



















ANNUAL REPORT

Helping Animals. Healing Our Planet.







Dear friends, PRESIDENT'S REPORT

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are reminded of how important the work at Veterinarians International truly is. It is imperative we continue our effo ts to improve the health and welfare of animals globally. Habitat destruction and species loss are taking place at unprecedented rates – 100 to 1,000 times faster than natural extinction rates. We live in an interconnected world where disease knows no borders. Therefore, it is critical we work to protect the worlds' animal crises hot spots to save animals, ourselves, and this magnifi ent planet we all call home.

Loss and disruption are occurring across the globe due to improper human-animal interactions and conflict. If we don't take urgent action for a more healthy coexistence between humans and animals, our planet's biodiversity and prosperity are at stake.



"The biodiversity crisis — i.e. the rapid loss of species and the rapid degradation of ecosystems — is probably a greater threat than global climate change to the stability and prosperous future of humankind on Earth." UN-IPBES (UN Intergovernmental Panel for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services)

On August 11, 2021 UN Secretary General Anonio Guiterrez announced Code Red for humanity based off the most recent IPPC report. On behalf of this issue, as Founding VI President I was honored to represent VI and address the impact humans are having on the animal kingdom, and the emergence of disease as a result, at the inaugural Sustainable Goals Gala in New York City on September 21, 2021. Subsequently, VI created the CODE RED campaign with a matching gift from the Meringoff Family Foundation, a longtime supporter of Veterinarians International, raising \$303 000. The funds have been used to implement and plan a national veterinary training program in Kenya, with a strong focus on conservation medicine while ensuring animals at our VI/GAAP clinic recieve the vet care they need. Because of you, this has increased animal health capacity for Kenya strengthening it's ability to fi ht disease and prevent species loss.





Funds raised for the campaign:

\$303K





Sri Lanka faces challenges of human-wildlife conflit, illegal poaching, and economic instability. COVID-19 restrictions made movement of goods and services within the country even more difficult. Because of you, we were able to provide fi st-rate veterinary care to hundreds of animals in need despite these challenges.

Namal, an 11-year-old hind limb amputee elephant received a new prosthesis, allowing improved mobility, comfort, independence and enhanced quality of life. Namal is a young elephant and will need new prosthetics as he grows to maintain proper support for his size.

Because of you, over 110 wild animals from leopards to elephants and sloth bears also received life saving diagnostic blood tests, ensuring their survival. Namal is pictured here being tended to by one of his caretakers.

In partnership with the Global Alliance for Animals and People (GAAP) in Chile, we delivered a successful online humane-education program that was attended by over 3,000 participants and provided quality veterinary care to hundreds of families in need:



1065 Animals
cared for at our clinic in Chile



2643 Participations in education workshops



279 Dogs cared for through telemedicine

Because of you, this program created stronger human-animal bonds resulting in a more peaceful coexistence between humans and animals.

Your contributions amplifie our impact in Northern Kenya tremendously. We provided over half a million vaccines and over 40,000 treatments to animals! Together with the Ministry of Livestock, the County Vet department and partner Sauti Moja, we trained 11 Community Disease Reporters CDRs in Animal Health and Husbandry, provided continuous education to 23 CDRs, vaccinated over 500,000 sheep, goat, and camel for common infectious diseases Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Pestes de Petites Ruminants (PPR), Cantagious Caprine Pleuropneumonia (CCPP) and offe ed veterinary care to nearly 45,000 camels, horses, goats, sheep, donkeys and cattle.

As we approach our 8th anniversary at Veterinarians International, we celebrate you for your work, generosity and sacrifi e to provide quality care to animals across the globe despite the challenging times.

We are truly honored by your commitment and look forward to another year together. Thank you for being a part of our family.

With gratitude,

Scarlett Magda, BSc, DVM

Founding President, Veterinarians International

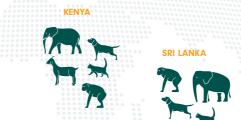




Where We Work



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IN-DEPTH PROGRAM REVIEWS

Sri Lanka Elephant Care



Human development has displaced animals and led to increased human-wildlife confli t. Some communities have resorted to extreme measures to stop wildlife such as snares, ditches, bombs, and guns. These tactics have resulted in elephants and other wildlife to be orphaned, injured, and even killed at staggering rates. In 2021, 367 elephants died from Human-Elephant Confli t, the most on record. The Elephant Transit Home (ETH) is Asia's fi st and only elephant orphanage that rehabilitates and releases animals back into the wild, and VI is proud to partner with them and support their mission. The ETH has received 18 elephant colves in 2021 and released 3 who either suffe ed from jaw bomb injuries or severe wounds.

By the numbers



Elephant Casualties in 2021

- 18 Elephant calves received in the Elephant Transit Home
 - Injured/wounded elephant calves released

Our major accomplishments for the year included:



Providing Namal, the 11 year-old hindlimb amputee with a prosthetic



Sending Drs. Malaka, Kalani and their two children to London for one year of advanced training at the Royal Veterinary College in wildlife medicine and welfare



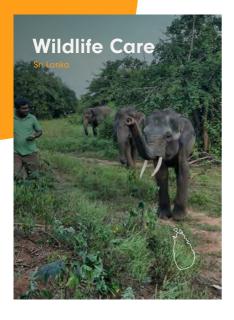
Assisting in the veterinary care of dozens of orphaned elephants by providing emergency medicine and laboratory tests aiding in diagnosing disease and illness.



Madumi

Madumi is a female elephant calf, around 2 ½ years old, rescued by wildlife officia from the North-western province on May 14 and transported to the ETH. She was found to have chronic wounds and a severely swollen right forelimb. We suspected that the injury was due to a snare, but there was no cable visible. After arriving at the ETH, the veterinary team performed all possible diagnostic tests, including bloodwork and x-rays which revealed a metal cable embedded at the site of the swelling.

Madumi was anesthetized, the cable was surgically removed, she was given antibiotics, and her wound dressing was changed daily. Her blood chemistry values returned to normal ranges within a few weeks, and antibiotics were discontinued. Madumi remained in the intensive care unit (ICU) for a month, was put on a special diet, and was introduced to the rehabilitation group upon being discharged from ICU. Now Madumi is a leading female calf in the group showing her friends where to fin fresh grasses and how to play in the water.



Diagnostic tests and reagents were purchased, enabling us to monitor the health of:

88 Elephants 9 Fishing Cats
4 Jackals 4 Civet Cats
2 Leopards 1 Barking Deer
1 Sambar Deer 1 Sloth Bear

Total



Up until this year, samples had to be sent to a laboratory hours away awaiting results for 1-2 days which delayed the onset of care.



New laboratory equipment provided to the Elephant Transit Home: A microscope and a hemocytometer enabled the counting of diffe ent types of blood cells for a complete blood count (CBC) seen under the microscope.





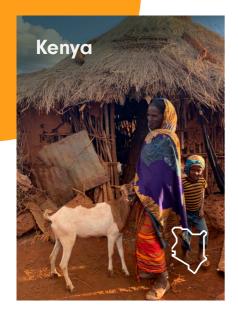
Wildlife nurse Kalpani comforting a newly rescued purple-faced langur who was found wounded by a fence.



Sloth Bear

A snared adult sloth bear was rescued from Yala national park on February 20. Sloth bears can be aggressive animals in the wild. Wildlife officia had to work hard and made a considerable attempt to rescue him. His right hind leg was severely damaged due to a snare; and he couldn't bear weight on it. He was rescued and transported to the ETH, and kept in a special enclosure where he couldn't harm himself.

Although his wounds were successfully treated, he refused to eat. Daily bloodwork was performed to access his body energy and chemistry profil . A few days later, he started to eat small amounts, and was kept in intensive care for 3 more weeks after which time he was successfully released into the wild.



Our work with Sauti Moja, which is now entering its fi th year, has enabled thousands of farm animals to receive care, and hundreds of women to support their families. We are pleased to collaborate our effo ts with the Ministry of Livestock and the County Vet department yielding enhanced efficie y and efficacy, multiplying the number of animals receiving care.









Between January and December 2021, the following achievements were met:



11 Community Disease Reporters - CDRs (previously known as Community Animal Health Workers) received animal care and husbandry training and 23 CDRs received refresher training.



Jointly with the Marsabit Vet Department provided personnel for disease surveillance and reporting effo ts.



Treatment and Vaccination Campaigns: provided over half a million vaccines and over 40,000 treatments to animals



Vaccination Data Summary (2021)

Species	Disease	No. of Cases
Cattle	Foot and Mouth (FMD)	16,304
	PPR	287,608
Sheep and Goat	ССРР	198,205
	TOTAL	502,117

Species	Disease	No. of Cases	Drugs used (commonly)
Camel	Abscesses	300	Penstrep
	Trypanosomiasis/Surra	2,806	Tryquin
	Ticks/Biting fli s	87	Ectopor
	Mange	240	lvermectin
	Helminthiasis	1,159	Albendazole

Species	Disease	No. of Cases	Drugs used (commonly)
Cattle	Trypanosomiasis	1,077	Nortryp
	Pneumonia	258	Oxytet L.A
	Eye infection	311	Oxytet, Eye Ointment

Species	Disease	No. of Cases	Drugs used (commonly)
Sheep and Goats	Pneumonia	11,360	Oxytet L.A
	Helminthiasis	21,488	Albendazole
	Eye infection	311	Oxytet, Eye Ointment
	ССРР	3,701	Tylosin
	Mange	938	lvermectin

Species	Disease	No. of Cases	Drugs used (commonly)
Equine/Donkeys	Helminthiasis	230	lvermectin
	Wounds	468	Oxytet, Wound spray
	Eye infection	311	Oxytet, Eye Ointment
	TOTAL	44,423	

The 2020/2021 Laikipia Rabies Vaccination Campaign

Vaccinations

21,493 domestic dogs and cats

Period

8 Weekends



Background

Every year, an estimated 2,000 Kenyans die of canine rabies, World Health Organization (WHO, 2014), and 98% of those human rabies cases in developing countries are caused by a bite from an infected domestic dog (Butler et al, 2004). Particularly at-risk populations are those in remote rural areas, who may fin it difficult to access or pay for rabies prevention with post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP).

Mass vaccination of domestic dogs remains the most cost-effe tive intervention method to control rabies, and to prevent transmission of the virus

to humans (WHO, 2014). The World Health Organization estimates that vaccinating 70% of domestic dogs for 3 consecutive years in a spatial locale, is sufficie to eliminate the disease from the domestic dog population and, by extension, humans (Cleveland et al, 2003).

Objective

The ultimate goal of the Laikipia Rabies Vaccination Campaign (LRVC) is to eradicate rabies from the domestic dog populations in Laikipia County, as part of the national rabies eradication effo t in Kenya.

The 2020/2021 Laikipia Rabies Vaccination Campaign





Campaign Execution Strategy

Veterinarians, students, and volunteers conducted the campaign door to door during the pandemic to avoid people gathering. The area chiefs, group ranches chairmen, churches, and other public functions were utilized to gain trust of the community and spread awareness of the event. Thanks to donors, VI is proud to have contributed \$30,000 to the campaign as well as provided several experts to participate.

By improving community awareness about both rabies and vaccination safety and efficacy, we can address misconceptions and ensure the long-term success of the campaign. The campaign could expand its reach, increase trust, and fi ht misinformation by increasing involvement from within the communities themselves.

Although we have seen great success in terms of vaccination numbers and extremely high turnout in new communities, increasing awareness and trust alongside vaccination numbers is critical to the LRVC's ultimate success as the campaign continues and expands over the next 5 or more years.



Throughout 2021, we provided care to hundreds of animals who otherwise would have been left without potentially life-saving treatments, we protected habitats and expanded our environmental-outdoor education program to explore Chile's fi st Ramsar site, and reached thousands of people with One Health workshops.

Background

At Veterinarians International, we recognize the importance of the One Health approach in which veterinarians play a critical role. They advocate for domestic and wild animal well-being, and prevent the transmission of diseases from animals to people. To advance our goals of providing access to quality veterinary care, exemplifying kindness and compassion to all animals, and to educate local communities in Latin America, we have partnered with the Global Alliance for Animals and People who implement our program on the ground.



The Global Alliance for Animals and People (the GAAP) is a small registered, charitable organization located in south-central Chile composed of professionals from many disciplines including

veterinarians, biologists, educators, ecologists, sociologists, and adventure tourism guides. Together we create innovative projects to support marginalized people and their animals to improve their quality of life. To these ends, The GAAP implements multi-disciplinary programs under the One Health concept that include veterinary

services, environmental-outdoor education, animal health and welfare education, and research.

Our Theory of Change suggests that if we invest in both childhood and adult education, provide communities with the human services they need, offe accessible veterinary services, and conduct cutting-edge research that ensures our work is grounded in the latest available science, we will be able to influen e the knowledge, attitudes, and social change needed to ensure the proper care for companion animals as well as lead to long-term and sustainable changes in public health, animal welfare, and the environment.

Location Overview

Chile

Why Chile?



Extreme inequality; greatest disparity between rich and poor of all countries in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development



Disparity in access to education and healthcare; Quality of these basic services is highly dependent on socioeconomic status, leaving the most vulnerable populations without key information to keep them and their animals healthy



Social, political, and economic challenges surround the Valdivian Forest, one of the top 35 biodiversity hotspots in the world.

Conservation effo ts and environmental-outdoor education are urgently needed to protect this critical ecosystem, but the aforementioned challenges restrict resources and reduce efficie y in addressing the most imminent threats.

Our Focus



Providing quality, holistic veterinary services to populations that do not have equal access to these resources due to their socioeconomic status.



Accessible, participatory One Health-focused learning opportunities for children and community members



Protecting threatened species and habitat through conservation and community engagement



Engaging kids and community members in hands-on experiences within two globally-signifi ant and threatened ecosystems

Strategy One: Access to Quality Veterinary Care

Vision of Success: Our vision of success for this project is that animals will have access to excellent quality veterinary care regardless of owners' ability to cover the full cost, and through this access, owners will begin to understand what is required to keep their pets healthy, happy and responsibly managed.

Strategies Implemented

- Provide excellence in services such as personalized attention to the owner and pet, ongoing support, and ensuring overall improved health and appropriate pet management
- Provide clients with clear information about the need for vaccinations, grooming, healthy diet, and hygiene
- Increase project sustainability and community buy-in through use of a sliding scale pay model that supports affo dable care for all pets

Key Impact Highlights

&\$	Total families helped	759
M	Total animals helped	1065
	Total appointments	2128
No.	Vaccines administered · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	1017
Ŵ	Anti-parasite treatments	1039
B	Surgeries	543
φ	Sterilizations	461
P	Subsidies	\$5k+
	Over \$5,500 went directly to supplies and medication us treat animals in need (not including veterinarian or tech time)	
<u>&</u>	Visits per family per year 2.8/year/	family

On average

Our vet at the GAAP-VI Clinic went to see Boris in the little community square, where we're told he lived his whole life. He was in a lot of pain from severe arthritis and a transmissible venereal tumor, and Roxana (the woman who has cared for Boris for years) said he was not acting like himself at all. We treated him with injectable anti-inflamm tories and gave Roxana some oral anti-inflamm tories to give him each day with his dinner. Just a few days after the visit, we got word that Boris had been hit by a car. Roxana made the difficult decision to euthanize him after seeing the condition he was in.

Boris was what we call a "community dog" and sadly they are so common here in Chile and around many countries in Latin America that you are all but guaranteed to encounter at least one on any walk around a city or town. Some of these dogs were abandoned, others were born on the street. Many of them suffe daily difficulties, and Boris' story of illness, pain, and a tragic passing is not uncommon. Some, like Boris, are fortunate to have kind, committed friends who care for them, like Roxana, but even that is sometimes not enough to protect them and to keep them from contributing to concerns for animal and human health.



In addition to their own struggles, the presence of animals roaming the streets has further consequences. Given the extreme challenges that they face, animals on the street quickly learn they must protect themselves from any perceived threat at all costs and that anything is fair game when it comes to food. They are only trying to survive, yet their very existence is creating larger scale problems for the community's health. Sadly, they play an important role in predation and attacks on wildlife and livestock, they spread diseases to other animals, they contaminate public areas with aurbage and feces, and

sometimes they even bite or attack people, especially kids who are not always as cautious as they should be when they see an adorable dog nearby.

Countries all around the world have diffe ent ideas about the best way to tackle this complicated issue. In Chile, there is a law that outlines responsible pet ownership and gives some guidance about the care of animals in the street, assigning responsibility to local governments to sterilize, vaccinate, and release these animals back to where they were found. In some countries, free-roaming animals are swiftly captured, vaccinated, and taken to an animal shelter to try to be rehomed. But what happens when those shelters are full? Some organizations suggest feeding free-roaming animals only contributes to the problem, but in a practical sense, how can a community move from just helping an animal survive to solving the root issue of reducing the number of dogs (and cats!) in the street?

The OIE World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) and International Companion Animal Management Coalition (ICAM) both lay out plans for managing the dog population, including obtaining an accurate count of free-roaming dogs.

community education effo ts, vaccination, sterilization, veterinary care, registration/identifi ation, and implementation of a legislative framework. Still, until a broader cultural change can support such effo ts, the animals will continue to appear in the community square, hungry, and looking for a kind heart – their very own Roxana - to help them get through another day.



What's the answer? Education, community relationships and enforcement are critical - the foundation to sustainable change. But the reality is, that change will be years in the making, and frankly it's not as exciting for people to support as some other quick-fi approaches. Until the dog and cat populations are more manageable in scope, who will provide care for these animals - both the daily love that Roxana gave Boris and the necessary veterinary attention that all animals deserve? Many international organizations focus on findi a homes for animals on the street, quite admirably. It's an important piece of the puzzle, and it's heartwarming to hear the stories of animals findi q homes. Complementary to those effo ts and thanks to the support of our incredible donors, through our work as the Latin America branch of Healthy Pets, The GAAP implements a holistic, One Health approach with the goal of not only seeing these animals live another day. but hopefully seeing the population reduced to a manageable amount to avoid animals being put in these dire conditions in the fi st place. The story of Boris and Roxana is both beautiful and tragic. And the very best outcome of sharing it would be that we would never have to tell a similar story again - a work in progress, thanks to all those who support Veterinarians International as well as its partners in Latin America and around the world.



Strategy Two: One Health Education Program

Vision of Success: Our vision of success for this project is that children and community members will gain knowledge about the interconnected health of animals, people, and the environment through an approach that engages them in the issues and encourages action on the individual and community level.

Strategies Implemented

- Develop curriculum and delivery methods that speak to the language, culture, and needs of diffe ent audiences (ages 4 and up) on topics such as responsible pet ownership and protecting native species and habitats
- Provide educational materials in the clinic and via social media to reinforce and complement educational interactions with our clinic staff
- Ensure maximum accessibility by creating both in-person and virtual resources
- Partner with local and national organizations to reach a broader audience with One Health educational content

Key Impact Highlights

One Health Workshops

2021

8	Number of workshops 66
0 98	Total reach of workshops
	Reach 7 schools
	7 schools in 7 communities across 3 diffe ent regions, with an emphasis on rural populations
	Total reach of workshops
	2019 3540

Context: For all but two weeks of the school year for 2020, and nearly half the school year for 2021, most schools were functioning remotely, with only virtual classes. At the start of 2020, we had no virtual materials for the workshops, and we now have 13 unique workshops, complete with customized videos and virtual components.

220

2643

Key Impact Highlights (continued)

Clinic Client Education

Takeaways from a survey sent to clients after a visit to our veterinary clinic:

†††† † 1 83%

of responses indicated the client learned something new about responsible pet ownership and/or their pet's health

† † † † 76%

of those who reported having learned something said they were motivated to make a change to improve how they care for their pet









This year our One Health Educators, Paula and Nadia, had the opportunity to spend four weeks with fi e diffe ent classes at a school in Freirina, a small community in northern Chile, engaging the students in workshops about pet health and welfare, through a One Health lens. After facilitating eight workshops with each class, Nadia and Paula asked the kids to refle t on how they will put into action what they had learned through the workshops.

One 8-year old boy, Julián, shared that after the workshops, he approached his dad about having their family's dog vaccinated

and dewormed. His dad had a very diffe ent view, and told Julián that pets do not need those things and on the contrary, they don't need to go to the veterinarian at all. Julián was frustrated and disheartened with his father's response, so he asked our One Health Educator, Nadia, what to do. She helped him understand that as a child, he could not control or be responsible for his father's decisions regarding his dog, but he can share what he's learned and when he grows up, he will have the chance to put his knowledge about responsible pet ownership into action. Julián felt better, and he was determined to make the best choices for the well-being of his own future pets.

For us, this story was signifi ant for two main reasons: 1) It demonstrates that kids who participate in the workshop are sharing what they learned with their families and trying to implement change in the ways they care for their pets, and 2) It reminds us how much work we have left to do to change the culture of responsible pet ownership here in Chile. These kinds of stories are the best indicators that our Healthy Pets workshops are critically important to both the animals and people of Chile, and we look forward to continuing this work in 2021

From the Teachers

"At the end, it was very useful for me, because I had never had a kitten before, so when we had the workshops, I was always listening and learning, just like the students."

"Honestly, I was surprised at the kids' responses - the terminology they used and the understanding they demonstrated... I hope they can have a second round of the workshops next year!"

Location Overview

Guatemala

Todos Santos, Guatemala is a remote village composed mainly of indigenous Mayan people, with high illiteracy rates and poverty. They have struggled with issues associated with free-roaming dogs as well as canine rabies. There have never been veterinary services available on a regular basis, although for the last ten years, we have provided an annual rabies vaccination, general health and sterilization campaign as well as activities in the school teaching children about rabies and bite prevention. Our goal, however, was to be able to provide more constant access to veterinary care, and in the last three years, we have moved to a more local initiative where veterinary care and adult education are provided by trained para veterinarians from Todos Santos, assisted and supervised by remote veterinarians in Guatemala and Chile.

Our Focus



Regularly accessible, sustainable veterinary services using telemedicine and our local partner clinic in Guatemala



Education of clients about dog health, care, and management

Telemedicine & Local Veterinary Services

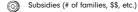
Vision of Success: Our vision of success for this project is to have veterinary services available to remote, indigenous communities in the Huehuetenango District of Guatemala through the telemedicine model.

Strategies Implemented

Provide veterinary care on a sliding scale basis as needed to multiple communities that currently have no access to veterinary care using our model of telemedicine

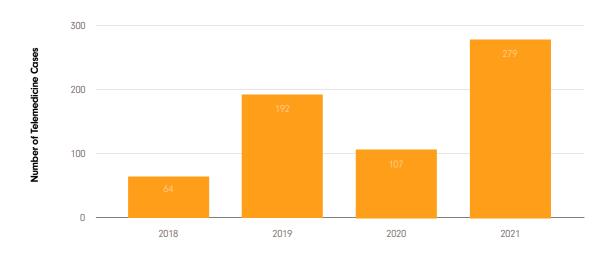
Key Impact Highlights

B	Dogs treated · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	279
ρ	Sterilizations (locally-led campaigns)	21
Total	vaccinations	211



We spent O5498.75 (\$713.83 USD) in subsidies for 13 families. For context: When you consider that a standard appointment costs Q40 (\$5 USD), you can see the extent of the impact of these subsidies on providing animals in need with access to quality care.

Number of Telemedicine Cases per Year in Todos Santos, Guatemala



Provide training for local animal health care workers to ensure veterinary care can be provided regularly, without sole reliance on foreign-led effo ts

Vov Impact Highlighte



Trained a second paraveterinarian through an intensive preparation program that combined a comprehensive text, virtual observation and instruction, and ongoing in-person training with a local veterinary partner in Guatemala.

Provide clients with clear information about pets' needs so they will be well-positioned to care for their animals properly

Voy Impact Highlight



Given the constraints of the pandemic, we implemented a new educational effo t to reach the community when in-person sessions were not an option. Our paraveterinarian delivered a radio show, sharing information on One Health issues relevant to the community and centered around dog health. We received excellent feedback, as evidenced through many questions from community members and an increase in preventive care cases.



When Charly was just 4 months old, his owner frantically called our para-veterinarians, Andrés and José David. Charly was weak and lethargic, with vomiting and diarrhea that had already lasted 4 days. When our telemedicine team went to work on the case, Andrés led a physical examination of the pup. Immediately he could see Charly was in poor shape - severely dehydrated and barely able to move around on his own. Then came confi mation of what we all feared: Charly had canine parvovirus. Without treatment, Charly faced up to a 90% chance of death. However, with proper care, 70-90% of dogs like Charly are able to make a full recovery.

With the oversight of Claudia, our telemedicine veterinarian in Chile, Andrés got to work quickly, starting Charly on a full treatment plan: hydration, medication, and a special food to help him heal. After just one week, Charly was showing signs of a full recovery! He had his energy back and was already his playful self. But our telemedicine program is designed to ensure that's not where the story ends - we're in it for the long hau!! Charly is already scheduled for his regular vaccines, and our para-veterinarians built a relationship with his owner, educating him about parvovirus and other potential risks, as well as important caretaking responsibilities that will help ensure Charly, and his entire family, can live healthier lives.















Healthy Steps for Healthy Pets Walkathon











On September 25 and October 3 we held our 2nd annual Healthy Steps for Healthy Pets Walkathon in East Hampton, NY and Tewksbury, NJ respectively.

We are grateful to our sponsors and partners Paul Hastings Law Firm, Civic Entertainment Group, Veterinary Medical Center of Long Island, the Baker House, Steven Klein, and David Burke. A special thank you to Dopo La Spiaggia for the light fare and Altaneve.

PAUL HASTINGS



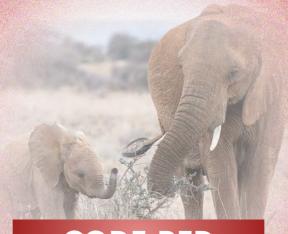












CODE RED

It's not a hyperbole... our planet is in peril.



In the last 150 years, our planet has lost 83% of its wildlife and over 50% of its plant species. We are in a crisis and the way that we live is changing our planet in irreversible ways.

Scientists and concerned individuals around the world are taking a stance.

#DontChooseExtinction



In August 2021, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres announced 'Code Red' for humanity in the latest IPCC report. The United Nations Development Program has also launched an awareness and advocacy program - #Don'tChooseExtinction urging governments to abolish fossil fuel subsidies.



I spoke about how this crisis affe ts animals and the planet at the Sustainable Goals Gala in New York City on October 21, 2021.

Veterinarians International has been working in some of the most environmentally sensitive regions around the world.

One of our areas of focus is the wildlife crisis in Kenya.



Kenya has lost 70% of its wildlife since the 1980s and currently has many of its wildlife on the IUCN's endangered list.

Animals like the black rhino, Grévy's zebra, lesser kudu to name a few.

For the scope of the challenge it is facing, Kenya has minimal resources. For example there are only 14 wildlife veterinarians at the Kenya Wildlife Service for the entire country. The University of Nairobi has a wildlife medicine program, where many of the students graduate with good theoretical knowledge, but lack the experience in working with modern equipment for diagnosis and treatment. I was surprised to fin that basic equipment like a glucometer (a cage side pocket tool that measures blood sugar) wasn't available. My colleagues at the Veterinary Medical Center of Long Island were kind enough to donate a couple devices that were brought to Kenya last week. This simple act will save thousands of lives.



VMCLI hospital manager Gregory Carastro and I with their donated glucometer kit.

Our goal is to support the University of Nairobi by updating equipment and establishing a National veterinary training program for recent veterinary graduates. This will have a sustainable impact on Kenya's ability to respond to a growing challenge.

Thanks to you, you were able to help us launch our effo ts to build Kenya's veterinary capacity to prevent the extinction of critically important species like the black rhino. Our Code Red Matching Campaign raised over \$303,000, surpassing our goal.











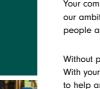












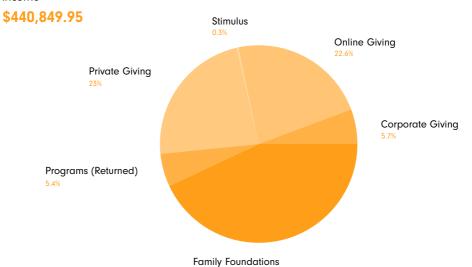


Your commitment is our encouragement to continue with our ambitious vision to improve the lives of animals and people around the world.

Without people like you, none of this would be possible! With your support, we can continue this important work to help animals and heal the planet. Thank you!



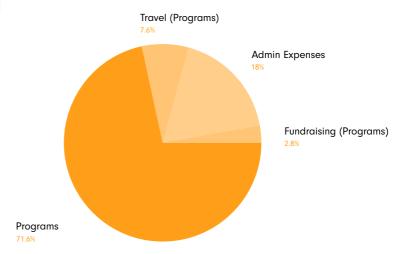




43.1%

Expenses

\$407,784.11



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Field Expertise

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