



Annual Report of Activities

FISCAL YEAR 2023





CHAIRPERSON'S LETTER

Dear Friend,

The goal of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) is to promote and ensure the humane treatment of animals. The core objectives of SPCAs, are typically centered around the principles of preventing cruelty to animals, rescue and rehabilitation of animals, promotion of responsible pet ownership, advocacy for animal welfare legislation, public awareness, humane education, collaboration, and partnerships. In summary, the overarching goal of the SPCA is to create a world where animals are protected from cruelty, live in humane conditions, and are treated with the dignity and respect they deserve.

During this year we have been able to get back on track with all of the usual activities that we were trying to catch up on last year after the recovery period of the Covid 19 pandemic. However, it is very obvious that our communities have not recovered financially after the pandemic, and we see this is the increased surrenders and the poor adoption figures. In spite of this, we have made headway with numerous of our objectives and some of these achievements are contained in this report.

The Windhoek branch and some of the peripheral Branches have managed to do some much-needed renovations, although much still needs to be done in this regard. Some of this was made possible by a large and generous bequest.

We are so grateful to all the donors and volunteers for the work they do for the love of animals. Our branches need a special mention as they are mostly run by a few volunteers and occasionally one or two paid staff members. They continue to deliver sterling work taking care of animals in need in their communities.

In conclusion, the SPCA remains committed to its mission of promoting and safeguarding the welfare of animals. The achievements and challenges outlined in this report serve as a foundation for our ongoing efforts to make a positive impact on the lives of animals in need. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to all those who contribute to our cause and look forward to another year of progress and collaboration.

Thank you for all that you do for animals and your ongoing support.

Linda Dodds

Chairperson of SPCA Namibia-Windhoek



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ABBREVIATIONS

AFS	Annual Financial Statement
ARA	Annual Report of Activities
ASAD	A-Spay-A-Day
CAPU	Civilian Animal Protection Unit
FY	Fiscal Year
HaH Namibia	Have-a-Heart Namibia
HaH Windhoek	Have-a-Heart Windhoek
MAWLR	Minister of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform
MEFT	Minister of Environment, Forestry, and Tourism
MOHSS	Ministry of Health and Social Services
MOU	Memorandum Of Understanding
NAWA	Namibia Animal Welfare Association
RTO	Return To Owner
SPCA	The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
TNR	Trap-Neuter-Return
TVT	Canine Transmissible Venereal Tumor
UNAM	University of Namibia
URI	Upper Respiratory Infection
WAWP	Working Animal Welfare Project
WO	Welfare Organization



About Us

The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) Namibia, was founded in 1949. SPCA Namibia is a registered Welfare Organisation (WO6) with the Ministry of Health and Social Services (MOHSS). SPCA Namibia and its shelter operations SPCA Windhoek, which is also referred to as the Headquarters, have an additional seven SPCA Branches in Namibia of various size and scope, located in Grootfontein, Keetmanshoop, Lüderitz, Oshana, Otjiwarongo, Tsumeb, and Walvis Bay. The Branches are responsible for reporting to SPCA Namibia and follow national policies and guidelines but are financially and operationally independent. The Management Committee of SPCA Namibia provide support, guidance, and limited oversight to the Branches.

The SPCA is here to protect and prevent cruelty to animals, and to promote animal welfare in Namibia. Our organization support animals in need through education, action, and provision of care.

The SPCA plays an important role in rescuing and assisting animals that are neglected, abandoned, and/or abused all over Namibia, and together we make up the largest animal welfare organization in the country, primarily working with domestic animals, but not limited to. We provide a safe place for animals that have nowhere else to go, and medical care and behavioral rehabilitation for animals in need. Our team is passionate about finding loving homes for the pets in our care. Wild animals are transferred to wildlife rescue, rehabilitation, and release centers, and large domestic animals, such as horses, donkeys, and livestock, are cared for through a dedicated foster network. The SPCA's numerous shelters and foster caregiver networks can house anywhere from 20 to over 400 animals at any given time.



VISION, MISSION, AND VALUES

Our vision is to end animal cruelty in Namibia and, through our actions and education, engender respect and compassion for all animals.

Our mission is to prevent cruelty, alleviate suffering, and promote the welfare of all animals.

In our day-to-day work with animals and clients, the SPCA teams are guided by our values:

- Compassion
- Perseverance
- Respect
- Honesty
- Trust
- Loyalty

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Management Committee consists of a committed and professional team with experience and expertise in the following areas: veterinary medicine, accounting, law, corporate business and governance, human resources, administration, and NGO development.

- Chairperson: Linda Dodds
- Vice-Chairperson: Richard Steinbach
- Treasurer: Connie-Marlene Theyse
- Secretary: Stefanie Busch
- General Committee Members:
 - Carmen Ribeiro
 - Dr. Mari De Villiers
 - Dr. Natasha Bornman
 - Nina Foerster
 - Stephanie Viljoen
 - Jim Anderson (Co-Opted)
 - Dr. Lourens De Villiers (Co-Opted)



BRANCHES AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVES

The SPCA Branch Committees are groups of committed individuals passionate about animal welfare. Each branch elects one branch representative to report to and communicate and collaborate with headquarters:

- Alta Scott, Grootfontein Branch
- Angelique Dunn, Keetmanshoop Branch
- Fabienne Looser, Lüderitz Branch
- Shanice Bigger, Oshana Branch
- Leshane De Jager, Otjiwarongo Branch
- Michelle Swarts, Tsumeb Branch
- Quinton van Rooyen, Walvis Bay Branch

STAFF AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT

Across the nation, the SPCA employs 34 people. Some of our teams have as many as 19 employees and some of us have very few or no paid employees at all; relying entirely on branch representatives, committee members, and volunteers. Each role is of significant value to our organization as they all play an important part in making sure we can provide the best care and services possible for the animals who need us.

The senior management team, based at headquarters, collectively has over 40 years of animal welfare and animal sheltering expertise and over 55 years of animal care experience.

- Hanna Rhodin, National Director
- Sylvia Breitenstein, Director of Operations

FISCAL YEAR

The Fiscal Year 2023 (FY23) represented in this report runs from 1st of July 2022 through 30th of June 2023.

CONTACT DETAILS

Address: 145 Robert Mugabe Avenue,
Windhoek, Namibia
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Phone: 061 238 654
Email: info@spcanamibia.org.na
Website: www.spcanamibia.org.na

BANK DETAILS

Account Name: SPCA Namibia
Bank: First National Bank
Branch: Maerua Mall
Code: 282273
Type: Current Account
Account Number: 62263228259





Annual Activities

As the year's months pass us by, many of us are struck by how fast time goes. We all have big dreams of how to follow best practices, implement innovative programs, initiate new projects, and renovate our premises (which across the board always need upgrades), to name but a few; all to do the best that we can for the many animals that need us. The year is quickly consumed by the daily activities at each SPCA. Feeding the animals, cleaning kennels, responding to animal cruelty complaints, collecting strays, conducting adoptions, orienting volunteers, planning events and raise funds for the animals, reaching out to our communities, ensuring each animal receives the veterinary and medical attention they need, and so much more.

Each SPCA provides the best care possible with its available resources. The structure, facilities, capacity, and financial and human resources of a SPCA influences its ability to support and care for any number of animals.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Across our SPCAs in FY23 our total income came to N\$12,720,751 and our expenses amounted to a total of N\$8,088,478. For SPCA Namibia, grants, donations and bequests received during FY23 amounted to N\$724,956 and our expenses were N\$643,317.

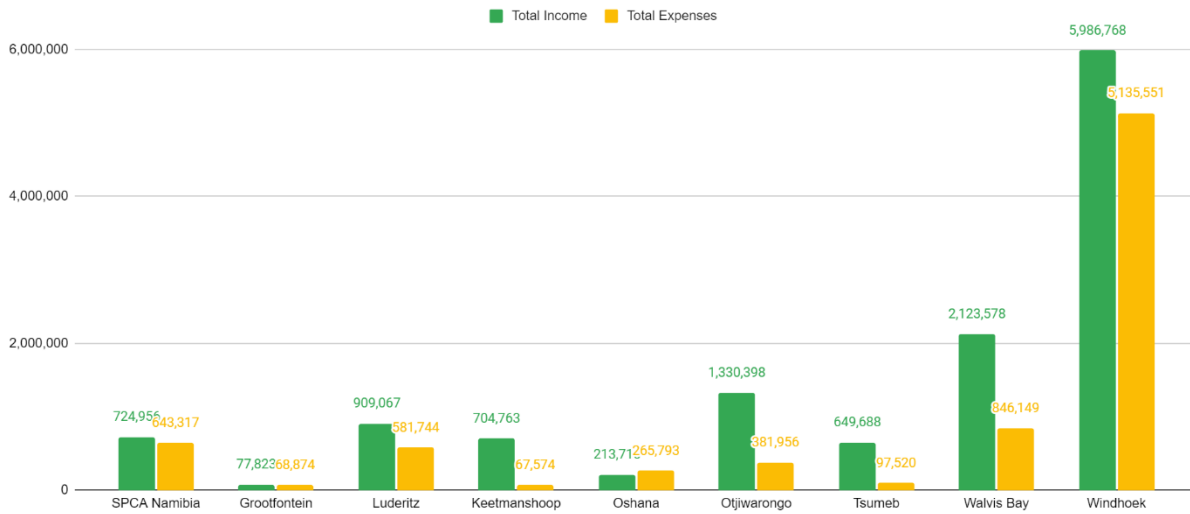
Please note that all funds displayed in tables and graphs are Namibian Dollars.

Notable Income

An incredibly generous bequest was dedicated towards several of the SPCAs with distribution percentages established in the will comparable to the size of each SPCA. The beneficiaries included SPCA Windhoek, Walvis Bay, Keetmanshoop, Otjiwarongo, Tsumeb, and Lüderitz. The headquarters encouraged the Branches to invest the funds in low-risk investment funds, which most did.

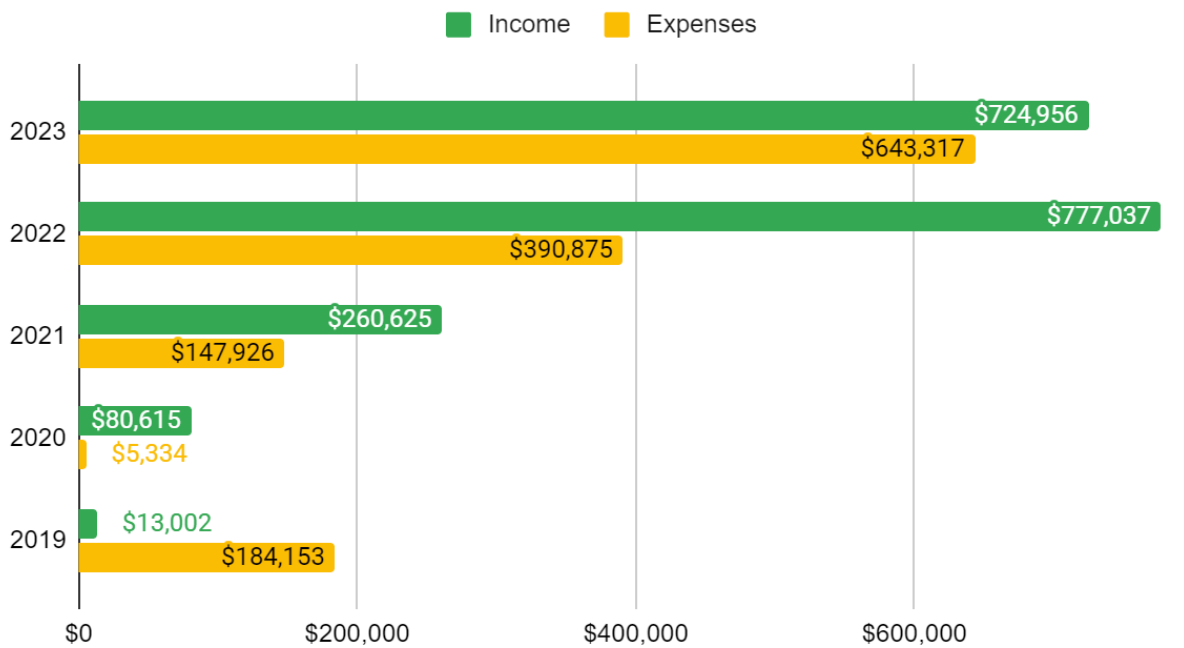


Total Income and Total Expenses per SPCA for FY23



Graph 1. Total FY23 Income and Expenses for all SPCAs.

SPCA Namibia - Income and Expenses 5 Year Comparison



Graph 2. Total Income and Expenses for SPCA Namibia FY19 through FY23.



This generous bequest will allow several of us to invest in important programs and complete much needed renovation projects. Donations, bequests, and grants were the leading sources of funding this year. Followed by adoption fees and boarding fees. In Windhoek, we have had some success recovering stray fees and veterinary expenses (where relevant).

Notable Expenses

The three biggest expense groups were salary and wages, followed by pet food and supplies, and the veterinary and medical. In Windhoek, we saw a significant jump in pet food and supplies expenses. This was however mitigated by savings in the veterinary department. The increase in pet food and supplies is the improved diet for kittens and the many puppies that come into our care who are fed Whiskas kitten wet food and Hill's puppy dry food.

The three major expenditure groups were followed by building repairs and

maintenance, water and electricity, and motor vehicle repairs, maintenance and fuel. The last mention was a noticeable increase, especially with the increased fuel expenses, and costly repairs for the Windhoek vehicles. Building repairs and maintenance nearly doubled from the previous fiscal year, which thanks to the generous bequest was able to support those upgrades to our various facilities.

Notes on the Audit

The financial statements are at this stage correct, but the auditor might still make some minor changes. For the third year, the Branch Financials are included in the SPCA Namibia and SPCA Windhoek Annual Financial Statement (AFS). They are included as a summary report, but not qualified or audited by our auditors. Each Committee is responsible for the financials of their SPCA.



SPCA Namibia and Branches Summarized Income statement FY23

	SPCA Namibia	Grootfontein	Luderitz	Keetmans- hoop	Oshana	Otjivarongo	Tsumeb	Walvis Bay	Windhoek	2023 Total	2022 Comparative
INCOME											
Boarding Fees		500	81,530			60,250	1,070	147,739	284,274	575,363	362,264
Fundraising and events		14,500		28,804	150	5,400			230,744	279,598	167,042
Donations, grants and bequests	635,989	54,601	787,337	641,498	180,816	1,163,908	643,168	1,654,107	4,464,995	10,226,419	6,175,440
Donations for distribution	87,537									87,537	
Interest Received	1,430	1,147		11,561		14,815		23,351	208,551	260,855	118,921
Medical expenses recovered and strays		350							114,962	115,312	89,501
Membership Fees		2,100	3,500	4,000	700	600	200	128,076	35,940	175,116	164,815
Microchip, dogtags and shop sales		4,625			32,044				38,453	75,122	45,497
Adoption			1,700	17,800		85,425	5,250	123,417	380,913	614,505	513,242
Discount received for cash								671		671	-
Other income			35,000	200				43,034	168,100	246,334	195,041
Corporate wear				900						900	-
Pick up fees								3,183		3,183	2,548
Net revenue from pet food									59,836	59,836	10,109
Other - Pet Food (Hills)									211,011		
PETFOOD COS									-151,175		
Insurance claim recovered										-	109,285
TOTAL INCOME	724,956	77,823	909,067	704,763	213,710	1,330,398	649,688	2,123,578	5,986,768	12,720,751	7,953,705
EXPENDITURE											
Accounting fees					1,000	2,500		24,556	51,500	79,556	75,141
Audit Fees	4,500								9,500	14,000	13,000
Bank Charges	2,287	1,318	5,112	2,565	7,891	2,885	1,886	5,499	43,924	73,367	63,449
Cleaning		1,026		1,224	4,549	2,023	1,387	1,237	59,498	70,944	52,484
Consulting fees						7,607			2,000	9,607	9,930
Computer Expenses								7,777	2,952	10,729	5,030
Depreciation			7,711			2,000		3,238	18,461	31,410	19,630
Fundraising and events		11,740		12,000		9,520			15,093	48,353	8,791
Insurance									54,687	54,687	41,179
Licenses and Subscriptions	17,754		4,208			921		185	11,434	34,502	30,282
Legal fees								370	5,500	5,870	1,144
Medicines and veterinary services		3,294	16,802	13,424	61,508	103,354	11,558	195,126	484,128	889,194	1,024,610
Meetings and Consulting		2,250								2,250	-
Advertising & promotion	3,007		5,000	-	6,583					14,590	2,672
Consumables and merchandise	69,394					20,506			22,266	112,166	49,493
Motor vehicle repairs and fuel			5,354	400	30,623	1,463	600	14,826	192,605	245,871	118,248
Office expenses					938				29,087	30,025	8,647
Pet food and supplies		25,086	78,996	16,204	26,554		4,616	3,091	1,069,079	1,223,626	863,651
Repairs and Maintenance		7,007	324,802	12,043		14,214		16,774	272,914	647,754	370,301
Salaries and wages	353,070	15,000	107,446	8,165	113,639	198,892	29,388	396,581	2,417,417	3,639,598	3,106,007
Security								4,636	6,376	11,012	10,451
Stationery and printing		2,153	2,545	929		1,695		9,832		17,154	7,978
Distributed Donation	87,537									87,537	-
Courier and postage and telephone			10,501	380	2,382	3,779	1,910	20,783	36,646	76,381	74,630
VAT write off / impaired								14,803	176,927	191,730	91,831
Water and electricity			1,500			3,200	45,795	92,320	155,546	298,361	139,186
Transport and Travelling Expenses	105,768		4,434		60					110,262	63,393
Other Expenses			7,333		9,879	160		25,898	11	43,281	64,128
Protective clothing				240	187	7,237	380	6,617		14,661	3,515
TOTAL EXPENSES	643,317	68,874	581,744	67,574	265,793	381,956	97,520	846,149	5,135,551	8,088,478	6,318,741
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	81,639	8,949	327,323	637,189	-52,083	948,442	552,168	1,277,429	851,217	4,632,273	1,634,964
Accumulated funds at the beginning of the year	491,963	47,951	77,651	28,519	294,988	168,230	59,624	76,209	3,979,560	5,224,695	3,126,514
Accumulated funds at the end of the year	573,602	56,900	404,974	665,708	242,905	1,075,496	611,792	1,353,638	4,830,777	9,815,792	4,761,478

Table 1. Summarized income statement for FY23 for all SPCAs.



SPCA Windhoek - Five Year Financial Summary

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
INCOME	\$5,986,768	\$5,738,810	\$3,740,512	\$5,033,644	\$3,692,785
Adoptions	\$380,913	\$427,391	\$473,584	\$510,813	\$437,652
Boarding Fees	\$284,274	\$234,274	\$173,026	\$225,830	\$226,517
Donations, Events & Grants	\$4,863,839	\$4,656,852	\$2,813,379	\$4,040,994	\$2,775,450
Membership	\$35,940	\$58,470	\$58,983	\$66,987	\$19,500
Other Income	\$421,802	\$361,823	\$221,540	\$189,020	\$233,666
EXPENSES	\$5,135,551	\$4,449,468	\$3,890,246	\$4,426,339	\$4,708,868
Medicines, Food & Vet Expenses	\$1,553,207	\$1,415,633	\$955,004	\$1,333,772	\$1,662,345
Salaries & Wages	\$2,417,417	\$2,271,999	\$2,232,865	\$2,298,000	\$2,312,767
Other Expenses	\$1,164,927	\$761,836	\$702,377	\$794,567	\$733,756
PROFIT/(LOSS)	\$851,217	\$1,289,342	(\$149,734)	\$607,305	(\$1,016,083)

Table 2. Income and expense summary over five financial years, FY19 through FY23, at SPCA Windhoek.



Financial Highlights

Total Income*
+ N\$ 12,720,751

Total Expenses*
- N\$ 8,088,478

Most common forms of income come from donations, grants, bequests, followed by adoption and boarding fees

Biggest expense groups include salaries and wages, followed by pet food and supplies, and vet and med care



ANIMAL ACTIVITIES

The mandate of the SPCA is to prevent cruelty to animals. As such, one of our core functions has become to provide shelter to animals who are at risk of suffering. Whilst the SPCAs work with and respond to calls about many animals ranging from birds and wildlife to livestock and equines, we primarily care for cats, dogs, and other species kept as pets.

For the fourth year in a row, the SPCAs kept records of animals other than cats and dogs to create a more accurate and detailed picture of our work. The 'Others' category includes animals such as rabbits, rats, hamsters, cattle, donkeys, horses, birds, wildlife, and many more. For the purposes of this report, they have been grouped into a single category.

Some SPCAs are contracted by their municipality as the Municipal Impound. Formal and informal agreements between the SPCAs and their local governments dictate which species they take in, and various payment structures for the services provided. Currently, the following SPCAs

have a form of an agreement with their municipalities: Otjiwarongo, Walvis Bay, and Windhoek. The SPCA teams in Keetmanshoop and Lüderitz are currently engaged in discussions with their municipality to become the official Impound Shelter in their community.

The Windhoek team has alerted their municipality of the rising and concerning number of feral cats and urged the responsible authorities to put together a plan, of which the SPCA would be happy to provide input and support to, providing the solution is humane.

The SPCAs across the country, from Oshana to Lüderitz, cite issues with the continuous increase in stray and feral cats in need. Housing feral cats in shelters is rarely successful unless they are brought in as young kittens and the specific SPCA has the time and ability to properly socialize those young kittens. A cat that by nature avoids people finds the shelter environment highly stressful. A more humane alternative to taking feral cats in is Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR), whereby the feral cat(s) are trapped,



brought to a veterinarian for sterilization, and returned to the location they were found.

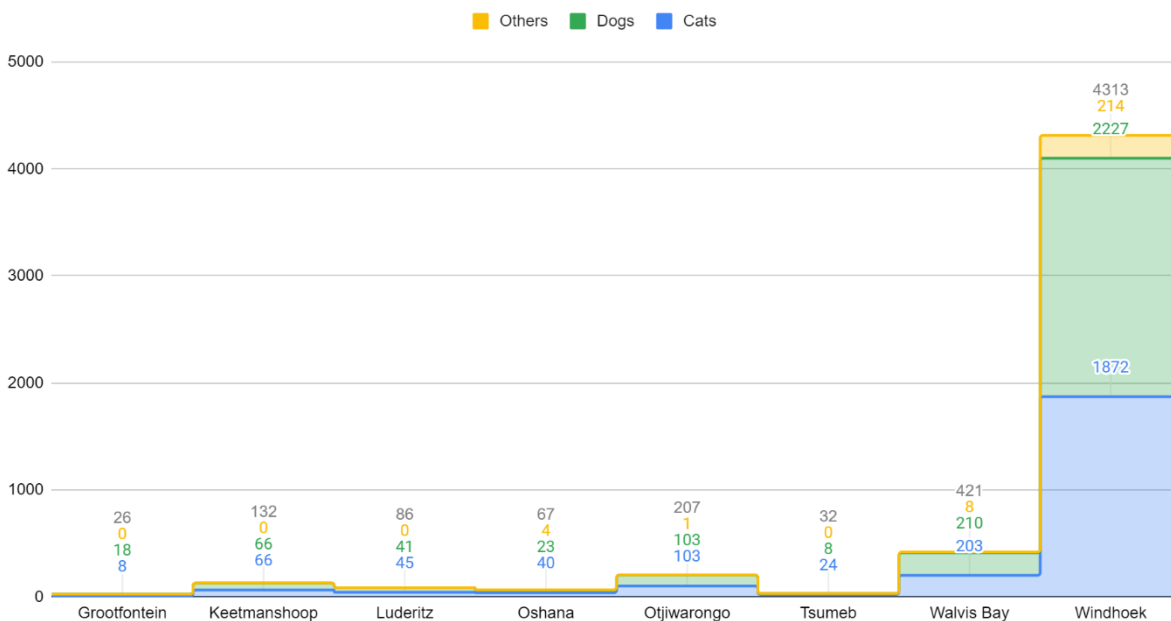
When funding allows, all SPCAs would like to make further inroads on cat TNR programs. One in which the Lüderitz team has made some encouraging advances for the second year in a row. Tsumeb have also been able to do a few dozen TNRs. In Windhoek, the team is placing efforts in A-Spay-A-Day (ASAD) sterilizations of owned pets where their owners are unable to afford to spay or neuter their pets. A common occurrence is when a mama cat or dog is surrendered with their litter, the owner would like to keep the mama, and we ensure the pet's young ones are weaned before we sterilize and return the pet to their owner.

Animal Intake

Throughout the year, the SPCA teams rescued a total of 5,284 animals; a 2% increase in animal intake compared to the year before. Between FY21 and FY22, the SPCAs also recorded a total of 2% increase in intake of animals.

A stray animal is an animal without a known owner - either a true stray or a lost animal. Any animal coming in without a signed surrender form is processed as a stray. Thus known abandoned animals are processed as stray animals as well. The stray-hold policy of each SPCA varies depending on municipal bylaws and internal policies. The stray hold at the SPCAs ranges from three to fourteen days.

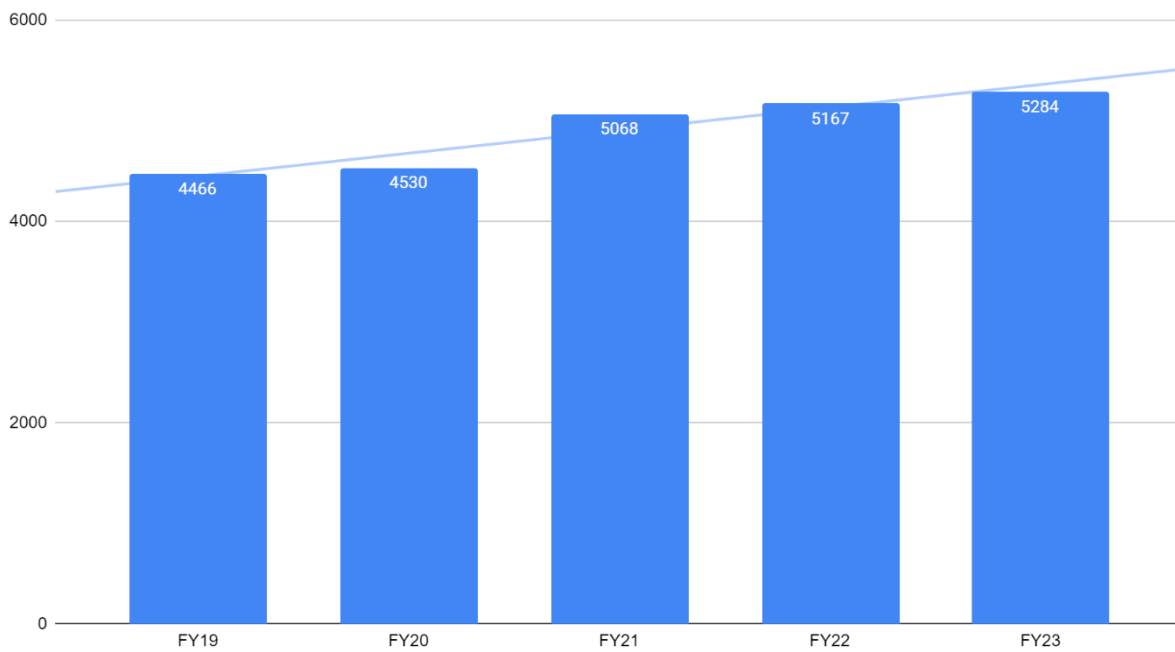
Total Animal Intake: 5,284



Graph 3. Animals taken in by the SPCAs in FY23.

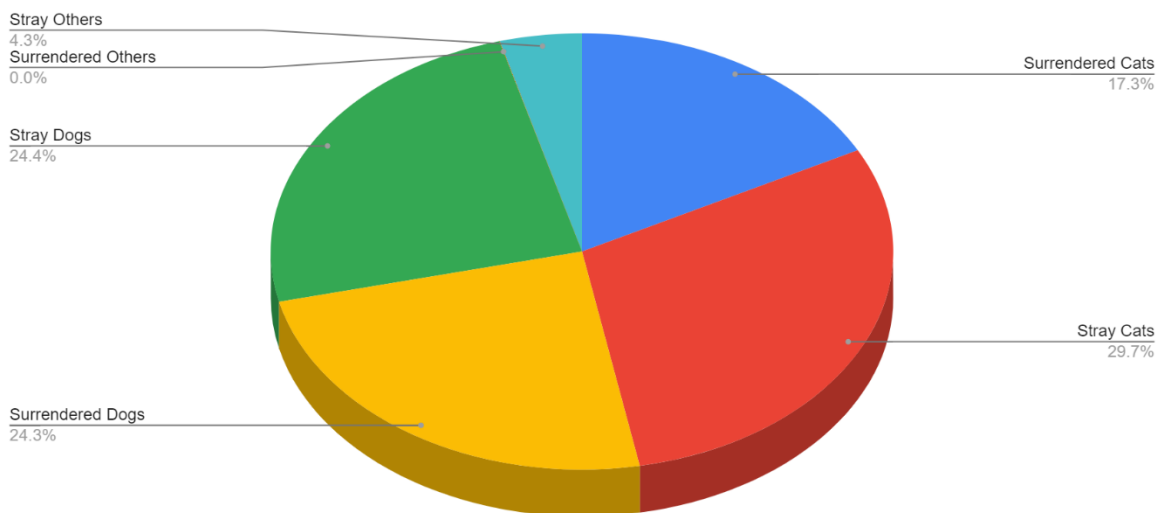


Total Number of Animal Intake Across Namibia Per Year



Graph 4. Total number of animals taken in by the SPCAs over the last five fiscal years.

Breakdown of Surrender and Stray Intake Type



Graph 5. Breakdown of intake type, restricted to surrender and stray, as other forms of intake are negligible.



All SPCAs continue to report high number of stray and feral cats in need. Other organizations working with cats have also reported a significant increase in the stray cat population. This issue is likely to continue to worsen, and the SPCA strongly encourages their various towns to invest in TNR as it proves to be the most humane option to control overpopulation.

Both the teams in Keetmanshoop and Lüderitz are working with alternatives to people surrendering their pets - to try and keep pets in their homes when viable. Both have offered low-to-no-cost sterilizations and sometimes other treatments that the animals may have needed. Both note that it has helped keep more pets with their owners who already love them.

Adoption

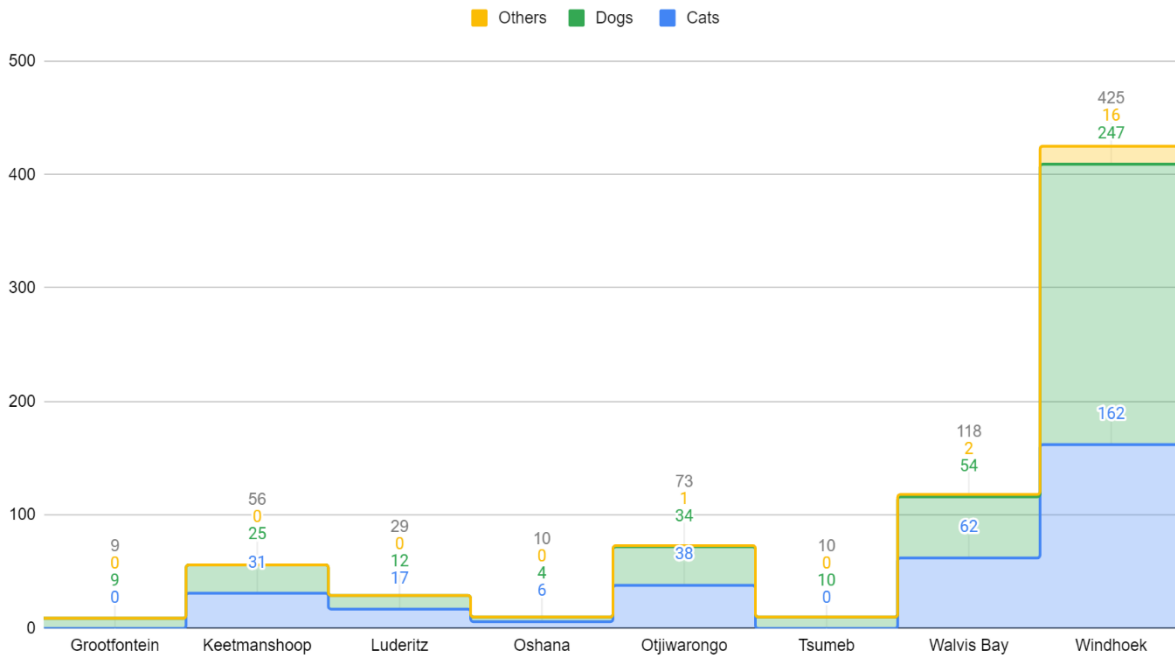
Across the country's SPCAs, a total of 730 animals were adopted and overall adoption rates decreased by a total of 10%, a continued negative trend from the last four years. The following branches did, however, see a positive increase in adoption rates;

Grootfontein (125%), Walvis Bay (17%), Tsumeb (11%), Keetmanshoop (8%), and Lüderitz (7%). Unfortunately, the other three SPCAs saw a decrease in adoptions this year; Otjiwarongo (-34%), Oshana (-55%), and Windhoek (-13%).

To encourage adoptions, we joined forces to bring awareness and attention to adoptions through the 'Clear the Shelter' adoption drive, whereby one day in June 2023 we had reduced adoption fees. All the SPCAs hosted two additional joint and national adoption drives, each for the duration of a month. October 2022 was Adopt A Shelter Dog Month and June 2023 was Adopt A Shelter Cat Month. Each month, there were adoption specials and reduced adoption fees on select animals. Leading up to, and during, each initiative the headquarters drove media campaigns, including radio and TV interviews. Across our branches, teams have tried various initiatives to encourage adoption.

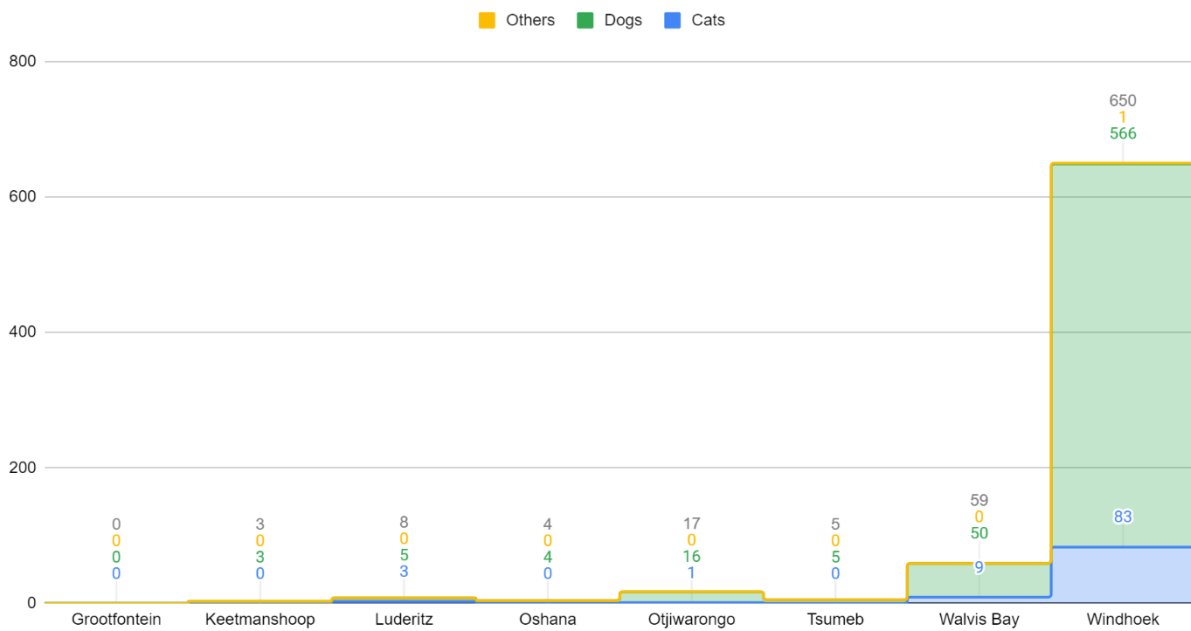


Total Animals Adopted: 730



Graph 6. Number of animals, by type, adopted across Namibia, including totals.

Total Animals Returned to Owner: 746



Graph 7. Number of animals, by type, including totals, returned to owners across Namibia's SPCAs.



Returned To Owner

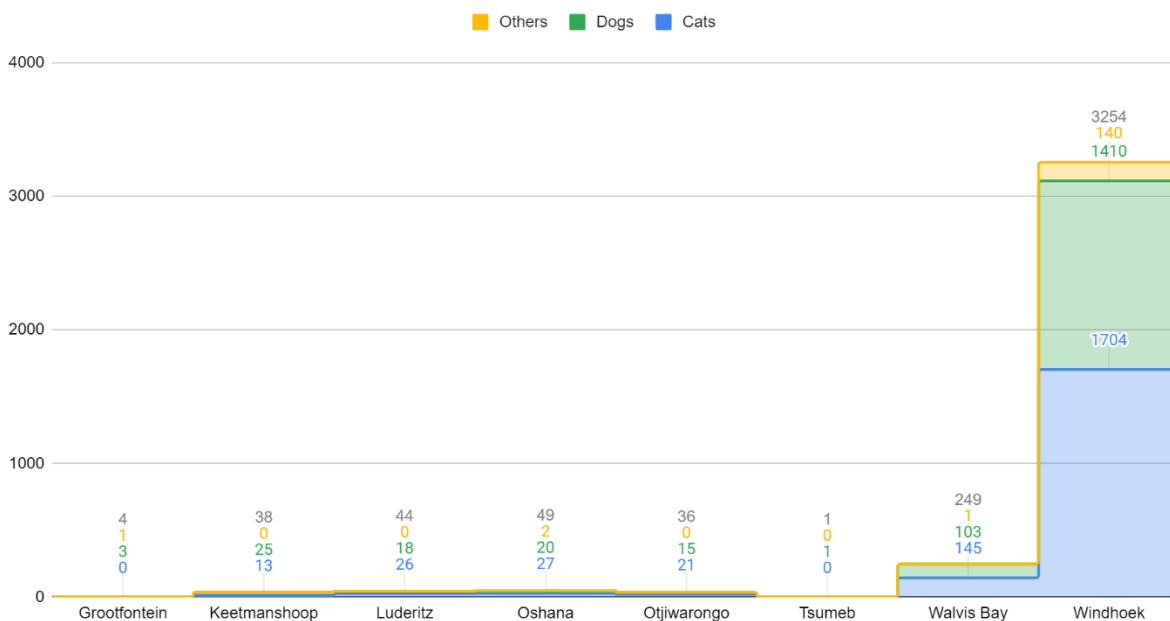
The Returned To Owner (RTO) category are lost animals who have successfully been reunited with their owners. RTO numbers correlate highly with the admission model of each particular SPCA. An open-admission shelter will have a significantly higher RTO rate than a limited-admission shelter. Collectively, a total of 746 animals were reunited with their owners (10% increase overall), of which 650 were RTOs in Windhoek (17% increase). The increase of RTOs is a continued and encouraging positive trend. It should be noted that 84 of Windhoek's RTOs are those from a Spayathon.

Historically, very few cats were reunited with their owners, a trend that has been changing for the better. As an example, in FY17, 19 cats were claimed by their owners in Windhoek, in FY23, that number increased to 83. Showing that people know to contact the SPCA for not only lost dogs, but cats too.

Humane Euthanasia

Making the decision to humanely euthanize an animal is not something anyone at the SPCA takes lightly, yet difficult decisions need to be taken daily. The staff and committee directly involved in making

Total Animals Euthanized/Died/Dead on Arrival: 3,675



Graph 8. Number of animals euthanized, died, or dead on arrival, including totals across Namibia's SPCAs.



humane euthanasia decisions take multiple factors into consideration when making those decisions based on medical and behavioral assessments. The animals range from severely ill and diseased animals, disease transmission and the effect the disease may have on the wider shelter or foster population (which must also be protected), injuries, and behavior such as aggression. These animals are either found or surrendered to the SPCA because the owners are unable to afford veterinary treatment, or they are simply unable to cope. Each situation must be triaged swiftly.

With limited funding, resources, space, and not enough adoptions, difficult decisions must be made to maintain a healthy population in our shelters. We aim to alleviate the suffering of sick or injured animals, and strive to keep confirmed aggressive animals from being released back to the public. The SPCAs make every effort to keep

euthanasia rates as low as possible by rehoming or returning as many animals as we can to their homes. Unfortunately, this is not always possible. It is not uncommon for the SPCAs to take in severely ill surrenders or strays. These animals are often so injured or diseased by the time they reach us, that euthanasia is the only humane option.

In Windhoek in particular, the annual number of intakes far exceeds adoptions and RTOs. Our open-admission policy means that no animal is turned to the streets or left to suffer. This policy also mitigates significant public health risks by reducing animal overpopulation and preventing packs of stray dogs from forming (which would increase the presence of zoonotic diseases, create bite risks for members of the public and potentially spread rabies). Namibia is considered a high-risk rabies country, and thus it is crucial for public health and the safety of the animals in our community that no animal is left on the streets if it can be avoided.

Animal Highlights

Total Animals Rescued
5,284

Total Animals Adopted
730

Total Animals Reunited
with Their Owners
746

Some Species Helped
Cats, dogs, rabbits, guinea pigs, a goat, a dassi, a pangolin, donkeys, and wild birds.



Animal Services

Across the country, there are a total of ten Animal Inspectors, of which three are officially certified; the others work closely with the police to carry out their inspectorate duties. The SPCA in Windhoek has two full-time Animal Inspectors, and a third Animal Inspector performing other duties, certified by the Magistrate in the District of Windhoek. All of our Inspectors work hard throughout the year responding to complaints, confiscating animals when needed, picking up stray and surrendered animals, doing pre-adoption house

inspections, and taking animals to and from private veterinary clinics at times when our in-house veterinarian is unavailable.

Individuals at several of the branches have warrants under the Animal Protection Act of 1962 and they, along with the Windhoek Inspectors, and other representatives, work closely with the police to uphold the law. Offsite activities such as attending complaints, pre-adoption house checks, and picking up strays and surrenders amounted to a total of 2,888¹ actions nationally.

Animal Services Highlights

Total Animals Complaints Attended
+ 622

Pre-Adoption House Checks
+ 542

Total Stray Animals Collected
+ 1,058

Total Surrendered Animals Collected
+ 666

¹ Unfortunately, 3 months' worth of data was lost from the Windhoek team due to a crashed computer. Online data capturing has been implemented since.



Animal Health

All the SPCAs receive animals in need of medical help, and we see it as our duty to provide veterinary care to alleviate and prevent suffering of injury and disease. Treatments may include preventative measures such as deworming, de-tick- and - flea treatment, and vaccines, or of more intense measures such as trauma stabilizing, wound treatment, or various types of surgery. Whilst we often wish we could go above and beyond for every animal coming in, veterinary expenses quickly build up and we are always having to evaluate where and how we place our efforts.

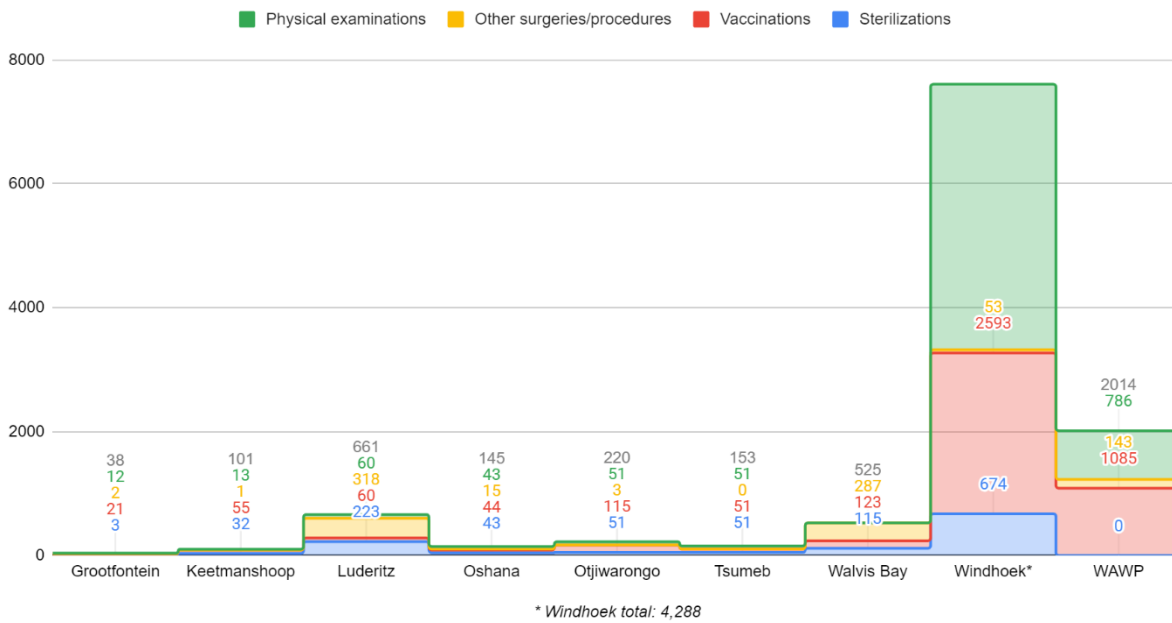
The national SPCA Namibia and Windhoek are the only ones who have employed a veterinarian. Our SPCA Namibia veterinarian is employed on a part-time basis, coordinating and implementing the efforts of our Working Animal Welfare Project (WAWP). Our Windhoek veterinarian has the immense responsibility of caring for the overall health of the 4,300 animals that come through our doors each year, and the 250-400 patients that reside with us at any given time. Our Windhoek based veterinarian stays

busy caring for in-house patients only and a limited number of ASADs.

Several of our branches work with the private or state veterinarian in their municipality, whereas the team in Lüderitz does not have a residing veterinarian and make use of visiting veterinarians when they work in town. However, the need for a resident veterinarian or more frequent visits is crucial for the continued and improved health of the animals in the community, especially when pertaining to emergency cases and injuries. Whilst the Otjiwarongo team does not have an in-house veterinarian and mostly make use of a private veterinary clinic, the staff have a clearly laid-out health protocol which includes physical examination upon intake, anti-parasite treatments, and weekly temperature checks.

In Windhoek, a generous donor donated the funds so that we could purchase a dental machine for our veterinary clinic, making our in-house treatment options even stronger. This will especially help our slightly older animal population or those with a poor diet.

Sterilizations, Vaccinations, Other surgeries/procedures and Physical examinations



Graph 9. Medical procedures, sterilizations and vaccinations completed by a veterinarian for the SPCA animals across Namibia.



Vet and Med Highlights

Total Vaccinations Administered
4,147

Total Animals Sterilized
1,192

Total Animals Given Special Treatment/Surgeries
+ 822

Surgical highlights
In-house amputation, dentals, small exotic animal spay/neuter (rats and guinea pigs)



All of the SPCAs report that sterilizing animals in their communities would bring a major relief not only to pet owners in the low-to-no-income communities but in feral cat populations too. Unfortunately, for most, lack of funds makes such initiatives unattainable. However, some good news is that in Lüderitz, the team has been working closely with Have-a-Heart (HaH) Namibia to provide

TNR and no-cost sterilizations to pet owners within the low-to-no-income communities and that of feral cats. The small branch ensured an impressive total of 181 TNRs. Our Windhoek shelter veterinarian notes that sterilizations went up from 588 to 674 this year. We have done a small number of what we call 'A-Spay-A-Day' sterilizations, mostly of repeat surrenderers to avoid more litters coming in, but majority of this increase come from the Spayathon we hosted in February 2023, a joint effort with Have-a-Heart (HaH) Windhoek, Civilian Animal Protection Unit (CAPU), and Dr. Ian Baines Mobile Veterinary Clinic, where we were able to sterilize a total of 84 animals in two days. The SPCA is proud of its working relationship with

the veterinary program at the University of Namibia (UNAM) School of Veterinary Medicine, with whom we have a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The final-year UNAM veterinary students do a one-week rotation with practical experience at the SPCA where they work with our shelter veterinarian and learn about animal welfare, animal sheltering, pets in large populations, and shelter medicine. We hope this experience will impact their future careers and philosophies around animal welfare and charitable work. Under the guidance of their professors, the UNAM clinic will also take in and assist SPCA animals where the students perform spays and neuters free of charge and take on cases requiring x-rays or more thorough medical intervention.

The SPCA Windhoek has an initiative called Dixie's Fund, a fund dedicated to ordinary and extraordinary medical treatments for animals in our care. This fiscal year, FNB generously donated N\$150,000.00 towards this restricted fund. This has enabled us to make a positive change in many animals' lives.



Working Animal Welfare Project

The SPCA Namibia is excited to share the success of its initiative 'Working Animal Welfare Project' (WAWP) in partnership with SPANA, a UK based organization. The project was launched in October 2021 and focuses on working animals, namely donkeys, horses, and mules, in some of our most rural communities in Namibia, oftentimes where there is no veterinarian. As we launched the project, we also grew our team with a part-time veterinarian and project coordinator. The project has three major cornerstones, 1) veterinary relief, 2) community outreach, and 3) humane education. This fiscal year, the SPCA treated 786 animals, 286 more than was the 'Year 2' target. We vaccinate, deworm, treat wounds, and look over hooves and teeth of the animals, and replace bits as well as some harnesses and bridles this past year. This year we opened 'Route 3' which goes south of Windhoek. We have seen a positive level of revisited animals on 'Route 1' which goes

up to Kamanjab and down to Omaruru, where the condition of the animals has positively improved over time. 'Route 2' which goes to the Tsumkwe area provide difficult travel roads and villages far from each other. However, they have been very receptive to our WAWP initiative, and we see a lot of children on this part of the project where we provide single-contact sessions on humane education. Since the beginning of WAWP we have established a beautiful collaboration with Namibian Animal Welfare Association (NAWA). The NAWA team has joined several of the SPCA's field trips, which happen one week every month, where we join forces and NAWA in large part focuses on replacing poor tack for the donkeys and horses.

Through our initiative, we provided owner/caretaker training to 297 individuals and 32 skills trainings. The training includes how to fix and mount harness and bridles correctly, why a comfortable bit is so important, basic nutrition, more humane hobbling (which remains a challenge), and ultimately, that a happy animal is a good working animal.



OTHER ACTIVITIES

The SPCAs are largely consumed with daily operational and emergency activities, often with limited manpower or funds left over for other programs or new initiatives. The animals in our care often dictate our day-to-day activities, which include medicating and feeding, cleaning, surgeries (by staff veterinarian or transport of such animals to the veterinarian of choice at branches), emergency response, investigating complaints, collaborating with other organizations, responding to phone calls, emails and Facebook messages, planning events, campaigns, and fundraisers, the many administrative tasks required to run an organization, and much more. However, our headquarters and its branches value operational and program development and improvement and we look positively at each new advancement we are able to make. We strive to constantly progress through training, keeping up with best practices, and supporting one another.

Branch Visits and Work

We know that by working under one umbrella, we are able to allow our Branches to do what they do best – care for animals and their welfare, and as such, a significant administrative burden can be taken off their shoulders. By having SPCAs around the country with branch committee members, branch representatives, and employees, we can collectively do more for more animals. We share knowledge, ideas, and help support and guide each other. In an effort to foster collaboration and team spirit, the SPCA Namibia Chairperson and Secretary, senior management at headquarters, and all of the branch representatives meet quarterly via Zoom.

The first branch visit was a brief trip by senior management to Otjiwarongo to support the SPCA there through a memorial (see more under 'Celebration of Life').

We visited Keetmanshoop and Lüderitz twice each this year. First in August 2022 and then in June 2023. The first branch visit focused on management, operations, governance, and basic dog training and behavioral



assessments. The second visit was attended to by our veterinarians and focused on veterinary treatments and sterilizations.

A branch trip to Walvis Bay was filled with interesting conversations, dog behavior training, doggy playgroups, administrative and policy related work, and much more.

We also visited the SPCA in Oshana for the first time since they joined SPCA Namibia. There we visited their temporary premises, the veterinary clinic they work closely with, their property to eventually build kennels on, and we assisted them with their AGM and an orientation of the new Branch Committee.

For the third year in a row, many SPCAs joined forces in both fundraising initiatives and adoption drives. Several branches took part in the national dog walk 'Mutt-Strutt'; Adopt A Shelter Dog Month in October; Adopt A Shelter Cat Month in June; and the 'Clear the Shelter' event. The headquarters provided marketing materials for all participating branches and dates for the initiatives were agreed upon. There were some changes made to the dates by some of the branches.

Workshop

In August 2022 the SPCA Namibia hosted its second Virtual Workshop where we invited staff, committee members, branches, and other organizations. The sessions covered HR 101, Budget 101, Dog Body Language, Dog Behavior, how to identify and describe animals with colors and markings, an update on our WAWP for all to better understand the project, and lastly an international speaker talking about grant writing. All in all, it was a

great learning experience for many and a wonderful opportunity for us all to get together.

Members

The members of the SPCA are the backbone of our Welfare Organization. They ensure that we can remain a registered organization, fulfill our mandate and objectives, and are responsible for electing members to the Management Committee, which provide oversight, guidance, and support to the SPCA. It is thanks to our members that we can continue to do important work for animals in need.

In Windhoek, we have seen the concerning and declining trend in membership over the last three years. Many of our other branches also struggle with retaining and bringing on new members. We encourage all our supporters to join as members of the SPCA and encourage our members to help raise more members.

Governance

The SPCA team has put considerable effort into formalizing aspects of the SPCA, both at headquarters and at the branch level. In an effort to do so, the committee and management are creating a few different manuals to provide guidance for anyone from employees to volunteers.

This year, we finalized a comprehensive Employee Manual and an Employee Contract Template which may be used across the SPCAs. The Employee Manual include general information about the SPCA and its structure, code of conduct, leave



policy, disciplinary policy, vehicle policy, pet policy, uniform policy and much more; all to provide administrative support and uniformity to our staff across all SPCAs.

Each month, the Branches are required to submit a monthly report to ensure proper administrative controls and data capturing are in place. This is especially essential to uphold our reporting requirements to MOHSS and at the time of potential handover from an outgoing committee to an incoming committee.

Community Outreach

In an effort to generally improve the welfare and well-being of animals in our communities, education and support are key. Many times, improper animal care is simply the result of a lack of experience and education. We strive to be a reliable and welcoming resource for pet owners in order

to assist more animals and prevent or alleviate suffering.

The Keetmanshoop, Lüderitz, and Windhoek teams all participated in activities related to World Rabies Day on 28 September 2022. The Windhoek team offered free vaccinations onsite to any pets from members of the public, with vaccines sponsored by the local State Veterinarian for a day in September. The Keetmanshoop team assisted with the dipping of dogs to protect them from ticks for two days in November whilst their State Veterinarian offered Rabies vaccines free of charge. The Lüderitz team assisted in organizing a Rabies Vaccination Campaign for 23-24 November 2022 where 148 animals received rabies vaccination through the State Vet Office from Keetmanshoop in collaboration with the MOHSS.

The Grootfontein team hosted a community meeting in November 2022 where any members of the public were welcome. It was



a promising meeting where members of the community were made aware of the SPCA and its needs.

In Keetmanshoop, the team assisted HaH Namibia with their sterilization campaign. Through their joint effort and work there, they were able to sterilize and vaccinate 98 cats and dogs. 13 of those dogs were diagnosed with Erlichia or suspected of having it. Two of the team members there visited these dogs at their homes on a weekly basis to ensure the dogs received their treatment and were improving. As a result of us going into the community at such regular intervals, we were also able to help other animals in need and to identify even more animals for sterilization. Additionally, the team participated in an event celebrating Nelson Mandela Day on 23 August 2022 where the SPCA offered free grooming.

In Lüderitz, the team was fortunate to have Dr. Erna from Vets Web Mariental on behalf of HaH Namibia in Lüderitz in October 2022, January 2023, and March 2023. A total of 223 animals were sterilized during these visits (including SPCA related animals).

In June 2023, the Tsumeb team hosted a dog dip day at Agri-Mark whereby they offered free dipping sponsored by Virbac. A total of 40 dogs were dipped on the day and the Branch was able to raise some awareness about animal welfare and the SPCA.

The Walvis Bay team teamed up with Walvis Bay Municipality and HaH Namibia to organize a Spay Day in Kuisemond. The day was a great success, and all involved learned a few valuable things for next time to make it even more successful.

Throughout the year, the Windhoek team did not only host a Spayathon in February with HaH Windhoek and CAPU but provided ASAD and TNR surgeries to a total of 146 animals, including those reached during the Spayathon.

Humane Education

There is no doubt in our minds that the efforts we put into humane education for our youth today will benefit animals and their welfare in the future. Humane Education is often a program which many of us wish we could place more time and effort on. In an effort to make that a reality we are busy creating a



simple Humane Educational Curriculum for teachers with both single-contact sessions and multiple-contact sessions through our WAWP initiative.

In Windhoek, we reached 530 children through our Humane Education program, mostly through them visiting our animal shelter, but also through a few school visits. During our WAWP field trips, we reached 146 children.

The teams in Lüderitz, Otjiwarongo, and Tsumeb all had some school children visit their SPCA for a talk and a tour. Both Grootfontein and Walvis Bay cites that they would like to place additional efforts on humane education in the new year but have been struggling to do as much as they would like to due to shortages in human resources.

Cats and Dogs and New Staff

In Windhoek we are excited to share that in an effort to improve the care we give cats and dogs at the shelter; we promoted an employee to Feline Care Coordinator and employed a new Canine Care Coordinator. These coordinators oversee relevant department staff and are responsible for implementing the new enrichment programs we have put in place, and adoption efforts to the animals at the SPCA.

We love it when our employees join the animal welfare field for the love of animals and support them as they continue to grow as professionals in the field. This is true for Windhoek's former Adoption & Community Associate who joined the Walvis Bay team in May 2023. The thought of their expertise

carried forward and able to benefit another SPCA is warming to witness.

The SPCA Otjiwarongo employed a new Branch Manager who has a steep learning curve in learning the ropes of animal welfare, as is true of anyone new to the field. She has taken initiative to organize their operations further.

Volunteer Program

A well-functioning volunteer program is key to being able to do more and better by the animals we care for. They provide important support to tasks such as socializing animals, walking dogs, cleaning animal spaces, transporting animals, graphic designing, administrative tasks, fundraising, photographing, planning, and managing events, to name but a few areas. Our volunteers play a vital role in all of our SPCAs.

Some of our SPCAs have very formal volunteer programs and others have informal arrangements, for both long-term and short-term volunteering opportunities. In Keetmanshoop, they had some volunteers help at an event and another few volunteers help out at the kennels for a couple of days.

The Lüderitz team is working hard to start an official volunteer program and have secured a Volunteer Coordinator to assist with planning and coordinating volunteer initiatives, created a WhatsApp group for volunteers, and collaborated with other clubs and groups for volunteer support.

In Otjiwarongo, we have what we call the 'OSS Interactors', young volunteers who come each week to socialize the animals and



help with various tasks. It is a long-term initiative which we are very appreciative of.

The Walvis Bay team have some incredibly dedicated volunteers that provide crucial support to the Branch and to the animals in their care. They often act as adoption ambassadors too and will help find new homes for shelter pets. To show just how appreciated their volunteers are, the Walvis Bay team hosted a Volunteer Appreciation Day this year.

In Windhoek, we welcomed a new Volunteer Coordinator (volunteer position) to the team to better facilitate our volunteer communications and to host our monthly and mandatory Volunteer Orientation. This is a volunteer and non-remunerated position and someone who is able to take a significant load off of several staff.

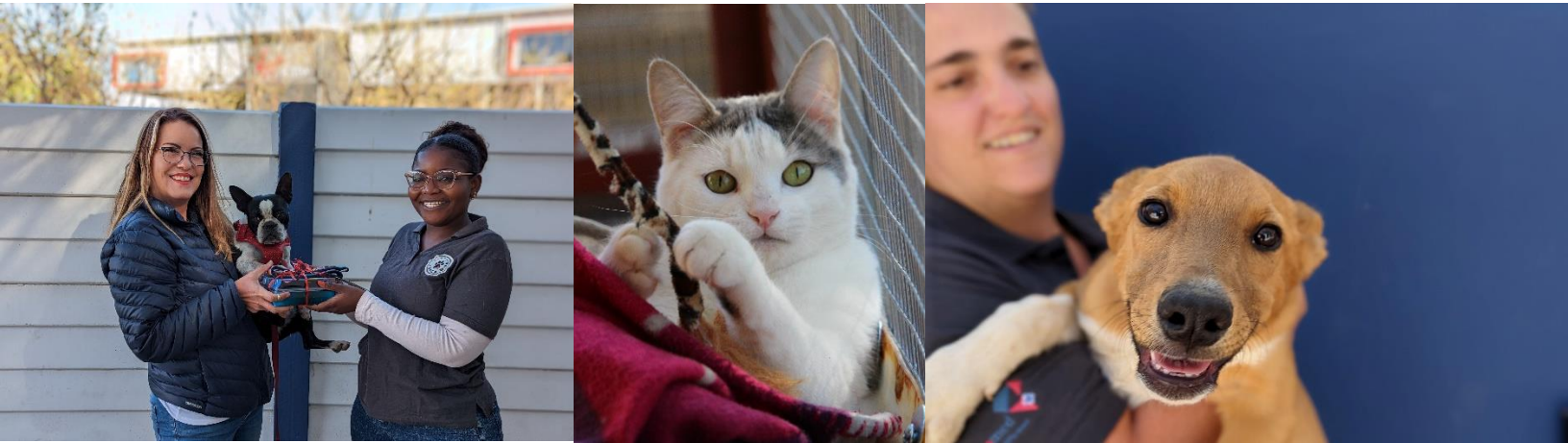
Some of our smaller SPCAs struggle to enroll and retain volunteers, yet they remain hopeful that members of their communities will become involved.

Events, Fundraising and Grants

A common activity for several SPCAs is to attend markets. It is a way to create awareness as well as an opportunity to raise some funds.

Nationwide, most of us hosted the national 'Mutt-Strutt' dog walk in September 2022. At some SPCAs it proved to be a successful fundraiser and in others rather an opportunity for the shelter dogs to go for an appreciated walk. Furthermore, each year, for a number of years, the SPCA Windhoek has been invited as a beneficiary of the SAGES Golf Fundraiser by selling raffle tickets. For the first time, the opportunity was extended to all Branches and collectively we raised just over N\$87,000.00 which was generously distributed by SAGES directly back to each Branch based on how many tickets they sold.

In Windhoek, the team held a handful of in-person events in the fiscal year; a Donor Appreciation coffee morning, the Mutt-Strutt, the Animals by Night, a Quiz Night, two Yard Sales, and Clear the Shelter. The team also hosted several online fundraisers; a calendar contest, Animals by Day - a virtual WhatsApp auction, a Santa Paws drive for the holidays,



a Membership Drive, and a fundraiser for Dixie's Fund. Additionally, the team wrote and submitted a total of six grant funding applications toward both operational expenses and project-based initiatives, of which four were awarded and two pending decisions at the end of the FY. Furthermore, we are glad to report that our PAWsitivty Charity Store and Bargain Bin raised just over N\$75,000.00 during the year. Both Grootfontein and Keetmanshoop have had some success in selling second-hand items as well.

The Lüderitz team have found that they are much more successful in virtual fundraising than they are with in-person events. Throughout the year, they held six fundraising initiatives, primarily of in-kind items. Both Grootfontein and Oshana cite difficulties in raising funds by traditional events.

The Otjiwarongo team had a busy year with events and organized a total of five fundraising initiatives, which ranged from a cake sale to 'Running for their lives' whereby

the committee members were biking outside of Superspar, sponsored by sponsors and passersby.

Both Walvis Bay and Windhoek offer merchandise for sale in their shelters. In Windhoek, the shelter retails Hill's (internationally recognized cat and dog food brand) and are also able to sell prescription diets, as we have a registered veterinary clinic. We also started selling Bravecto this year. For the second year in a row, we now offer pet microchipping at our clinic in an effort to successfully reunite more pets with their owners.

An important part of covering expenses is the municipal agreement several of the branches have in their towns. In Windhoek, the municipal grant of N\$200,000.00 was received at the beginning of the FY. We are happy to report that the municipality will pay the remaining N\$700,000.00 plus in the beginning of FY24, for the services provided by the SPCA in FY23.



Communication

The SPCA Namibia and Windhoek team has very good working relationships with Radiowave, HitRadio, German NBC, and Kosmos, and we are often featured on these channels. We have official collaborations with weekly features with 'Mission PAWsible' at Radiowave, 'Schnuffle Ecke' at HitRadio, and the German NBC. The headquarters team send out almost weekly notifications to various media entities and has received great support and coverage, not only on the radio channels, but also through Namibia Media Holdings, and some TV appearances too.

All SPCAs rely heavily on social media, primarily Facebook, but some Instagram too, for quick and easy communication, adoption ads, lost and found announcements, events marketing, call for action and more.

Building and Maintenance

Currently, all branches but Grootfontein, Keetmanshoop, and Oshana have an official animal shelter and/or a municipal property from which they can operate. For those that do not have a shelter, it puts limitations on their capacity to take in animals.

The SPCAs with animal shelters often look for ways to renovate and improve their buildings, let alone just maintaining the facilities which are often old, worn and/or weathered. In Windhoek, we are glad to report that thanks to a generous bequest we invested in changing the roof in Lafrenz 1, Lafrenz 2, Lafrenz 3 and its storage room, and four catteries from old, broken, and unhealthy asbestos roof to durable and higher quality metal roof. It was a months-long project which needed tactful maneuvering of the cats and dogs so not to

Communication and Media Highlights

Radio, Newspaper, and TV Interviews and Features

+ 224

Notices, Newsletters, and Press-releases

+ 56

Featured 2 out of 3 days

How often SPCA animal welfare messages in the media are featured

Hot Topics

Animal welfare, animal care tips, PSAs, adoption promotions, seals, campaigns and more



impact our operations nor stress the animals too much. As several of the catteries were empty, we took the opportunity and repainted cat boarding and two cat quarantine rooms. Through a couple of volunteer initiatives we also repainted cat cages in female cat rehoming and painted tunnels for the dogs which will go in their gardens.

The Grootfontein team built a few new kennels and a new 'camp' for the SPCA animals. In Keetmanshoop they struggled with foster homes for cats so this year, the committee decided to build a new cat enclosure which comprises of two enclosures next to each other, one larger than the other. All cats can now be housed together, or they can be separated by the age, or keep mothers and kittens separate from other cats that may harm the little ones. Once the Branch are able to secure a property, the entire cat enclosure will be moved.

In Lüderitz, the dog yard and kennels were camped off into more areas allowing for a higher intake and housing of dogs. Furthermore, a boundary wall was built around the premises, not only to protect the animals but also to shield them from the southwest winds that Lüderitz so often has.

They have also placed some effort in making the property more inviting by planting some trees and grass areas.

The Otjiwarongo team made upgrades by purchasing a new wood stove which they use to cook meat for the animals on as well as a second-hand washing machine which significantly helps the team in both time and sanitation. They renovated their office and reception to make the SPCA more welcoming and someone generously sponsored a laptop and printer to make in-house administration much more efficient and organized.

And finally, in Walvis Bay the SPCA building is maintained by their municipality. The SPCA replaced faulty CCTV equipment, started expanding their boarding facilities, and made necessary alterations to their kennels.

Vehicles

Indongo Toyota are incredible supporters of animal welfare and have sponsored vehicles for the following SPCAs: Oshana, Otjiwarongo, Walvis Bay, and Windhoek.



The Otiwarongo team were excited to have a 4x4 bakkie sponsored in June 2023.

We are happy to share that both the Lüderitz and Tsumeb teams added a vehicle to their investment. This will significantly help them respond to emergencies and assist with collection and transport of animals, house visits, and more. Now, neither team have to use their own private vehicles for official SPCA activities.

In more unfortunate news, the Windhoek team suffered two losses in vehicles. Both regular inspector vehicles are old and have been in need of several and costly repairs, so much that one of the vehicles have been permanently parked. Our 4x4 bakkie, sponsored by Autohaus, was in an accident with our veterinarian. Luckily, she was unharmed but the vehicle was totaled and was written off. Leaving the inspector team with one vehicle for an extended period of time. The SPCA in Windhoek will be looking at acquiring a 4x4 bakkie and a vehicle to replace our old Toyota Avanza which is having costly repairs.

Live Import-Transit-Export

The consulting firm EnviroLeap has circulated two reports regarding the *'Environmental Scoping and Management Plan. Proposed TradePort Namibia's On-the-hoof Sheep Import-Transit-Export trading by Sea to Asia and The Pacific (Middle-East and other Markets) Region, along the Trans-Oranje Corridor and through the Lüderitzs'*, a Public Consultations Report, following the opening report in 2020. The SPCA submitted a response to both reports, strongly opposing the trade which has historically, and to this day, been marred by animal cruelty. This year, the SPCA learnt that EnviroLeap is still pushing matters, and as such the SPCA sent letters to the Minister of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform (MAWLR) as well as the Minister of Environment, Forestry, and Tourism (MEFT). The MAWLR responded that it was open to a meeting, but there was no response from MEFT. The SPCA sent letters warning them and urging them to stop any attempts at the cruel trade. To date, the trade is still banned.



Adoption and Creative Solutions

This past year, the SPCA in Windhoek has put significantly more effort into adoptions by advertising more regularly on social media and by starting to attend markets. The push comes from the negative trend in adoptions which is possibly due to a saturated market, more groups in Windhoek offering adoptions, and the difficult financial climate. The matter of more groups offering adoptions is, however, a good thing, as ultimately the more homeless pets adopted to loving and responsible homes, the better, regardless of where they come from.

Seals

The SPCA has no doubt that the current seal slaughter in Namibia is inhumane with its current clubbing method. Seals have long been an internal topic of conversation, and the team has sought outside expertise and assistance to carefully draft a [position statement](#) which was released in June 2023, right around the time of the seal slaughter. In

short, the SPCA stands against the slaughter of seals as there are no proven humane methods to slaughter seals and avoiding immense distress on the seal population onsite. There was some media attention in this regard which the SPCA was asked to provide input on.

Food Distribution

We are excited to share that we have formed a partnership with Tauber & Corssen and FP Du Toit Transport Group whereby Tauber & Corssen donate food to the SPCA Namibia, we organize what pallet should go where, and FP Du Toit sponsors and transports the food around the country. The first donation comprised over 30 pallets of pet food. The SPCA distributes the food to all SPCA Branches and other registered animal welfare organizations. The effect of this initiative has a major and positive impact on all groups involved. We look forward to continuing this wonderful partnership and hope to expand those we are able to help.



The Animal Protection and Welfare Bill

The SPCA has a representative who has been appointed to the ad-hoc Animal Welfare Committee under the Veterinary Council at MAWLR. The Committee have been meeting for over a year, working hard on the draft Bill.

The Year Ahead

As an organization, we constantly strive to improve ourselves and to stay up to date with best practices in order to do the best that we can by the animals who need us. As one-year ends, and the next comes along, we look at the new year with a set of fresh eyes and hopes of what we may accomplish. One thing of many that we share at the SPCA is dreams of constant improvements, of which some are achievable in the near future, and others perhaps only down the line, be it with more adoptions or completely new project initiatives. In the year ahead, there are a few things that each of us aim to focus on.

EVENTS, FUNDRAISING, CAMPAIGNS, AND GRANTS

One focus will be events and joint initiatives again. The first joint venture will be the annual national dog walk, the Mutt-Strutt, which will be hosted in September 2023. Fundraising is a crucial part of our survival and thus any effort that bears fruit is worth it. To that end, the Grootfontein Branch will host a Gala in October 2023.

The Windhoek team has a fully planned calendar of in-person events, virtual fundraisers, grant applications and are happy to share that they will expand their merchandise sale to that of basic pet supplies for a new pet owner, such as collars, leashes, toys, bowls, litter boxes etc. The Lüderitz team are also exploring new ideas to generate revenue such as dog sitting and pet grooming.

The Oshana team has made plans into calendar year 2024 to generate some funds by attending markets, selling cupcakes, and an auction.



SHELTER FACILITIES

Renovating and upgrading our facilities, for those of us who have shelters, is high on the list of priorities. Our shelters are old, worn, and, in Lüderitz and Walvis Bay, weathered. We all have a high-stress environment, not only for the animals in our care, but for the buildings our animals reside in. With pets moving and scratching and strong chemicals used to clean the kennels, the facilities wear incredibly quickly.

In Tsumeb, the team hopes to give their kennels a fresh coat of paint, improve their cat enclosures, and expand the small living quarters of their incredibly dedicated animal caretaker who has worked there for 25 years. The Keetmanshoop team hope to be able to move to their new premises before the end of FY24. The Otjiwarongo team aim to continue their kennel renovations, and eventually the cat enclosures. Walvis Bay too, have similar plans as well as creating a new playground for the dogs.

The Windhoek team received a grant to renovate four puppy sunshine kennels and adjacent building walls. This part of the shelter is slowly crumbling, and the

renovation will in part focus on minimizing cross-contamination amongst one of our most vulnerable shelter populations. This renovation will only take place in the new FY24.

The Lüderitz facility will undergo needed repairs and additional building in order to provide a more holistic approach towards the care of their community's animals.

ANIMAL SERVICES

Some of the SPCAs have strong municipal agreements and support, while others struggle to get compensated for the services they provide to their municipality. Some have no official agreements with their municipalities. Notably, Keetmanshoop and Lüderitz are still in the process of negotiating a workable arrangement for their municipalities.

The SPCA in Windhoek has made some advances in coming to an agreement with their municipality and aim to negotiate better compensation for the dog impound services currently provided for the City of Windhoek.



WORKSHOP

We aim to host an in-person workshop for all the SPCAs for the first time this year. This will be an opportunity to get everyone together under the same roof, listen and participate in sessions and roundtable discussions, and motivate each other to find solutions to some of the issues we face whilst working in animal welfare. We hope to be able to extend invitations to additional groups.

HUMANE EDUCATION

We will be finalizing our Humane Educational Curriculum and look forward to both using it in schools in Windhoek, but also distributing it nationwide to anyone who has an interest in humane education. The Grootfontein, Keetmanshoop and Lüderitz teams all share wishes to do more educational outreach in the year to come.

GOVERNANCE

The importance of good governance never stops, and it is a responsibility that the management committee and headquarters take seriously. A range of documents are in the works, which includes a Committee Manual and an Administrative Manual, documents that will be utilized across the SPCAs. Many of the smaller branches simply do not have the time or resources to work on projects like these and we want to enable them to focus on what is most important - the animals - whilst still ensuring every SPCA is managed with good governance.



Celebration of Life

The SPCA Otjiwarongo Branch Committee organized a beautiful Celebration of Life for Elmarie Kotze in early July 2022. Ms. Kotze was the Branch Manager in Otjiwarongo and sadly passed away in a car accident during a work trip. Her colleague survived and remains dedicated to his work. It was a huge loss not only for SPCA Otjiwarongo but for animal welfare in general in Namibia. Ms. Kotze was incredibly dedicated and passionate about her work and is sorely missed.

In Appreciation

From every SPCA, we would like to express our gratitude to everyone who believes in our mission, who believes in animal welfare, and who believes every single animal is worthy. You make this important work possible and with your actions, animals that have nowhere else to go can find a safe place to stay for a little bit. These are some of the most vulnerable animals in our communities, and each and every one of them deserves a second chance. We would like to thank our members, supporters, committee members, employees, animal welfare advocates, donors, sponsors, volunteers, adopters, educators, and good Samaritans, who find animals on the street and do not look away. Each role is important, each action matters, and only by working together can we achieve real change. Change that will better the lives of our animal friends whether domestic or wild now, and in the future.



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- Dr. Samantha Zealand, SPCA Namibia
- Linda Dodds, Chairperson SPCA Namibia-Windhoek
- Alta Scott, Grootfontein Branch Representative
- Angelique Dunn, Keetmanshoop Branch Representative
- Fabienne Looser, Lüderitz Branch Representative
- Shanice Bigger, Oshana Branch Representative
- Leshane De Jager, Otjiwarongo Acting Branch Representative
- Michelle Swarts, Tsumeb Branch Representative
- Quinton van Rooyen, Walvis Bay Branch Representative
- SPCA Namibia – Walvis Bay Branch - Annual Report of Activities FY23 and SPCA Walvis Bay Branch Annual Financial Statement FY23
- SPCA Namibia-Windhoek Annual Financial Statement FY23

Report was reviewed, edited, and approved by:

- Linda Dodds, Chairperson SPCA Namibia-Windhoek
- Connie-Marlene Theyse, Treasurer, SPCA Namibia-Windhoek

Report resources:

- SPCA Namibia – Grootfontein Branch - Annual Report of Activities FY23 and SPCA Grootfontein Branch Annual Financial Statement FY23
- SPCA Namibia – Keetmanshoop Branch - Annual Report of Activities FY23 and SPCA Keetmanshoop Branch Annual Financial Statement FY23
- SPCA Namibia – Lüderitz Branch - Annual Report of Activities FY23 and SPCA Lüderitz Branch Annual Financial Statement FY23
- SPCA Namibia – Oshana Branch – Annual Report of Activities FY23 and SPCA Oshana Branch Annual Financial Statement FY23
- SPCA Namibia - Otjiwarongo Branch - Annual Report of Activities FY23 and SPCA Otjiwarongo Branch Annual Financial Statement FY23
- SPCA Namibia - Tsumeb Branch - Annual Report of Activities FY23 and SPCA Tsumeb Branch Annual Financial Statement FY23



This is Lilly. One of many animals SPCA Namibia (WO6) and its Branches rescued in fiscal year 2023. It is for dogs like Lilly that we are here. So that some of the most vulnerable animals in our community can have a second chance in life. Our members, donors, adopters,

educators, volunteers, and supporters are those who make saving dogs like Lilly a possibility. Read more about what we have accomplished in this past year in our Annual Report of Activities 2023.