



ANNUAL REPORT

2021-2022

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LSPCA



Established in 2008, the Lilongwe Society for Protection and Care of Animals is the oldest and largest animal welfare organization in Malawi focusing on domestic animals, livestock and working animals. The LSPCA's clinic provides highest standards of friendly veterinary services to our clients and rescued animals.

www.lilongwespca.org

Mission and Vision



Vision

To live in a world where animals in Malawi are treated with respect, care and compassion.

Mission

To improve the welfare of domestic, farm and working animals in Malawi. We work with government and other partners to deliver programmes of veterinary care, animal welfare education and training and to advocate for the implementation and enforcement of policies, legislation and regulations to promote good animal welfare.

Veterinary Hospital

Our team of veterinarians and nurses provide friendly services of the highest standards including 24-hour emergency response, 24-hour hospitalization care, surgery and spay and neuter services, pet travel documents, routine vaccination and dental care. The LSPCA Veterinary Hospital is the only certified veterinary hospital in Malawi and is a referral centre for the whole country.

Dr. Tino is our hospital manager and leads the team in surgeries, consultations, pet travel documents and our shelter. Dr. Madeline leads surgeries, consultations and practical veterinary training for all (para) veterinary students. Dr. Precious is our junior vet strengthening the team. Our veterinary nurses Peter, Cynthia, Tadala and Tamara perform triage, assist in surgeries, and look after our patients day and night.



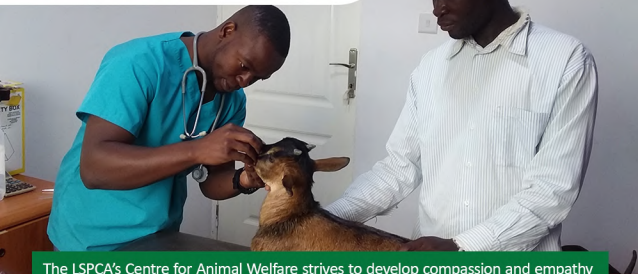
The New LSPCA Building



Late 2020 the LSPCA moved to its newly built and purposely designed clinic, shelter and head office, funded by the RSPCA-UK. The new premises in Kanengo have ensured the continuity of our work for many years to come. It is a pleasant work environment for as well the team and our 4-legged friends and patients. The deputy Minister of Agriculture Hon Madalitso Kambauwa Wirima MP officially opened the new premises during an exciting and well attended grand opening event.

The open work spaces and green work environment allows the team to make the most out of their time and efforts dedicated to improve the lives of animals in Malawi and supports the One Health approach which aim is to attain optimal health for people, animals and our environment.

The Centre for Animal Welfare



The LSPCA's Centre for Animal Welfare strives to develop compassion and empathy for all animals through awareness campaigns, humane education, veterinary support and training, and promotion of the enforcement of the Protection of Animals Act of Malawi. The Centre for Animal Welfare runs animal welfare projects, including donkey welfare, rabies surveillance and vaccination, animal kindness education, government endorsed accreditation programme for working dogs, animal rights awareness campaigns, improving livestock transport and slaughter, implementation and review of the Protection of Animals Act, training of all veterinary and para-veterinary students in Malawi, roadside sale of live animals programme and we respond to animal cruelty cases.

www.animalwelfaremalawi.org

Roadside Sale Campaign



In the 2021-2022 year, we rescued 123 animals from the side of the road. The support from our local community, WTS, VSF and RSPCA, allows us to fight the roadside sale of live animals in Lilongwe. This is an animal welfare issue as well as a human health problem due to risk of rabies transmission from unvaccinated animals. Animals sold along the streets, especially puppies and kittens, suffer significantly, they are carried in suffocating closed backpacks; they are usually carried around in suffocating closed backpacks; often their ears are glued to their head and they are dyed with toxic dyes, to sell them at a higher price; they are exposed to extreme weather conditions, suffer from severe dehydration, malnutrition and are taken away from their mothers at very early age.

We are working on a long-term solution to this problem in cooperation with with the Malawi Police Services, Department for Animal Health and Livestock Development and Lilongwe City Council. The holistic approach of this project offers controlled alternative sales points for vendors, it includes education of the vendors, police officers, prosecutors and the general public as well as enforcement of the law and rehoming of rescued puppies and kittens.

Rescue and Rehoming



In 2021-22 we found loving new homes for over 150 animals!

Animals that have lost their home, have been cruelly treated or attacked need a safe haven to heal and find a new home. Every year the LSPCA cares for hundreds of animals which are rescued, surrendered or confiscated by the police. We have a purpose-built rehoming shelter and all animals received expert veterinary care. Our animal carers provide love and care to all our shelter animals and provide ample of enrichment to keep them happy while they are with the LSPCA.

We aim to rehome all animals that we have rescued and following a 30-day quarantine period to rule out any illness, each animal is assessed to determine the ideal type of home for them, and all dogs receive basic training. All dogs receive basic training as well. Our matchmaking experts make sure that the active adoption programme finds perfect new homes for all our dogs and cats.

Stamp of Approval

Many organisations and companies use dogs as security officers, law enforcement officers and to sniff out illegal drugs and wildlife trade. We use the Animal Welfare Guidelines that were launched in 2019 by the Malawi Government in conjunction with the LSPCA to assess the health and welfare of working dogs. A close cooperation with the Department of Animal Health and Livestock Development and the Malawi police has improved the lives of countless working dogs in Lilongwe. 6 Companies that adhere to the Animal Welfare Guidelines received the annual renewable accreditation the Stamp of Approval in 2021.



Rabies surveillance and continuous vaccination



In alignment with the global Zero By 30 approach, we aim to have zero human deaths due to rabies by 2030. We work on this goal with a targeted community-led surveillance programme to isolate dogs and cats infected with rabies and we provide continuous rabies vaccination in 10 high-risk areas to protect people and animals and to stop the spread of rabies. We work on this programme in partnership with the government and with support from WTG. Since 2015, the LSPCA has vaccinated over 150,000 dogs.

Veterinary Training



The LSPCA is a focal point for veterinary training and animal welfare education in Malawi. It is key for veterinary students to gain practical experience during their education. Under the leadership of Dr Madeline, we are offering practical training to all veterinary and para-veterinary students in Malawi since 2015. With support from the WTS, we deliver a unique practical skills platform to students of veterinary medicine and animal health and livestock production. The LSPCA works alongside the Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR) – Bunda College and Natural Resources College campuses, delivering veterinary training, practical training in the field at community vet clinics and in our hospital. We furthermore work with LUANAR on improving the curriculum.

Mobile Vet Clinic



Our Mobile Clinic provides free veterinary services in 50% of Lilongwe's high-density areas and 100% of farm areas around the city.

Access to veterinary services in high-density areas is hard to find or completely lacking. Besides our work in the city, we support rural communities around Lilongwe to improve the welfare of farm animals, boosting health and production to secure income and better livelihoods and food security for small-holder farmers. Our experienced and dedicated nurse team provides friendly and professional services; check-ups, vaccinations, deworming, wound treatment and veterinary care.

Donkey Welfare



Donkeys are key to the livelihoods of farmers as they transport tobacco, maize and other produce from the field to the processing sites. The health and welfare of donkeys is important for both the farmer and the donkey. With support from The Donkey Sanctuary we provide veterinary care and we train owners and drivers in improving housing and nutrition, dental and hoof care and better treatment of the donkeys. We have developed donkey harnesses that are made from recycled conveyor belts that are covered with blankets using local craftspeople. The harnesses are specifically designed to reduce wounds and injuries and to optimize the donkey's pulling strength as opposed to the widely used heavy logs designed for oxen. In 2021-2022 we have provided 183 donkeys with new harnesses. The LSPCA works with over 2000 donkeys around Lilongwe, Dedza and Dowa. This programme helps to ensure that the health and welfare of donkeys is improved, which means they can continue to work productively and for longer to support the livelihoods of their owners. We are also keeping a close eye on donkey ownership and statistics across the country to ensure that the widely spread cruel donkey skin trade does not set foot in Malawi.

Legislation and Enforcement



Improved animal welfare contributes to the well-being of people, animals and our environment as a whole. We are working with the government on updating the Animal Welfare Act, which will provide greater protection for animals to prevent suffering. We work closely with the Malawi Police Services to ensure the implementation of the Protection of Animals Act and reduce cases of animal cruelty in Malawi.




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