Lonnie Kasman
Dr. Maja Magda
Elin Landenberger
Helen Ficalora

\$10,000

Triumph hotels (in-kind)

\$500 - \$999

| | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Aaron Menche | Patty Laxton |
| Nuda Sarcone | Laura Killeen |
| Anita Durst | Dr. Carrie La Jeunesse |
| Lucy O'Byrne -Kuddly | Penni Ludwig |
| Michael Lefkowitz | Risa Levine |
| Daizie Labelle | Jane Recant |

\$1 - \$499

| | |
|-------------------|---------------|
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| West Chin | Jessica Engle |
| Dr. Jennifer Faga | Cindi Barash |
| Carl Safina | Larry Lazar |
| Rhonda Barad | Zoltan Magda |
| Kimberly Schamber | |

Dr. Scarlett Magda
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Benjamin Stewart
Megan Thomas
Maura McWeeney

Magdalena Fiser
Jack Dunietz
James Mindling
Milene Moses
Amber Szramiak
Jonathan Shapiro
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Alanna Mihic
Jill Wasilewski
Tony Morali
Gary Lieberman
Judge Olivia Cassin

OBECTIVES FOR 2016

- 1. To fully fund and operate our Asian Elephant Veterinary Care Program consisting of two mobile elephant clinics and a surveillance program focused on Elephant Endotheliotropic Herpesvirus
- 2. To set up a monthly veterinary training and education program between between GAAP and VI in Chile
- 3. To create a livestock health and food security program
- 4. To raise \$350,000 seed money for our programs
- 5. To set up a monthly giving program and obtain ongoing sponsorships



STAY IN TOUCH

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Instagram: [vetsinternational](#)

Today, more than ever, the environment is where we all meet; where all have a mutual interest; it is the one thing all of us share.

-Lady Bird Johnson