



www.friendsofhstj.org

Helping Animals Since 2008

friendsofhstj@gmail.com

WINTER HOLIDAYS 2019 NEWSLETTER



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Working Miracles with \$50 or less

Special Thank You For Responding

Three Frequently Asked Questions and Answers

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WORKING MIRACLES WITH \$50 OR LESS

Here are just a few of the recent rescues saved by the love and care of rescuers and just \$50 or less of FHSTJ veterinary care certificates.

The following photos are not staged or done by professionals. They are the actual photos done by the rescuers receiving FHSTJ support.



Diego rescued from abusive family. *



Diego after treatment -ready for adoption.

**Diego had been abandoned and left starving. He was ill, full of ticks and had skin lesions.*



Molly-Tossed in street, left to die.*

**Molly had been tossed in the street and left to die. This first photo was taken by the rescuer at the moment she was found. You can see the shadow of the rescuer taking the photo.*



Molly- After treatment-ready for adoption.



Felix found with ingrown collar and neck lesion.*



Felix at first post operative visit to the vet.

**Felix was found tied to a lamp post the morning of an FHSTJ street treatment event. Nobody claimed him. He was immediately taken for veterinary care using FHSTJ Treatment Certificates.*



Felix with his protective collar.



Felix found a forever home.

FHSTJ DOES A LOT MORE THAN RESCUES. OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS ARE OUTLINED IN THE FOLLOWING NARRATIVE THAT WAS SUBMITTED TO THE IRS IN OUR ANNUAL 990 REPORT. ALL OF THIS WAS MADE POSSIBLE BY YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT.

“Friends of Humane Services in Tijuana [FHSTJ] supports 5 grassroots organizations in addition to several individual rescuers. These groups/people have no significant funding sources locally and rely on FHSTJ to provide needed services to pets of people with extremely limited income as well as to street animals in desperate need of food, medical attention and protection. The greater Tijuana, Mexico area borders the greater San Diego, California area and these services contribute to a healthier environment for the both American and Mexican communities along the border. Animals have no nationality.

The vast majority of FHSTJ support is via event based grants [otorgamientos] to cover the expenses of grassroots groups of rescuers who provide free spay and neutering events in the poorest areas of Tijuana as well as medication to provide free mange and parasite treatment street events for pets as well as street animals located in the most distressed areas of the greater Tijuana area. Additional individual case grants were provided to rescuers via a certificate program that provides for immediate veterinary care for rescued animals. The aforementioned programs also provide public education through both formal public session and informal one on one counseling.

Major accomplishments for the year were:

Provided funding for **1181 free spay/neuter surgeries.**

Provided funding for **medicines to treat 1686 animals** for mange and parasites.

Provided funding to rescuers for **182 individual, urgent veterinary medical treatments.**

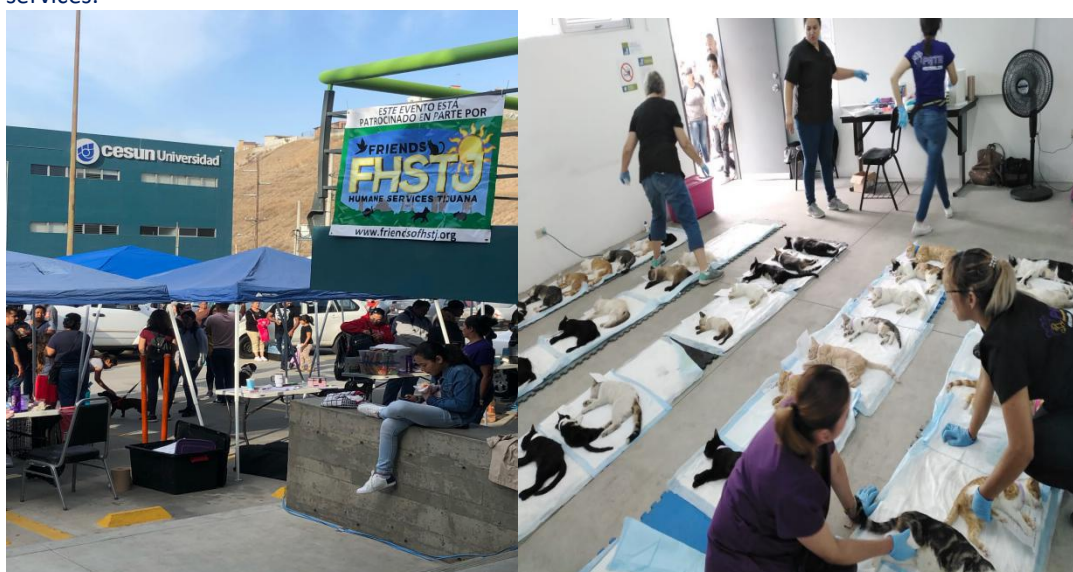
Distributed \$4409.00 of purchased pet food to rescuers.

Distributed \$ 5000.00 worth of donated pet food to individuals needing help to feed pets.

Distributed \$4500.00 worth of donated miscellaneous non medicine medical items to rescuers.

Provided forever homes for 57 animals via FHSTJ adoption programs at pet stores in San Diego, CA. and facilitated an additional 45 adoptions through individual rescuers in Mexico.

In addition to the aforementioned major accomplishments, we distributed non medical and animal housing supplies to rescuers. We also provided information to the public and to rescuers regarding the procedure to file complaints about animal cruelty and where to find various animal related services.”



Mass spay and neuter events held monthly.

Cat recovery area-mass spay clinic.

FHSTJ covers the full cost for persons without resources to pay the low cost fee for pets. FHSTJ also covers the full cost for rescued dogs and cats as well as feral cats.



Street events to treat parasites, mange, ticks, fleas and minor wounds are valuable opportunities to teach adults as well as children about general care and the importance of spay and neuter. When severe cases arrive, FHSTJ Vet Care Certificates are issued.



It is encouraging to see young people taking an interest in learning to care for animals.



**START THE NEW YEAR OFF WITH A FEEL GOOD ACT OF KINDNESS!
DATE YOUR CHECK JANUARY 1, 2020. WE WILL HOLD IT AND DEPOSIT
IT ELECTRONICALLY OR BY MACHINE ON NEW YEAR'S DAY.**

Be An Ambassador

You can be a great help by spreading the word about helping animals in need. Be an ambassador for FHSTJ and send this information on to good people like yourself and who are genuinely concerned about animals.



Hey there! We have a special message for those who responded to our appeal last summer. Your generosity moved us closer to maintaining last year's high level of support. With those donations and hopefully what comes from holiday donors, we will not have to reduce services. THANK YOU!

IF YOU APPROVE OF THE WORK WE ARE DOING, YOU CAN DONATE BY GOING TO THE WEB SITE www.friendsofhstj.org and clicking on DONATE.

Or, send a check made payable to FHSTJ to the following address:

**Friends of HSTJ
641 E. San Ysidro Blvd. #B3-431
San Ysidro, Ca 92173**

Your donations are tax deductible. FHSTJ is an IRS approved charity #77-0704404

Be A Responsible Donor

Before you donate to an animal charity, the minimum you should ask is:

1. Is the organization approved by the IRS as a charity? Do they publish their IRS number so that you can avail yourself of the information if you choose?
2. To whom do they pay salaries?
3. Do they provide donors with periodic reports?

FHSTJ can respond to these questions:

Friends of Humane Services in Tijuana is an IRS approved 501 c 3 charity #77-0704404. Contact information: Direct your questions to the above address or by email to friendsofhstj@gmail.com

FHSTJ has one part-time office employee who monitors and records activity results, donations, and communications to insure that donors' gifts are used in the most efficient way possible. No monetary or in-kind compensation is given for volunteer or board member service. FHSTJ provides donors with two reports a year. Donors can review FHSTJ's work by visiting the web site: www.friendsofhstj.org

We hope you found this newsletter informative. Please feel free to contact us at our email address with your comments or questions. By the way, a Q and A page follows the newsletter and you may find answers to some questions that you have.

RNM

Richard Massa

President, Friends of Humane Services in Tijuana.

FHSTJ Q and A

Question: Why doesn't FHSTJ use non-profit postage?

Answer: FHSTJ is approved by the United States Postal Service to use non-profit postage [NPP] but chooses not to do so at this time for the following reasons:

- >The vast majority of mass and individual mailings are electronic.
- >NPP has a minimum mailing requirement and requires either a USPS permit which comes with a fee or an option to use presorted and bar coded envelopes.
- >NPP requires us to bring the bulk mailing to a special location and then complete an inventory and weigh-in and separate the mail in bins according to zip codes.
- >NPP requires an up front extra fee for each piece going out of local zip areas according to the aforementioned inventory and to be paid at the time of mailing.
- >NPP, unless addressed as "Resident", requires us to pick up returned mail and pay a fee for the return and for forwarding addresses.
- >NPP cannot be used to send first class mail such as our special thank you letters that so many of you appreciate and/or correspondence that you request.

Considering the above requirements and the actual small amount of saving versus the valuable volunteer time to handle it, FHSTJ chooses to allocate volunteer time for other cost saving programs such as the food distribution, among others. Should our number of hard copy mass mailings reach a point where it is more economical to do so, we will use NPP.

Question: Why Doesn't FHSTJ run a shelter?

Answer: FHSTJ can do much, much more with your donations by supporting a corps of individual rescuers located in various parts of the greater Tijuana area rather than running a shelter holding only a few animals.

- >Shelters, whether private or public, fall under the supervision of the local department of health's local dog pound. The government can require them to respond to actions needed to assist the local pound thus giving the local government an avenue to lean on private resources that would otherwise be better and more efficiently used.
- >Shelters require owning or leasing land and having some paid employees which is expensive considering the very limited number of animals that can be housed at any given time, to say nothing of the disadvantage of an animal not having a foster parent to socialize it for adoption.
- >The FHSTJ certificate programs places resources in the hands of rescuers so that they can immediately respond to urgent situations.

Question: How does FHSTJ know that my donation is being used properly?

Answer: FHSTJ does not "send" money to Mexico. Rather, it distributes resources per event or per individual animal rescued and with an accountability procedure.

- > Board officers meet monthly or bi-monthly as required with the leaders of four grassroots groups and lead rescuers to plan new events, plan budgets and also review past events.
- >Resources are distributed per event e.g. mass spay and neuter and mass parasite control clinics.
- > An FHSTJ board member or board adviser is present at events and a numerical and photo report is submitted to FHSTJ and data is recorded.
- >Group leaders and lead rescuers are provided with FHSTJ Vet. Care Certificates to distribute to rescuers as needed and the veterinarians are paid after service is rendered and the veterinary report is received. Participating vets usually give a special rate to FHSTJ rescues.

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