“Kindness and compassion to animals is our message, and ensuring their health and welfare is our responsibility.”
We are all interconnected

With more than 60% of human infectious diseases originating in animals, we must care for animals in order to care for ourselves and our planet.

Letter from the President

Dear friends,

We live in an interconnected world where disease and need know no borders. As a result, it is critical that we build capacity to assist in providing protection in the world’s animal crises hot spots.

Veterinarians International achieved a great deal in 2019, and I would like to share highlights of significant accomplishments of our various programs.

Achievements Across Our Programs in 2019

Strengthening our partnership with Mpala Research Center as part of our Rabies Prevention Program in Kenya, we laid the groundwork to hire a full-time program manager. Thanks to a matching program from the Meringoff Family Foundation, we were able to create and deploy a humane education program teaching empathy and pet care basics to the community. The campaign vaccinated 13,185 dogs and cats last year despite extended periods of heavy rain!

We signed a matching agreement with the Emergency Relief and Development Overseas (ERDO, a Canadian non-governmental organization) to enable us to scale up our animal health care and training efforts with our partner, Sauti Moja Marsabit. These efforts provide veterinary services for goats and donkeys to over 150 families in Kenya.
MATCHING AGREEMENT WITH

ERDO

Hosted Workshop with

ELEPHANT FAMILY

In Liberia, we started purchasing medical equipment - including an ultrasound and portable x-ray machine - for chimpanzees rescued from the illegal pet and bush meat trade with our local partner, Liberia Rescue and Protection, thanks to a generous grant by A Kinder World Foundation. We were able to provide food and medical aid to all 35 baby chimps, and began to lay out plans to help build Liberia’s first veterinary hospital.

Haiti has the second most NGOs per capita of any country in the world, yet change is slow. I firmly believe that by educating and empowering communities, specifically those with strong leadership skills and commitment, change is possible. Our small yet effective goat program is run by Watson Drouillard, a civil engineer, and Anese Francois, the first female community animal health care worker who provides immediate aid and husbandry training to families with goats in L’Azile, Haiti.

Throughout 2019, in partnership with the Global Alliance for Animals and People (GAAP), our Healthy Pets Program clinic in Valdivia, Chile provided veterinary services to over 1,000 dogs and cats for a variety of health concerns including disease, traumatic injuries, wounds, emergency surgeries and preventative vaccinations. We also supported a telemedicine program in Todos Santos, Guatemala, where 190 dogs were visited in their homes for a variety of medical needs. Our emergency fund assisted 29 vulnerable families with 100% coverage of urgent medical needs. We also supported a scoping trip to Peru, as well as a workshop establishing the framework for a future rabies eradication program with the country’s Ministry of Health.

The first Veterinarians International project to pass our sustainability test, our Asian elephant health and welfare program in Surin, Thailand successfully transferred operations to the Thai Government’s Zoological Parks Organization, providing year-round veterinary services to 200 elephants. We also rolled out an Elephant Welfare and Biology program to children living in the Surin Elephant Kingdom, with the goal of teaching basic elephant needs and welfare management practices to improve understanding and empathy in the community. Elephants are typically kept on a short chain for up to 20 hours a day in this region; we believe we can achieve lasting change by educating and empowering the community. In Myanmar, we supported a workshop with Elephant Family UK, which trained government officials on how to collect forensic evidence for elephants that have been poached primarily for the skin trade.

In Sri Lanka, we created an Elephant Health and Conservation Task Force of experts, and signed an agreement with the Department of Wildlife Conservation and Smithsonian Institute to create a Center of Excellence. The center will include the building of a diagnostics lab, a wildlife holding and rehabilitation facility, and the country’s first elephant hospital. We are pleased to be utilizing the technical expertise of the Smithsonian Institute of Conservation Biology to help train the veterinarians and animal care providers.

In 200 ELEPHANTS
Given veterinary services

HOSTED WORKSHOP WITH

ELEPHANT FAMILY

Healthy Elephants Program

Healthy Wildlife Program

150 FAMILIES
Given veterinary services for goats & livestock

35 BABY CHIMPS
Were provided food and medical aid

LAID OUT PLANS
To build Liberia’s first vet hospital
I am pleased to announce that a Social Return on Investment (SROI) report for Veterinarians International was developed by a group of Executive MBA students from the Yale School of Management. It utilizes the SROI model developed by the New Economic Foundation (NEF) in 2008 to help organizations measure the social impact of the good they are doing on the world. The SROI assessment for VI reveals a positive social return ratio of 1 to \( \frac{21.35}{1} \) for full entire scope of work.

2019 was an important year for us; not only because it marked our fifth year of operations, but in particular, because we laid down several critical frameworks in order to achieve sustainable milestones. We are particularly proud of three of our biggest accomplishments: passing on our Mobile Elephant Clinic Program at the Surin Elephant Kingdom, creating MOUs with the Sri Lankan Government and the Smithsonian Institute of Conservation Biology to build Sri Lanka’s only elephant hospital, and embarking on the first-ever pilot program to mitigate human elephant conflict using elephant behavior as its approach. It is these types of investments, which, when coupled with education and training programs, create lasting change. We are grateful to each and every supporter, volunteer, expert, veterinarian and animal health care provider who have made our successes possible, and hope you continue to support us to make our world a better place for animals and humans alike.

With gratitude,

Scarlett Magda, BSc, DVM
Founding President, Veterinarians International
Where We Work

We have 12 programs in 6 countries.

GUATEMALA
Healthy Pets

CHILE
Healthy Pets
Healthy Wildlife

LIBERIA
Healthy Pets

KENYA
Healthy Farms
Healthy Pets
Healthy Wildlife
Healthy Elephants

THAILAND & MYANMAR
Healthy Elephants

SRI LANKA
Healthy Pets
Healthy Wildlife
Healthy Elephants
Analyzing the Social Return on Your Investment

A Social Return on Investment (SROI) report for Veterinarians International (VI) was developed by a group of Executive MBA students from the Yale School of Management. It utilizes the ground-breaking SROI model developed by the New Economic Foundation (NEF) in 2008 to help organizations measure the social impact of the good they are doing on the world. The SROI assessment for VI reveals a positive social return ratio of 1 to 21.35 for full entire scope of work.

Conserving Wildlife

Today, at the current rate of decline, Asian elephants face extinction within decades. Thanks to the Meringoff Family Foundation, Lush Cosmetics, Penni Ludwig, Riki Kane Larimer and several other supporters, we have been able to implement projects aimed at addressing Asian elephant health and productivity.
Operations at our Asian elephant health and welfare program in Surin, Thailand was successfully transferred to the Thai Government’s Zoological Parks Organization, providing year-round veterinary services to 200 elephants. This marks our first project to pass our sustainability test, a result we are keen to replicate with other programs.

We also rolled out an Elephant Welfare and Biology program to children living in the Surin Elephant Kingdom, with the goal of achieving improved understanding of basic elephant needs and welfare management practices. Elephants are typically kept on a short chain for up to 20 hours a day; we believe we can achieve lasting change by educating and empowering the community to be kind, compassionate caregivers.

The overall aim of the project was to increase students’ knowledge of and interest in elephants and conservation issues, shift students’ beliefs and opinions of elephants, increase students’ empathy and compassion for elephants, and get students to think more critically about how elephants in captivity, particularly those in their local community, were cared for. This was in service of the long-term, overarching goal of both Think Elephants International and Veterinarians International in improving the welfare of elephants.

Our education program, implemented and designed by Think Elephants International (‘Chang Club’), served 65 students from the village, including 42 students from the local secondary school (Changboonwittaya) and 23 students from the primary school (Ban Ta Klang). Two Thai English teachers from Changboonwittaya were trained in-person by Dr. Jen Pokorny over the course of three weeks in April and May of 2019 to run the program.

The most compelling finding demonstrating the effect of the program on the students was the significant shift in students’ ratings of similarity and difference of elephants and humans. This was an indirect measure of empathy and compassion for elephants, and results showed that students rated elephants as more similar and less different than humans after participation in the program, thereby suggesting that students had increased empathy and compassion for elephants.
Poaching of elephants is on-going in Myanmar, and impacts both cows and calves, all of whom are poached for their skin. In March and December of 2019, we supported Elephant Care International as they led a Pathology Workshop for Law Enforcement Officials to provide forest policer officers with skills to perform a basic postmortem exam and collect forensic samples. Ultimately, we would like to assist them in identifying the toxin used by poachers and work towards determining if there is an antidote. In addition to teaching practical skills, our team conveyed the importance of their work to wildlife conservation in Myanmar where the health of wildlife is typically not afforded much concern. The training highlights that police officers who are first to arrive on the scene are capable of assuming an expanded role in forensic work, as well as aiding researchers.
Elephant veterinarian Dr. Susan Mikota passing on a pathology kit to a Burmese official enabling him to conduct investigations when elephants are poached.

In Sri Lanka, we created an Elephant Health and Conservation Task Force of experts, and signed an agreement with the Department of Wildlife Conservation and the Smithsonian Institute of Conservation Biology to create a Center of Excellence. The center will include the building of a diagnostics lab, a wildlife holding and rehabilitation facility, and the country’s first elephant hospital.

We are pleased to be able to access and utilize the technical expertise of the Smithsonian Institute of Conservation Biology to help train the veterinarians and animal care providers at our program partner, the Elephant Transit Home. Our hallmark achievement was being able to support the first blood transfusion of an elephant in Sri Lanka.

Elephant pathology training workshop participants, Myanmar, May 2019.
The donated blood is about to be transfused.

The anemic baby elephant is being monitored for his transfusion by Drs. Malaka and Kalani.

CHIMPANZEE CONSERVATION

By partnering with NGOs around the world, we can combat the illegal trade and slaying of endangered wildlife and rescue captive animals, while promoting conservation awareness, animal protection, and community development efforts.

LIBERIA CHIMPANZEE RESCUE AND PROTECTION (LCRP) PARTNERSHIP

Thanks to a generous grant from A Kinder World Foundation, we were able to purchase medical equipment including an ultrasound and portable x-ray machine for chimpanzees rescued from the illegal pet and bush meat trade – for our local partner, Liberia Chimpanzee Rescue and Protection, and provided food and medical aid to 35 baby chimps.

MONROVIA, LIBERIA
Meet Chance

Chance is a true miracle. Her story is an example of how one’s spirit can overcome great tragedy, trauma and abuse to soar and embrace life and love. LCRP received a report from an anonymous source that someone was keeping and attempting to sell a young chimpanzee in a nearby town. LCRP and wildlife authorities organized a team to investigate. After searching long and hard and a lot of worry we wouldn’t find her, someone on our team spotted Chance hidden in the back corner of a shop in a cardboard box. Seeing Chance for the first time was shocking. She was in terrible condition and exhibiting stereotypical rocking behavior caused by stress and trauma. Her head was extremely swollen, filled with fluid. She was greatly underweight and her legs were atrophied due to her confinement in the box with no chance for movement or exercise. The humans keeping her said she was too young to walk or eat solid foods and were feeding her cornmeal. Well, Chance had a different story to tell. When we got her to LCRP’s sanctuary we could see that she was certainly old enough to walk, move, climb and eat all kinds of food. She’d simply been deprived of all of these opportunities by her human captors. Chance was examined by a pediatric neurologist who felt the fluid in her head was due to blunt force trauma rather than a congenital cause. While her condition was still terrible and sad, we were relieved that there was a ‘chance’ she’d recover and thrive. And so she did. Over days and weeks, Chance’s swelling went down, her eating went up and she began to move about more and more with each passing day. Her indomitable spirit was apparent immediately. This little girl wanted to live and she was committed to getting better and surviving! Today Chance is physically ‘perfect’ with no signs of her injury except a hidden indentation in her skull. She is full of life and joy and love. Her eyes shine bright. She is playful and active and has a very contagious laugh. She is our miracle! When new chimpanzees arrive they are physically and emotionally traumatized. Our veterinary director does a full health check and treats them as needed. Some little ones arrive with broken limbs and shrapnel, and often have deep cuts due to ropes and chains that were used to restrict them while they were held captive. They are also given around the clock TLC, as nurturing and unconditional love is the most important part of their recovery. Feeding the chimps is a challenge. In the wild, chimpanzees eat over 200 different types of food! At LCRP, while we can’t replicate their diet exactly, we work hard to provide the chimps with a wide variety of fruits, vegetables, seeds, and nuts. Little ones receive baby cereal multiple times a day and all the chimps get morning and evening cereal to ensure the get daily boosts of all the right vitamins and minerals.
Companion Animal Health and Welfare

In partnership with the Global Alliance for Animals and People (GAAP), our Healthy Pets Program in Valdivia, Chile provided veterinary services to over 1,000 dogs and cats for a variety of health concerns including disease, traumatic injuries, wounds, emergency surgeries and preventative vaccinations.

In 2019, Chile implemented to protect animals and hold owners responsible for their animals’ well-being. The law itself is a sign of significant progress, but to achieve the long-term goal of changing the culture around animal care in the country, we knew related educational efforts would be critical. Targeting students ages 8 to 18, we created seven modules of engaging activities about animal health and welfare, as well as responsible animal ownership. Each module is delivered by a facilitator guide and is comprised of learning outcomes, a clearly delineated connection to broader school curriculum, and a list of required materials. 3,540 students participated in the educational program during its first year.

Todos Santos, Guatemala is a remote Mayan community that has never had access to veterinary services. By training a local community dog healthcare worker, partnering with a clinic in the nearest city (Huehuetenango, Guatemala), and utilizing telemedicine led by Chilean veterinarians, our innovative project provides year-round veterinary services to the people and dogs in this community. 23 dogs were sterilized through local collaborations in the first year without a foreign-led campaign, and 192 dogs received care via telemedicine with 345 educational brochures distributed.

We also supported a scoping trip to Peru, as well as a workshop setting up the framework for a future rabies eradication program with the country’s Ministry of Health.
COMMUNITY VETERINARY CLINIC

Following a holistic health philosophy, our Community Veterinary Clinic in Valdivia, Chile approaches each animal and owner it encounters as an opportunity to share information about the importance of proper care for animals. We invest in getting to know our clients and follow up regularly to ensure proper care is fully delivered. In an effort to continuously expand our offerings, in 2019 we added two services: dental prophylaxis and ultrasound. Our work is not limited to those who visit our clinic, but instead we actively reach out to our community through educational efforts and special visits to marginalized groups, such as indigenous, rural, and homeless communities. Ultimately, we aim to remove barriers that keep animals from receiving necessary care, offering a sliding scale model that makes quality veterinary attention accessible to everyone.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESULTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1,399 ANIMALS SERVED</td>
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<tr>
<td>69.3% DOGS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30.7% CATS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>713 VACCINES</td>
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<tr>
<td>81 SURGERIES</td>
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Patón

We call him the hero street dog. In 2008, José and his wife were lifting their child from the car when their other 3-year old son ran into the street directly in front of a speeding vehicle. Patón raced out knocking the child to the ground and was hit by the car, fracturing his hind leg. Although José and his family tried many times to adopt Patón, he clearly prefers life in the streets, but he is always within shouting distance of at least one member of the family. One day just a few weeks ago, he came home with a large abscess on his back. José has been out of work since March due to COVID-19 and was desperate to find help for his four-legged hero. Luckily he heard about our program and brought him over to the clinic. Patón is the sweetest street dog ever! After a course of antibiotics and some TLC, he was back out in the streets, but always with one eye on “his” family.
Every year, approximately 2,000 Kenyans die of rabies, according to the World Health Organization. Rabies kills nearly 100 percent of infected humans and 86 percent of infected dogs. The best way to prevent and eliminate rabies is by vaccinating dogs, which is what the Laikipia Rabies Vaccination Program (LRVC) in Kenya entails. By vaccinating all 30,000 dogs in Laikipia, we protect the lives of precious wildlife, as well the communities in and around the 20 conservancies of the county.

In strengthening our partnership with Mpala Research Center for the LRVC program, we were able to hire a full-time program manager. Thanks to a matching fund from the Meringoff Family Foundation, we also started laying the groundwork for a humane education program teaching empathy for animals and pet care basics to the community.

The LRVC works closely with the Kenyan government across two main areas. First, we work directly with the County Government of Laikipia, who have been stalwart supporters of the campaign for the past few years. The engagement from the County Government of Laikipia includes support from their veterinary department, public awareness and education, donations of supplies and assistance in the field in accessing and working with local communities. At a national level, the LRVC is engaged in linking what we do on the ground to both national and international policy and planning around vaccination and the eradication of rabies. The community-centered approach that is being pioneered by the LRVC is a great example of how to develop One Health interventions hand-in-hand with communities, local government and many other partners.

RESULTS
The campaign vaccinated 13,185 dogs and cats last year despite extended periods of heavy rain.

Dr. Grace temporarily marks a vaccinated dog in order to identify it in the following days of the rabies campaign.

LOOKING AHEAD
Our future plans include working with Laikipia schools to include empathy and pet care basics enabling improved health and welfare for all.
Herd Heroes Haiti

By educating and empowering communities, change is possible. Our small yet effective goat program run by Watson Drouillard, a civil engineer, and Anise Francois, the first female community animal health care worker, provides immediate aid and husbandry training to families with goats in L’Azile, Haiti. Our partner, Herd Heroes is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to promoting sustainable livestock management in Haiti as a means of poverty alleviation and environmental preservation.

Through our partnership we’ve been able to accomplish:

- Treated 111 goats, as well as a few donkeys and cattle.
- Animal care providers were trained in how to administer oral rehydration electrolyte therapy to goats using a nasogastric tube. This is a life-saving technique for goats who are too sick to eat or drink.
- Average FAMACHA scores (measure of internal parasite load) in goats reached an all-time low of 3.5.
- A collaboration was formed with the regional representative for the Ministry of Agriculture.

Sauti Moja Marsabit Kenya

In order to address food insecurity and goat health and welfare in Kenya, we signed a matching agreement with the Emergency Relief and Development Overseas (ERDO, a Canadian non-governmental organization) to scale up our animal health care and training efforts with our partner organization, Sauti Moja Marsabit. These efforts provide veterinary services for goats and donkeys to over 150 families.

Given that more than 70% of the population of Marsabit, Kenya are dependent on livestock as a source of livelihood, combatting drought/famine and disease is paramount. This program made it possible to respond to disease outbreaks by providing critical vaccination campaigns and treatment camps in Marsabit, Kenya.

RESULTS

Over 6000 goats benefitted and 40 donkeys were given comfortable saddle pads and harnesses enabling them to carry water without developing pressure sores or wounds from poorly-fitting equipment.
One Health, this year’s Veterinarians International (VI) fundraising gala, welcomed over 220 luminaries and philanthropists and was a record year for the organization – raising over $250,000. The annual VI event raises awareness about the crucial connection between animal and human health, and generates funding for its diverse veterinary programs around the world.

Dr. Stacey Colle’ and Michael Nallan were gala co-chairs while VI Ambassadors, and animal advocates Christine Evangelista and Dwayne Hill served as Master of Ceremonies.

"International animal care is critical right now given the impact humans are having on the planet. Over 60% of human infectious disease comes from animals. Raising society’s consciousness to prioritize animal health and welfare is integral to our survival. Having legendary wildlife vet Dr. William Karesh, who coined the term ‘One Health,’ share his global vision, left a meaningful impact on the audience,” said VI Founding President Dr. Scarlett Magda.

The oceanfront immersive reception lead by Civic Entertainment Group featured live music, healing herbs and spices, an animal adoption center that raised over $12,000, and a stunning living wall by Vertical Vegetation Co. with portraits by Leslie Hassler. Guests enjoyed Tussock Jumper wines and signature cocktails by Aldez Tequila and Russian Standard Vodka, followed by a sustainably produced, locally-sourced dinner with a guided meditation by Biet Simkin, and an incredible performance by Mezzo-soprano Anna Cley with Siri Rishi Kaur playing the gong. Honoree Dr. William Karesh wowed the crowd with a captivating presentation showing footage from BBC’s Lost Elephants of Timbuktu and the Hot Zone. DJ Angelica Morrow and Jay Schneiderman and Friends lead an energetic drum circle closing dance party.

We would like to give special thanks to our generous sponsors:

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**CANINE COMPANION**

Dr. Stacey and Jeffrey Colle’

Andrew Sabin Family Foundation

Stephen Meringoff Family Foundation

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Andrew Sabin Family Foundation

Stephen Meringoff Family Foundation

Mutual of America Financial Group
2019 Annual Summary

Contributions 453,501
Expenses 448,165
NET 5,337

We are so grateful for your continued support enabling us to help animals and heal the planet. We would also like to extend a warm thank you to all of our volunteers who have enabled us to accomplish our work, without them none of this would be possible.

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LEGAL COUNSEL
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Administrative, Operations, Consulting/Staffing 18%
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