



[www.friendsofhstj.org](http://www.friendsofhstj.org)

Helping Animals Since 2008

[friendsofhstj@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofhstj@gmail.com)

**SUMMER 2021 NEWSLETTER**

In this edition:

Working Despite Covid 19  
Profile of a Lead Rescuer

A Rescue Start to Finish  
Important & Frequently Asked Questions

**Working Despite Covid 19- Rescues: Spay/Neuter: Street Events**

At times, the challenge was overwhelming due to lock downs, restricted border crossings, enforcing social distancing at events, and a decline in donations due to the economy. However, our dedicated volunteers were able to achieve the seemingly impossible. Since the start of the lockdown in March 2020 through April 2021, FHSTJ accomplished the following:

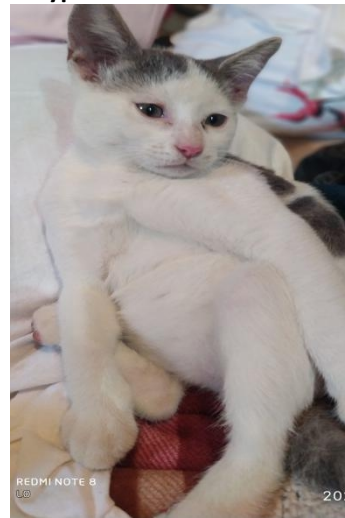


**1331 Spay/Neuter Surgeries   2123 Mange/Parasite Treatments   153 Rescue Vet. treatments**

**ADOPTIONS** in San Diego were more than usual: **56**. it was an ideal time to give an animal a forever home since people were spending more time at home. Last but not least, **RESCUES** continued as before. Below is Pandy, just one of the many rescues. He was the only survivor in a litter of six found hidden in a private patio. The mother cat did not return and the owner called an FHSTJ rescuer for help. Pandy was immediately treated thanks to FHSTJ Vet Care Certificates which rescuers have on hand specifically for these types of cases.



Pandy at time of rescue.



After treatment, a few months older, adopted.

### A Rescue Start to Finish

The following photos are not staged or done by professionals. They are actual photos by rescuers receiving FHSTJ support for medications, food, spay/neuter and veterinary care.



Rescuers found two female dogs abandoned in an enclosed, vacated property. The smaller female had four pups hidden between the walls. They were examined and fed immediately.



After gaining their trust, the two females and pups were placed in the care of a lead rescuer for treatments and fostering until ready for adoption. The larger female, Tigresa [Tiger], had tumors and therapy was started. The smaller, Mamita, was spayed after pups were weaned.



Tiger receives therapy in foster care [left]. Mamita was spayed [center]. Grown pups [right].



Thanks to volunteer rescuers and people who open their hearts and home, these animals can find a forever home. Cuco has already been adopted and his new name is Beans!

#### **FHSTJ DOES A LOT MORE THAN RESCUES.**

Friends of Humane Services in Tijuana [FHSTJ] supports 4 grassroots organizations, Por Amor A Tobby, PATA, Bastet Cat Rescue, and PROATI 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. The majority of FHSTJ support is via event based funding to cover the expenses of grassroots groups who provide the poorest areas of Tijuana with mass spay /neutering clinics and mass mange/ parasite treatment events. These events serve pets as well as street animals located in the most distressed areas of the greater Tijuana area. Individual case support is provided to rescuers via a certificate program that provides immediate veterinary care for rescued animals. The aforementioned programs also offer public education through public sessions and informal one on one counseling.

#### **BE AN AMBASSADOR AND HELP SPREAD THE WORD.**

You can help animals just by spreading the word. A simple forward of this FHSTJ Newsletter to people like yourself who have an interest in animal welfare is an easy and effective way of helping us. A simple message such as: "Thought you might want to see what this organization is doing for animals" is a great way to introduce your friends and family to FHSTJ.

**IF YOU APPROVE OF THE WORK WE DO, YOU CAN DONATE BY GOING TO OUR WEB SITE [www.friendsofhstj.org](http://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**

### Profile of a Lead Rescuer

Rescuers are often faced with difficult situations. It is not always as simple as coaxing a street dog to follow you home. Mostly, it means convincing negligent owners, animal collectors or "pet shop" operators to surrender their animals. This is not easy since we do not have legal authority to enter private property or confiscate neglected animals like many first world country humane organizations do. After a rescue, animals must be cleaned, given veterinary care, fostered, socialized, spayed/neutered and then readied for adoption. Lead rescuers direct, participate in and coordinate all the steps. In this edition, we salute a dedicated rescuer, **Consuelo Salman**, who has done hundreds of rescues.



Consuelo in recovery room, spay/neuter clinic.



Consuelo at home with her rescues.

She is a resident of Tijuana and has been a volunteer with animal rescue groups for more than ten years. She was motivated by the conditions she encountered in the city and puts her talent to work solving the problems of the ubiquitous, neglected animals seen on the streets and in homes of irresponsible owners. For the past five years, she has been a dedicated volunteer at mass spay/ neuter clinics organized by Por Amor A Toby, a grassroots local organization which is supported by FHSTJ. [Funding by FHSTJ provides free spay/ neuter surgeries for animals of rescuers as well as individual pet owners without resources.] For the last four years, Consuelo has also served as an FHSTJ volunteer doing rescues and staffing FHSTJ adoption events held regularly in San Diego. She is a guardian angel to the animals.

[A Rescue Start to Finish \[ page 1 \]](#) and the following two rescues are examples of her work.



Consuelo spoke with the owners many times about the terrible conditions of both dogs, Troy and Troya. Finally, but too late for Troya, they were surrendered. In spite of emergency care, Troya did not survive. Troy did recover. A handsome, loving boy.

Another bold rescue by Consuelo and companions involved a family with nine dogs kept in poor conditions. One was dead at the scene. Eight others were evacuated and saved.



Sick and frightened. Like the eight others.



All eight were successfully evacuated.

Other rescuers were also working hard to help the street animals. Below is a typical case. This precious girl was found on the street with severe mastitis. Rescuers used FHSTJ Veterinary Care Certificates for her treatment and she soon recovered. She was spayed and readied for adoption.



Found living on the street



Treated



Recovered and Content

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Question: Why Doesn't FHSTJ run a shelter?**

**Answer:** FHSTJ can do much more with your donations by supporting rescuers located in various parts of the 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/ leasing land and having paid employees which is expensive considering the very limited number of animals that can be housed at any given time.

>The FHSTJ Certificate Program places resources in the hands of rescuers so 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. spay/ neuter and parasite control clinics.

> A FHSTJ board member or board adviser is present at events and a numerical and photo report is submitted to FHSTJ and data is recorded.

>Lead rescuers are given FHSTJ Veterinary Care Certificates to distribute as needed.

Veterinarians are paid after service is rendered and the report is received.

>Donors may contact FHSTJ at any time to inquire about their donation at [friendsofhstj@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofhstj@gmail.com)

### **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 FHSTJ 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. Payments for out of area mailings, special sorting and special retrieval of returned mail require clerical time that could be better used on the food distribution and other programs.

>If the number of hard copy mailings increase dramatically in the future, we will use NPP.

## **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 and for what?
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](mailto:friendsofhstj@gmail.com)

To assist volunteers, FHSTJ has two part-time employees for a total of only 15 hours a week. One monitors and records activity results, donations and communications to insure that donors' gifts are used in the most efficient way possible. The other is responsible for the logistics of the food program, supplies and storage. No monetary or in-kind compensation is given for volunteer or board member service. That is why we do so much with so little. FHSTJ provides donors with two reports a year. Donors can review FHSTJ's work by visiting the web site: [www.friendsofhstj.org](http://www.friendsofhstj.org) and **DONATE**