



Please follow us on Facebook-Instagram-YouTube
[Facebook.com/FHSTJ](https://www.facebook.com/FHSTJ) [Instagram.com/friends of hstj](https://www.instagram.com/friends_of_hstj)
[YouTube.com/@FHSTJ2023](https://www.youtube.com/@FHSTJ2023)



<https://www.tiktok.com/@fhstj0> Each like, subscription & follow helps us reach more people and save animals from a life of starvation, disease, pain, and fear.



www.friendsofhstj.org

SUMMER 2026 NEWSLETTER

friendsofhstj@gmail.com

In This Edition: A FOCUS ON OUR MISSION - THE LUCKY ONES - WHAT'S NEW? - UNIQUE MODEL SERVING MORE WITH LESS

A FOCUS ON OUR MISSION



STREET CLINIC- CENTRO



STREET CLINIC- ESTE



CAT ADOPTIONS



STREET RESCUES



VETERINARY CARE



MASS SPAY/NEUTER



DOG ADOPTIONS



SPAY/NEUTER

In keeping with our mission to support Mexican rescue groups and individual Mexican rescuers, our dedicated volunteers have been able to expand rescue support services in the east of the greater Tijuana area and in the town of Tecate. As we reported in previous newsletters, we have been providing free spay and neuter surgeries in the Tecate area for last two years and, thanks to our donors, are now able to provide support for a group doing street rescues. This is in addition to the support FHSTJ gives to four Tijuana-based rescue groups. FHSTJ works to ensure that these groups can not only function but grow. By providing free spay/neuter surgeries and veterinary care for rescuers and pet owners with extremely limited resources, these groups can conserve their own limited resources to grow and serve more animals in desperate need of help.

THE LUCKY ONES



Starving-Ill



Rescued-Recovered



Trapped in Tar



Rescued-Adopted



Abandoned



Rescued-Foster Care



Tumor-Abandoned



Post-op Recovered



Burned-Abandoned



Treated-Adopted



A Street Rescue



Treated-Adopted

It is always a joy to see the remarkable recovery of rescued animal. Unfortunately, that joy is diminished when we see the many, many others that so desperately need help. We need your support to be able to reach these suffering animals. We can perform 'miracles' with your help. It doesn't take a lot to save one animal. See the following section **UNIQUE MODEL SERVING MORE WITH LESS** to get an idea of what FHSTJ has done in the past year.

UNIQUE MODEL SERVING MORE WITH LESS

We believe that animals shelters, while having a role in the proper setting, do not serve our situation. We can serve more animals with less resources through a decentralized approach which keeps rescuers from becoming "animal collectors" instead of focusing on adoptions. Our priority is providing spay and neuter surgeries which is the only proven way to stop the over population of animals and the consequential suffering. FHSTJ's work has saved countless animals by raising awareness of the need for spay/neuter programs, doing street rescues, and promoting the humane treatment of animals.

FHSTJ touched the lives of 4000 animals with \$110,000 in donations, \$20,000 worth of donated items, countless hours of volunteer time, and using our unique model of decentralized rescue services rather than running a shelter. [See additional information in the section: Frequently Asked Questions.]

FHSTJ is an all-volunteer organization.

The following excerpt is from our annual 990 report submitted to the Internal Revenue Service.

“For the fiscal year ending on 30 June 2026, FHSTJ was able to help many animals due to the generosity of our donors and accomplished the following:

1209 free spay/neuter surgeries were provided to animals of rescuers and people with limited resources.

1411 low cost spay/neuter were provided to animals of persons able to contribute to the cost of materials.

6000 doses of free anti-parasite and mange medication were distributed to pet owners in the city’s poorest areas.

421 free veterinary medical/surgical treatments were provided to animals of rescuers.

58 dogs were placed in forever homes in the San Diego.

85 cat and dog adoptions were facilitated in Mexico.

29,000 pounds of pet food was distributed to rescuers and pet owners.

The vast majority of FHSTJ support is via event-based funding to cover the expenses of grassroots rescue groups that staff mass free spay/ neuter clinics in the poorest areas of Tijuana. FHSTJ also provides medications and materials to volunteers doing free mange and parasite treatment at street events for pets as well as street animals located in the most distressed areas of the greater Tijuana area. Individual veterinary treatments were provided to animals of rescuers via a certificate program that facilitates immediate veterinary care. The aforementioned activities also provide public education through both formal public sessions and informal one-on-one counseling.”

With the continued and loyal support of donors, especially our sustaining donors, we were able to help a record number of animals by providing financial and logistical support to 5 volunteer Mexican rescue groups that desperately need assistance to grow and thrive. These groups work in the poorest communities of the greater Tijuana area. They staff mass spay/neuter clinics, street clinics and do rescues. FHSTJ also helps individuals doing street rescues.

We are unlike many organizations that do work in Mexico. Rather than run a shelter that can only accommodate a limited number of animals or take on a project and return to the USA when finished, we have a presence in Mexico 24/7 and are helping Mexican rescuers daily. This is cost effective and efficient. It makes the best use of donations. It also provides a better environment for rescued animals.

WHAT’S NEW

FHSTJ conducted a mini “FELIX FEST” at the great FIDO FEST sponsored by the city of Santee, CA. In the past, we featured our dogs for adoption. However, this year, we wanted to try something new and were allowed to feature our beautiful, rescued cats that were up for adoption. [below]



FHSTJ volunteer, Matt Blum, hosted a golf tournament fundraiser in April 2026 at the San Diego Country Club. This was the first fundraiser of its kind for our organization. It was a great way to have fun and help the animals, a real feel-good day! [below]



New volunteers are now augmenting the teams doing rescues in the east of the city as well as teams doing parasite control clinics. [below]



FHSTJ welcomed two new, dynamic members to the board of directors. Vanessa Garcia and Jasmin Bojorquez are both experienced rescuers and animal welfare advocates. Both bring expertise in organization building and resource management. [below]



See our Videos on YouTube and Tik Tok



[YouTube.com/@FHSTJ2023](https://www.youtube.com/@FHSTJ2023)



<https://www.tiktok.com/@fhstj0>

IF YOU CARE ENOUGH TO SAVE ANIMALS FROM
STARVATION, DISEASE, PAIN AND FEAR, YOU CAN
DONATE BY GOING TO OUR WEBSITE .

friendsofhstj.org/donation/

There are options to pay with credit card or PayPal.

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



FEEL THE LOVE - [DONATE](#)

Frequently Asked Questions

Question: How is my donation safeguarded?

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 five grassroots groups and lead rescuers to plan new events, plan budgets, and review past events.
 - Resources are distributed per event, e.g., spay/ neuter and parasite control clinics.
 - An FHSTJ board member or board adviser is present at event. A numerical and photo report is submitted to FHSTJ and the data are recorded.
 - Lead rescuers are given FHSTJ Veterinary Care Certificates to distribute as needed. Veterinarians are paid after the service is rendered and the report is received.
- Donors may contact FHSTJ at any time to inquire about their donation at friendsofhstj@gmail.com

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

Answer: FHSTJ received approval 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 increases dramatically in the future, we will use NPP.

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 in Mexico, whether private or public, are subject to local regulations that could require them to work with local agencies which, when enforced, can provide the government an avenue to lean on the 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.
-