



2021 Annual Report

Contents

Welcome to the 2021 annual report	2
The Haven	3
Animal rescue	5
Fostering	6
Rehoming.....	7
Community Outreach & Education	8
Volunteers and staff	10
Donors and fundraising	11
Land Update	12
Thankyou	13



Welcome to the 2021 annual report!

The Uganda Society for the Protection and Care of Animals (USPCA) is a non-governmental organization established in 1998 to respond to the immediate needs of abandoned, stray and sick animals whilst simultaneously tackling the root causes of the large population of strays.

We work with communities and schools to support a healthier pet population. The USPCA runs a large animal shelter called the Haven, which receives animals from across the country. The animals are rehabilitated before being rehomed. The USPCA is registered with The National NGO Board, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Uganda.



**1906
animals
cared for
in 2021**

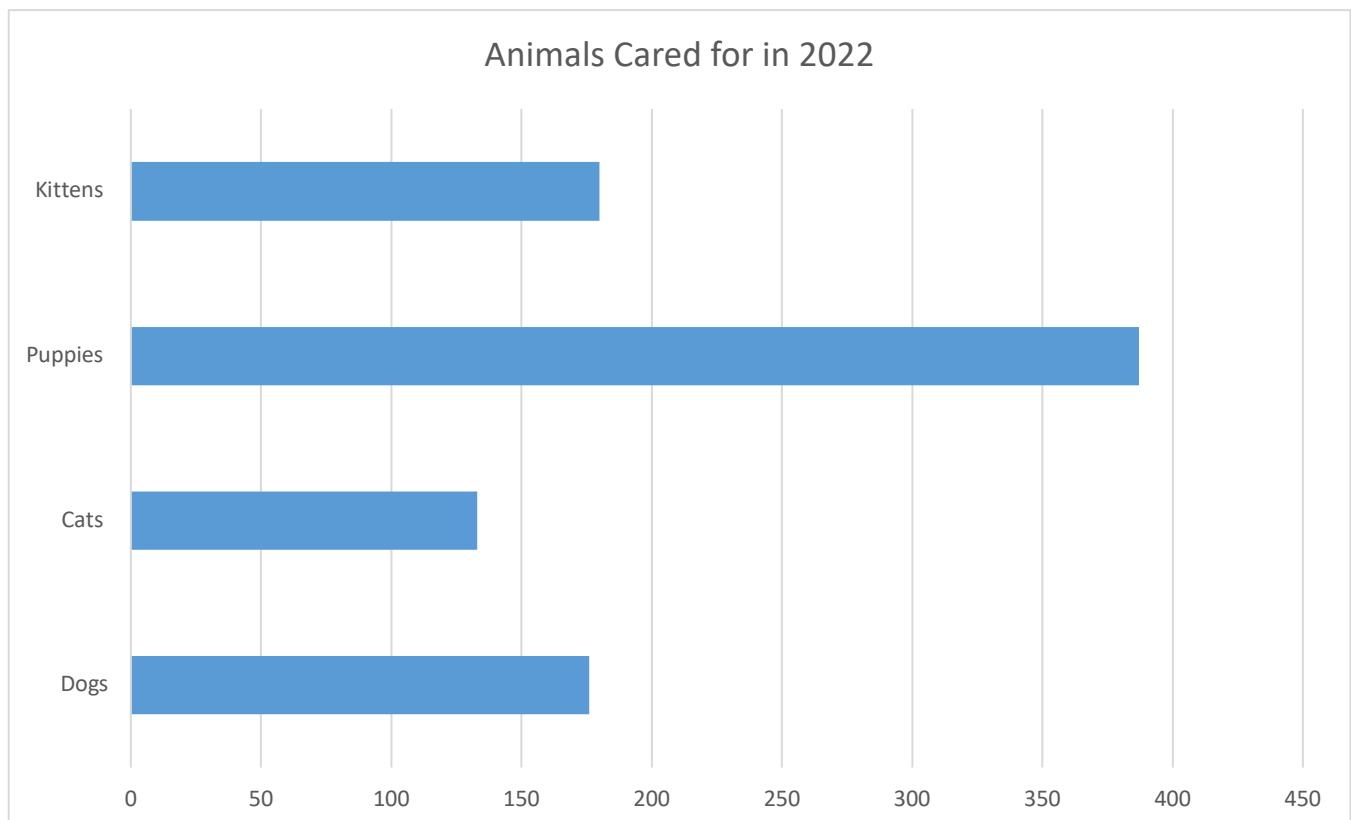
The Haven

The Haven cares for dogs and cats whilst they await adoption. Dogs are housed in twenty communal kennels and cats share a large outdoor cat enclosure. There are separate dedicated rooms and kennels for sick animals, mamas with pups or kittens and orphaned kittens and puppies.

In 2021, The Haven cared for **876 new arrivals, 387 puppies, 180 kittens, 176 dogs and 133 cats**. As in previous years, puppies remained the most common category of animal in our care, followed by kittens, dogs and finally cats.

We aim to rehome all animals at the shelter and do not have a time limit on how long animals can stay, offering life-long care to those who need it. **312 animals were adopted in 2021, comprised of 122 dogs, 67 puppies, 50 cats and 73 kittens**. This remains stable from the previous year, when 314 animals were adopted. All of the animals in the shelter are spayed/neutered before being rehomed (if they are old enough) and all receive vaccinations and deworming. The vaccinations and deworming of the shelter animals was sponsored by 2-4 Life in 2021, as in previous years.

Unfortunately, 302 animals this year passed away, some naturally, others were euthanized. Many of these animals come to us in a terminal state or with such extensive injuries that it was more humane to peacefully put them to sleep. Others were already suffering from diseases such as parvo-virus which particularly affects very young puppies, and from which, sadly, many are unable to recover.



Long-stay residents, those who are often overlooked by adopters, are generally animals with disabilities, behavioural issues and those who may have scars and disfigurements from difficult lives on the streets. All animals are precious to us, regardless of how they look or behave. Although a life at the shelter may not be ideal, thanks to our donors we are able to offer this option for those who need it, all the while maintaining hope for the perfect adopters to come along for each of the lives we care for.

Right: a new arrival. These two is young boys saved their dog by bringing him to the USPCA Haven. Their father didn't want this beautiful dog because he had a swollen leg. USPCA staff suggested they treat the dog and then return him to the family. But the boys said no (as much as they would have loved to keep the dog). As their father will kill him. So the dog entered the care of the USPCA and was later adopted into a new home.

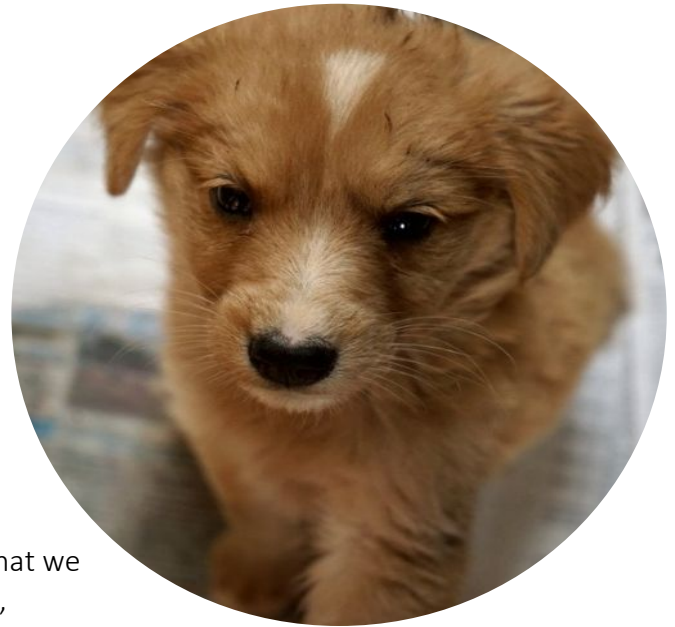


Left: These two boys found two kittens crying in a polythene bag on their way to the playground. As they know our shelter, they took the initiative to rescue them and brought them to us.

Animal rescue

We receive calls at all times of the day and night from members of the public who are concerned about animals. This year we continued to respond to a high number of cases of dogs who had been abandoned due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. We dealt with several disturbing cases where dogs had been left behind in locked compounds after their owners had left, and several cases of dogs living on the streets but had clearly once been family pets.

We have also responded to a high number of calls from people who no longer want their animals and request that we remove them. Where possible we work with individuals, providing advice and support, so that they can keep them, however if we are concerned for the animal's welfare then we will rescue them.



are

Rescue story: Sophi

Sophi had been left for dead, found chained at the side of the road along the Lugogo Bypass. This beautiful white dog was taken back to the shelter for some TLC, and a few months later, she was found her perfect adopter. Look how loving she is towards her new family!



Fostering

The shelter is a very busy place and so it is not always possible to provide extra care and attention to animals who need it in order to flourish. We rely on a small group of volunteers who foster the most vulnerable animals. At the top of the priority list for fostering are always orphaned kittens and puppies, as they require around the clock care. We also try to find foster homes for animals with disabilities, those who are very shy and are not coping with shelter life, that require additional socialisation support and those with recurring health issues.

We also try to prioritise our long stay residents who have spent many years at the shelter and are repeatedly overlooked for adoption, as foster carers have the opportunity to get to know the animal's personality really well and take great photos in a home environment, making the animal's adoption advertisement very personal and more likely to be successful.

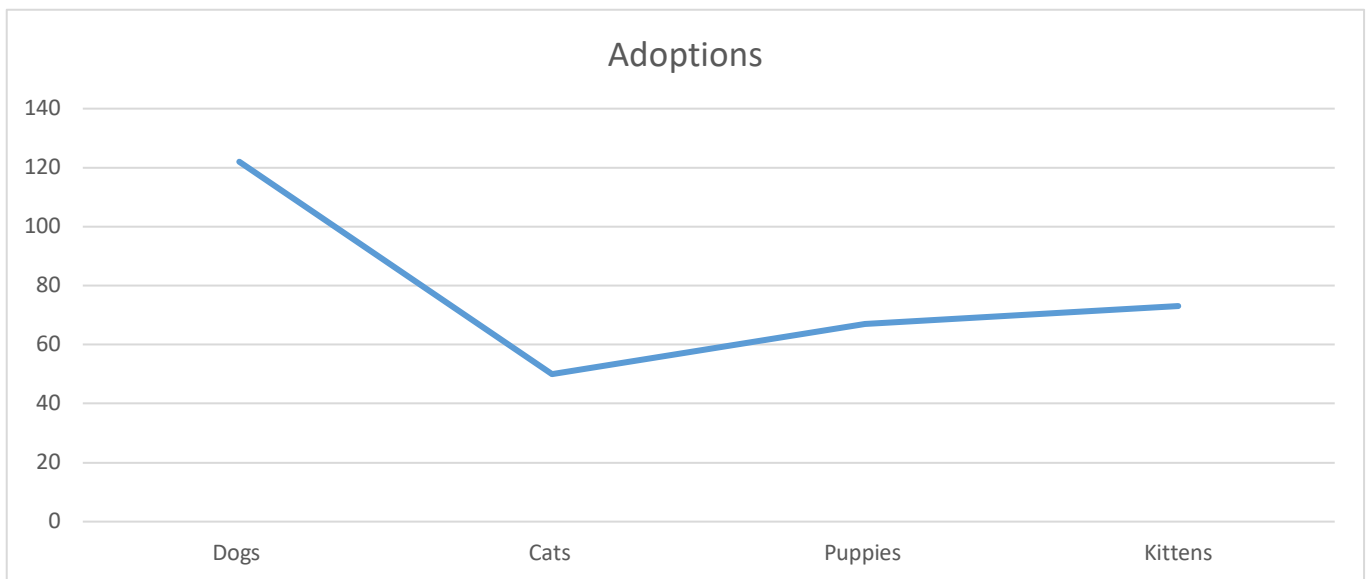
This year we had 11 animals given temporary homes by volunteers. This is a significant reduction on previous years, as the shelter becomes a busier place the USPCA really needs a dedicated volunteer coordinator to support and manage volunteers in a number of roles, including fostering.

Below:: Prema fostered four puppies in November



Rehoming

312 dogs, cats, puppies and kittens were adopted from the USPCA in 2021. We typically see a 50/50 split between animals going to local and expatriate homes. We are very proud of our rehoming yet but recognise that with more resources to advertise and visit events, we may be able to increase it further.



Dogs were our most adopted companion animal (122 adoptions), followed by puppies (67), kittens (73) and cats (50). The shelter is open to visitors every day of the week and potential adopters drop by on a daily basis. We promote adoption via our website and social media, highlighting particular animals looking for homes through our Facebook group.

Pictured: Kisa was adopted on March 2021, she is doing well at her new home.

Thank you very much Josh and Nikki for taking good care of her.



Community outreach and animal welfare education

The USPCA conducted a series of rabies vaccination events at various locations across the city throughout the year, including Kikoni Zone, Katabi and Entebbe Municipality.

At each event volunteers and veterinary students got to work vaccinating, deworming and washing dogs from the surrounding community. Showing care towards animals via simple acts such as washing demonstrates care towards animals and leaves a lasting mark on the communities. In total, **939 dogs** were vaccinated and dewormed. Partners in community work include KCCA, Makerere University, Vet Center, 2-4 Life, Global Vet, Melo Farm, Octopus and Kirama Vet Clinic.

In addition, many community cases end up at the shelter after members of the public bring their animals in for treatment or concerned citizens call the USPCA after seeing a



Community outreach story: Bella

Bella came to us from a family living along the Bukoto-Bahai Road. She had recently had eight puppies and there was a risk of the population in the area getting out of control. Bella's puppies stayed at the shelter for rehoming, whilst she was returned to her home. Bella's family were very happy to have her back after being neutered, vaccinated and dewormed.



sick community animal. The USPCA dealt with a total of **91** community cases, sterilising and vaccinating all animals before returning them to their homes.



Left: Volunteer briefing for trainee vets prior to a vaccination event.



A total of **133** community animals were supported via spay, neuter and medical attention at the shelter. Some community outreach work, such as treatment for TVT, involves animals staying at the shelter for a few days, or sometimes even weeks or months, before being returned to their homes. Others can be treated in community settings and visited regularly.

Volunteers and staff

The USPCA has ten paid staff members: a manager, deputy manager/clinic assistant, vet, six caretakers and one-night security guard.

2021 saw the USPCA welcome a new veterinarian, Dr Dickson. Dr Dickson had already been offering his time on a voluntary basis for many years to help with spaying and neutering the animals. We are overjoyed to welcome him to the team.

Many, many wonderful volunteers gave their time and skills to help the USPCA serve animals in need during 2021. From volunteers who come to the shelter on a regular basis to help with animal care and rescues to those coming for a day as part of their holiday or to celebrate a special occasion, we appreciate all help and support. This year on Christmas day we welcomed several families who came to walk the dogs and feed the puppies and kittens.



Thank you for everyone who has given their time to the USPCA over the past year. We are very fortunate to have a large number of passionate volunteers who support with such a wide range of tasks, both hands on at the shelter and also behind the scenes supporting administration, finance, communications and many other important roles.

Left: Volunteer Arti arranged for several visits to the USPCA for families to give their time to the USPCA by feeding and playing with the animals.



Donors and fundraising



A huge thankyou to Animal Kind International, Cafe Javas and 2-4-Life for their ongoing support to the USPCA. Year after year their unwavering financial and in-kind support enables the Haven to run and we are extremely grateful to them. Meg at SouthSide Farmer's Market has also become one of our regular donors over the past few years.

We received many, many cash and in-kind donations from supporters and local businesses over the course of the year. Commonly donated, much needed items included dog and cat food, kitten and puppy formula, newspapers and blankets.

Left: Makindye Quiz Night continued to raise funds for the USPCA even during curfew

In 2020 we launched kennel sponsorship, a fundraising initiative to allow our supporters to make annual commitments to supporting animals in our care. Kennel sponsorship went from strength to strength in 2021 and has proved to be a great way for individuals,

families, schools, companies and organisations to become more involved in our work. 19 out of 20 kennels received sponsors, which we were blown away by.

A significant number of the sponsors were already long term supporters of the USPCA, others were individuals and families who had adopted from the USPCA previously and saw kennel sponsorship as a way of giving back to the USPCA. Sponsorships have been made in memory or loved ones and as a way for families who have adopted beloved pets from the shelter to contribute to the work of USPCA.



Right: Kenya kennel, kindly sponsored by local business Karuna Yoga Journeys.

In 2021, our dedicated kennel sponsors were:

<i>Kennel</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>
Germany	Miles Sedgwick and family, on behalf of their USPCA rescue dog Rita.
UK	Catie Dupont
Kenya	Karuna Yoga Journeys
Gulu	Susan Whiteford, in memory of Derek
Kampala	Petra and Jita
Arua	2-4-Life Project
Adoki	Faith Mwesigye
Jinja	Andrea Johannes and family, on behalf of their rescue dog Jinja Scharlau and his brother Winston Waldau.
Spain	Nina's Home
Garuga	Shiv, Vinay and Arti in memory of Snowy
Nile	Punit Parekh
White House	The Torrington Family
Malawi	Julia and Sascha
Mbale	Education Development Network Uganda
Uganda	Naiya
Brazil	Anonymous
Sudan	Paul Rebman and Maria Martinez
Cat House	Café Javas (who provide fish) and an anonymous donor who covers the other running costs.

Land Update

A momentous occasion occurred in May 2021 when the USPCA finally bought a plot of land after many, many difficult years of fundraising. The plot is along the Entebbe Road and is away from any residential



areas, so is perfect for us. The second stage of fundraising, to begin building work, began shortly after.

Thank you!

2021 was another difficult year for everyone, worldwide. Many, many people were badly impacted financially and this meant that donations to animal rescue organisations declined.

We feel very blessed to have to such wonderful, loyal supporters around the world who, even though they may have been struggling themselves, kept answering our pleas for support and continued their long-standing financial and in-kind support to us.

The USPCA community is a truly wonderful group of people. Your support and solidarity in 2021 helped to motivate and spur us on, even during the most difficult weeks and months.

Words are not enough to express our appreciation- but thank you, from the bottom of our hearts, on behalf of all staff, volunteers and most importantly animals at the USPCA.

