



USPCA
The Voice For Animals In Uganda



2022 Annual Report

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Welcome to the 2022 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.



**1795 animals cared for in
2022**

The Haven

The Haven cares for dogs and cats whilst they await adoption. We are currently located at two sites as we are in process of moving to our new plot of land. The majority of the USPCA animals are still at the old location in Mbuya during the transition period. Dogs are housed in 21 communal kennels (eight at the new shelter and 13 at the existing shelter) and cats share a large outdoor cat enclosure. Separate rooms and kennels are dedicated for sick animals, mamas with pups or kittens and orphaned kittens and puppies.

In 2022, The Haven cared for **1795 animals: 337 puppies, 223 kittens, 156 dogs and 118 cats**. Plus the animals who remained from previous years (for a total of 1795). 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. **346 animals were adopted in 2022, comprised of 91 dogs, 138 puppies, 54 cats and 63 kittens**. This is an increase of 10% on the previous year, when 312 animals were adopted.

USPCA Partner Organization in the United States, Animal-Kind International, raises funds to cover our shelter operations. Among other items, support from AKI donors covered seven months of the rent of

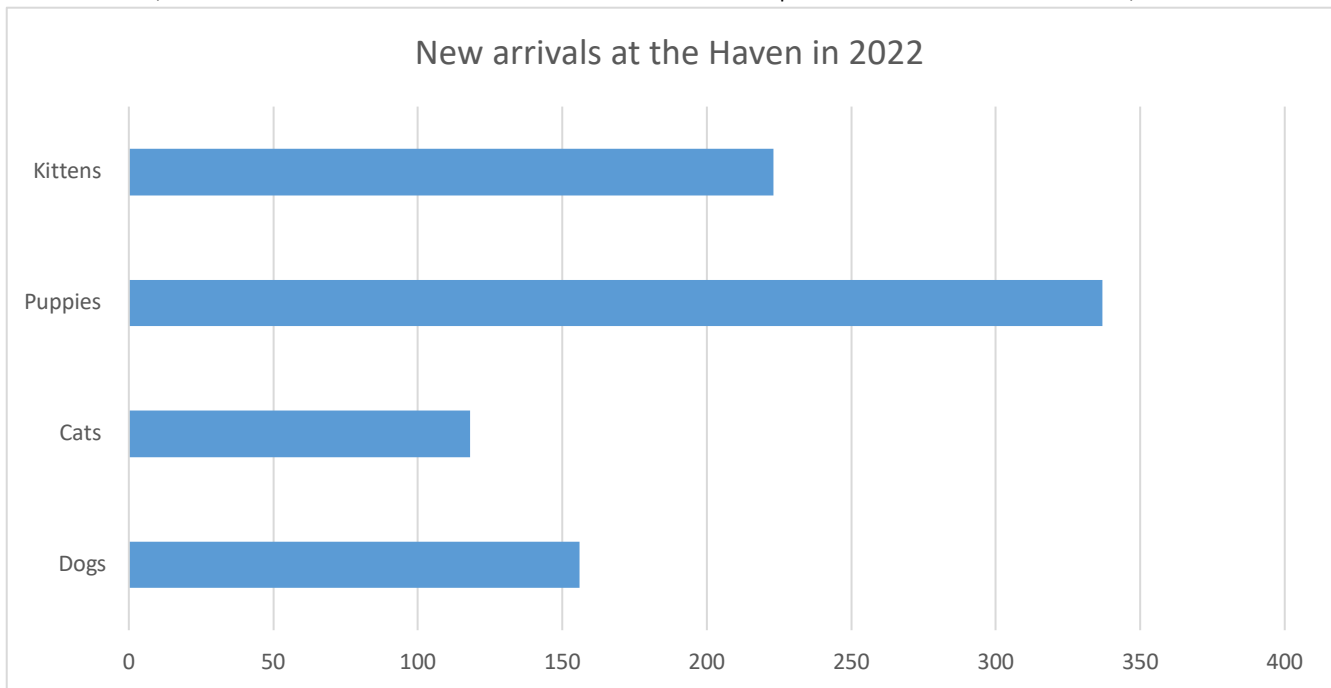


the USPCA Haven shelter, USPCA staff salaries, cat and dog food, and electricity and water for the shelter.

All of the animals in the shelter are spayed/neutered before being rehomed (if they are old enough) and all receive vaccinations and deworming. Animal-Kind International sponsored spay/neuter of over 50 shelter cats and dogs in 2022. The vaccinations and deworming of the shelter animals was sponsored by 2-4 Life in 2022, as in previous years.

Unfortunately, 488 animals this year passed away, some naturally (384), others were euthanized (104). 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 parvovirus 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.



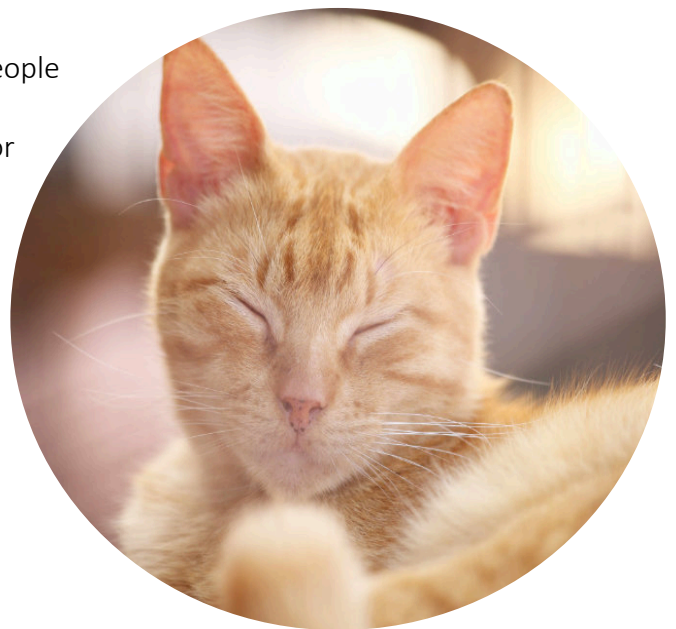
Alex rescuing a dog from a ditch

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, as the effects of COVID-19 and high inflation are hitting Uganda hard, we continued to deal with cases of abandonment 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. Many pet owners are facing extreme financial difficulties and we are grateful that many of them surrender their pets to the USPCA rather abandoning them.

We have also responded to a high number of calls from people who no longer want their animals-they may be considered “too old” or the owner decides they no longer have time or interest-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.

The better known we become, the more calls for help that we get!



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 the very young (especially neonate) 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.

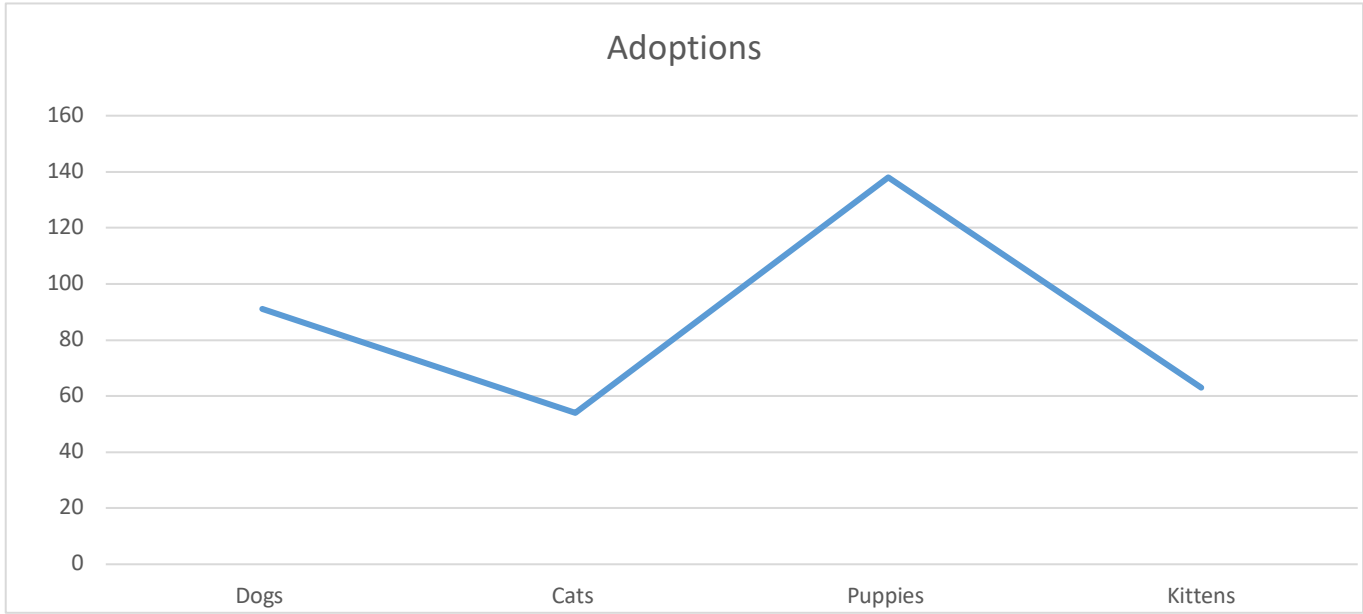
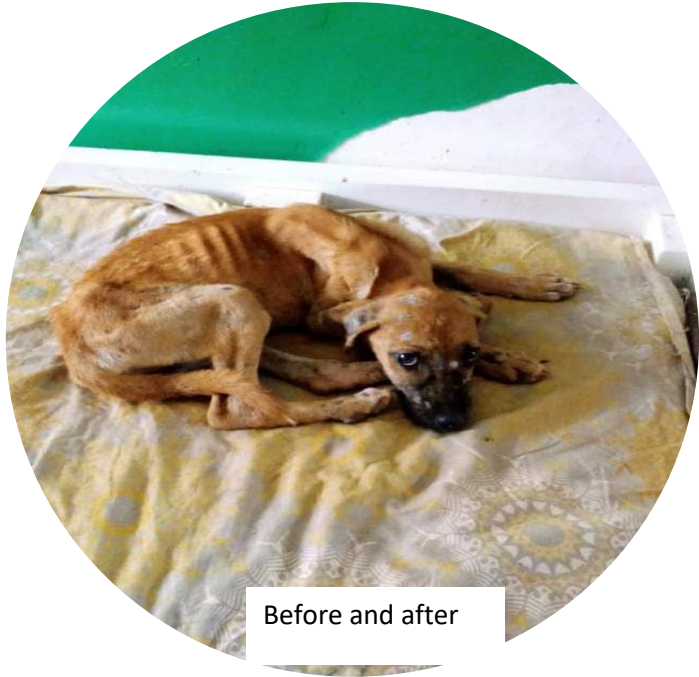
We also try to prioritise our long stay residents who have spent many years at the shelter and are repeatedly overlooked for adoption, as foster carers have the opportunity to get to know the animal's personality really well and take great photos in a home environment, making the animal's adoption advertisement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

Rehoming

346 dogs, cats, puppies and kittens were adopted from the USPCA in 2022. We typically see a 50/50 split between animals going to local and expatriate homes. We are very proud of our rehoming, but recognise that with more resources to advertise and participate in events such as holiday and school fairs, we may be able to increase the number further.



Dogs were our most adopted companion animal (91 adoptions), followed by kittens (63), puppies (138), and cats (54). 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

A father and son rescue

Mzee and his son were rescued from a small wooden crate in a terrible state- both covered in mange, especially Mzee. Two years later, both are thriving. The son (white) was adopted by a schoolteacher. Mzee, who is nine or ten years old, has made The Haven his temporary home while he waits for the right human to come along.



Community outreach and animal welfare education

The USPCA conducted a series of rabies vaccination events at locations across the city throughout the year, including in Banga, Muno, Kynja, Kawempe, Mawanda rd, Kisugu, Makerere and Mbuya area.

At each event volunteers and veterinary students vaccinate and deworm cats and dogs and wash dogs from the surrounding community. Showing care towards animals via these simple acts demonstrates good care practices and leaves a lasting mark on the communities. In total, **939 dogs** were vaccinated and dewormed at community outreach events. Partners in community work include 2-4 Life Project, the Kampala City Council Authority, Makerere University, School of Veterinary Medicine, Global Vet, Vetpal and Kiram 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 sick community animal. The USPCA handled a total of **91** community cases, sterilising and vaccinating all animals before returning them to their homes. Education in animal care and welfare is always a large part of our community outreach work.

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 transmissible venereal tumour (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 with regular visits by the USPCA.



Volunteers and staff

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

Many, many wonderful volunteers gave their time and skills to help the USPCA serve animals in need during 2022. 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 to 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 us with such a wide range of tasks, both hands on at the shelter and also behind the scenes with administration, finance, communications and many other important roles.

Left: Volunteer Elke left us to go back home to the Netherlands after seven years in Uganda.

Donors and fundraising



QUIZ NIGHT
WED AUG 31
7PM

A fundraising dinner quiz in support of USPCA
Taking bookings now!



Call or Whatsapp
0784 093797



includes
dinner



71 Luthuli Ave.
Bugolobi

A huge thank you 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. Supporters Meg and Sue formed their own organisation Uniquely Paws to support community outreach (vaccination and spay/neuter clinics). We are looking forward to what this new effort brings.

We received many, many cash and in-kind donations from supporters, including 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, as did the Dancing Cup.

In 2020 we launched kennel sponsorships, a fundraising initiative to allow our supporters to make annual commitments to animals in our care. Kennel sponsorship has proven to be a great way for individuals, families, schools, companies and organisations to become more involved in our work. 19 out of 21 kennels received sponsors, which we (and the USPCA animals) are so grateful for!

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 and further contributing to the USPCA’s work. Sponsorships have been made in memory of beloved pets, current and some who have passed on.

In 2022, 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	
Kenya	Karuna Yoga Journeys
Gulu	
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), Animal-Kind International, and an anonymous donor who covers the other running costs.

New shelter update

After 20 years at our current plot, with assistance from Animal-Kind International, the USPCA finally raised enough money to buy its own plot of land in 2021. This is really important as we had been served an eviction notice due to complaints by neighbours in the increasingly built up surrounding area. The new plot is along the Entebbe Road and is away from any residential areas, so is perfect for us. Animal-Kind



International has also raised funds to cover much of the construction at the new shelter. In addition, International Fund for Animal Welfare gave us a grant to construct eight new kennels (the roofs on the kennels were funded by Animal-Kind International's Land Fund.)

Also in 2022, a kitchen, additional concrete slabs for kennels and offices/reception area, perimeter fence, and a fenced play area were constructed. Unfortunately, construction at the new site is on hold for the time being due to more stringent wetlands permitting requirements now being implemented by Uganda's National Environment Management Authority (NEMA). While we intend to leave the on-site wetlands as an area for walking and relaxing with shelter dogs, we will need to comply with NEMA's environmental impact assessment requirements. That means we are running two shelters, bringing added costs that are very difficult for us to cover. We hope 2023 brings good news on the NEMA issue.



Thank you!

2022 was another difficult year for everyone, worldwide. Many, many people were badly impacted financially and this meant that donations to animal rescue organisations remained stretched.

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 2022 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.

