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# STRATEGIC PLAN

## 2021-2026



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# VETERINARY HOSPITAL

LSPCA Veterinary Hospital is located in Kanengo, Lilongwe, the capital city of Malawi. Providing leading veterinary care, with modern equipment and a 24-hour emergency service, we deliver a high standard of veterinary care at affordable prices. We also run veterinary clinics in rural communities throughout Lilongwe. This is an essential service since there are very few qualified vets in Malawi and many animal owners have no access to veterinary care for their animals. The hospital also provides free veterinary care to all rescued animals, which are cared for on-site whilst we try to find them a new forever home through our adoption programme.

Dr Tino Razemba is our hospital manager and leads on surgeries, consultations, pet travel documents and animal welfare concerns in Malawi. Dr Madeline Nyamwanza leads surgeries, consultations and veterinary training of college and university students. Our team of veterinary nurses assists in surgeries and looks after our patients. Our shelter team looks after our rescued animals that are awaiting adoption.

LSPCA has a 24 hour emergency service providing vital and life-saving surgery and treatment.

Vaccinations are the essential first steps in reducing the risk of pets becoming seriously ill. Unfortunately, highly contagious diseases like rabies and parvo are common in Malawi. Depending on the virus, it may be fatal to the animal and rabies can also be fatal to humans. Therefore, having pets vaccinated is the best and least costly way of preventing these diseases.





# CENTRE FOR ANIMAL WELFARE



The LSPCA, the oldest and largest animal welfare organization in Malawi, strives to develop compassion and empathy for all animals through an awareness campaign, humane education, veterinary support and training, and promotion of the enforcement of the Protection of Animals Act of Malawi.

With a team of 16 professionals, the LSPCA manages a continuous rabies vaccination in Lilongwe, offers medical clinics and training of donkey owners and cart drivers, trains veterinary students at the college and university level, and works on the inclusion

of animal welfare in the curriculum. The LSPCA conducts a self-sustainable mobile veterinary clinic to support low-income residential areas and farms around Lilongwe, where there is little access to veterinary care. The LSPCA works on a long-term solution to eliminate the cruel and illegal roadside animal trade. The program includes cooperation with the Lilongwe City Council to develop a controlled marketplace for vendors, training magistrates, prosecutors, police officers, and community leaders in Lilongwe.



# OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

- LSPCA's Veterinary Hospital is Malawi's only accredited Veterinary Hospital and is the sole provider of a 24 hr / 7 days a week emergency service for animals in Lilongwe. It is also a national referral hospital due to its experienced veterinary team and well-equipped theater.
- LSPCA facilitated the development of National Animal Welfare Guidelines that were launched in 2019.
- We have facilitated the formulation of Animal Protection Bylaws in Lilongwe District, resulting in a significant decrease in animal cruelty and abuse cases in the area.



Veterinary hospital



Veterinary training



Rabies Vaccinations



Donkey Welfare



Rescuing abused animals

- We run a curriculum review committee with the Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR) to include Animal Welfare in their curricula.
- We have provided clinical training to over 58 veterinary students since 2020.
- We have trained 240 lead farmers, resulting in improved welfare for over 2500 donkeys.
- We run a spay/neuter programme which has led to the sterilization of over 5000 companion animals.
- Annually we rescue, care for and find new homes for over 250 dogs and cats.
- LSPCA is the partner of choice for Government to deliver Lilongwe District's rabies vaccination and surveillance programme. LSPCA has delivered rabies vaccination clinics since its inception in 2008. The annual programme now vaccinates 30,000 dogs and cats and leads the surveillance programme with the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Health.
- We facilitated the formation of the National Rabies Elimination Task-force under a One Health Approach, which involves various stakeholders from various sectors and disciplines.



- We deliver targeted rabies-related training of trainers to teachers in Lilongwe Urban Education district – reaching over 180 000 learners: sensitized about the dangers and prevention of rabies, prevention of dog bites, and necessary precautionary measures when bitten by a dog.
- We received an award from Global Alliance for Rabies Control, in 2017, recognising our efforts on rabies control in the Sub-Saharan region – the `best organisation` category.
- LSPCA has received awards from the RSPCA and Humane Society International and is the national Ambassador for World Animal Day.
- We have developed funding and technical partnerships with multiple international NGOs and act as the Secretariat for several Technical Working Groups on behalf of the government.
- We rolled out the accreditation programme `Stamp of Approval` for dogs owning working animals.
- We enrolled the Roadside Sale elimination plan that works on all awareness, humane sales of pets opportunities for vendors, legislation & enforcement and rehoming of rescued animals.
- We operate from our LSPCA-owned fit-for-purpose Veterinary Hospital, animal shelter and quarantine facilities and the Centre for Animal Welfare.





# ANIMAL WELFARE IN MALAWI

## NOTABLE KEY ISSUES

- Lack of enforcement on animal welfare legislation and regulation.
- Inadequate upholding of OIE standards in delivery of veterinary services despite being a member.
- Inadequate stakeholder's engagement and involvement.
- Inadequate policy and legislation framework on animal welfare and poor implementation of the existing laws.
- Inadequate resources to undertake desired activities.
- Lack of adequate education and awareness.
- Lack of home-grown science and research.
- Poor access to veterinary services
- Improper animal handling and transportation practices
- Poor standards of housing and living environment for animals
- Inhumane livestock slaughter practices



## OUR VISION

All animals in Malawi are treated with respect, care and compassion; good animal welfare supports improved animal and public health with benefits for human livelihoods and the environment.



## OUR MISSION

Our mission is to deliver veterinary care, animal welfare education and training programmes through our Veterinary Hospital and Centre for Animal Welfare to improve the welfare of domestic, working and farm animals. Using a One Health/One Welfare framework, we will ensure that our programmes improve animal welfare and also benefit people and promote environmentally sustainable practices.

## OUR WORK

LSPCA's Centre for Animal Welfare and Veterinary Hospital form partnerships with government, local communities and other national, regional and international stakeholders and partners to deliver services and programmes to deliver better welfare for all animals in Malawi.



## PRIORITY AREAS

Our area of focus from 2021-2026.



### VETERINARY CARE

Improving access to and delivery of high-quality veterinary care to improve the health and welfare of domestic, farm and working animals.



### EDUCATION

Working with education institutions, international organisations and the government to improve the quality of education for veterinary students and animal health students and support professional development for veterinarians and para-veterinarians



### STRAY ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

Supporting humane stray animal management strategies.



### RABIES CONTROL

Controlling canine-mediated rabies to reduce rabies cases in people and animals.



### LEGISLATION AND ENFORCEMENT

Working with government to draft a new Animal Welfare Law and associated regulations and guidelines to promote good animal welfare and prevent animal suffering; developing sustainable enforcement measures.



## PRIORITY AREAS



### **AWARENESS OF ANIMAL WELFARE**

Raising public awareness on responsible animal ownership and kindness and compassion to all animals.



### **HIGHER STANDARDS OF FARM ANIMAL WELFARE**

Advocating for better welfare of livestock on farm, in transport and at slaughter.



### **ENSURING GOOD WELFARE FOR WORKING ANIMALS**

Improving access to information, technology, medical care and training for owners to ensure better welfare of working animals.



### **ONE HEALTH ONE WELFARE FRAMEWORK**

Ensuring LSPCA projects benefit animals and people and protect the environment by promoting the concepts of One Health/One Welfare.



### **LSPCA'S OPERATIONS**

Policies and training are in place to ensure LSPCA is compliant with best practice industry standards, and is recognised as an excellent employer and partner.



# THE NEXT 5 YEARS

1. Access to veterinary care is widespread in Lilongwe.
2. Animal welfare awareness is mainstream in Malawi.
3. Animal Welfare legislation is updated & enforcement thereof is adequate.
4. Canine-mediated rabies is eliminated in people in Lilongwe.
5. The LSPCA is financially sustainable.

- At least 50% of animal owners in Lilongwe have regular access to appropriate veterinary care for their animals, regardless of the owners' financial- or demographic situation. Including spay, neuter and vaccination of all animals treated.
- Develop a training program for veterinary interns for 2 students continually.
- Animal welfare is mainstreamed across sectors in Malawi and is recognised as an important component of One Health/One Welfare strategies.
- At least 50% of chicken transporters in and around Lilongwe use appropriate transport methods to safeguard animal welfare.
- 75% of donkeys in Lilongwe EPAs will use donkey friendly harnesses and have access to medical attention every 4 months. Increase welfare standards for donkeys across board.



- Bring welfare standards for guard dogs and kennels to maintained acceptable levels across Lilongwe.
- Potential buyers are aware of the dangers and cruelty that pears with animals sold on the side of the road.
- Increase adoption rate to the level whereby all reported cases can be rescued and rehomed where the medical status and behaviour of the animal allows.
- Animal Welfare legislation is updated & enforcement thereof is adequate
- Malawi's legal framework for animal welfare is updated and the law is enforced with appropriate penalties and sentencing.
- Canine-mediated rabies is eliminated in people in Lilongwe
- At least 70% of dogs in rabies hotspots are vaccinated against rabies.
- Increase rabies surveillance by improving reporting structures and follow-ups on dog bite cases, suspected rabies cases, rabies test results, and rabies deaths.
- The LSPCA is financially sustainable.
- Diverse income streams from international donors, local donors, local partnerships with commercial entities, local community support and sustainable income from the hospital and Mobile Clinic.
- Increase LSPCA hospital profits by 25% from 2019. Operate from LSPCA owned property.





LSPCA

POP-UP MOBILE  
VET CLINIC

HERE TODAY 9AM-2PM

- Vaccinations • Treatments
- Checkups • Medical advice

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CAW

LSPCA UK

IVCEVIDENSIA



LSPCA STRATEGY 2021-2026