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Week-long Humane Education Workshop

Nov - Dec '16



We organized a week-long engaging humane education workshop for ninth graders at Triyog High School in December 2016. We mentored students to become animal welfare ambassadors at Triyog and went through various projects together from presentations to group activities including a field trip to the dog shelter, Community Dog Welfare (CDW) at Kapan.

Students went on a behind-the-scene tour at Community Dog Welfare, which was their first ever dog shelter visit. Cheryl and Peter Rudland from Australia attended our workshop last day, sharing with children some of their experiences working in the dog welfare field of Nepal. Students delivered presentations talking about what they learnt throughout the week. Two dogs were adopted from CDW.

All students received dog information booklets and certificates at the end of the workshop. They prepared and shared their learning in a full school assembly. All in all, it was an eventful and positive week. We had met children who were stimulated to be a part of our project and appreciated PHN work on behalf of community companion dogs.

We also conducted presentations for Grades four and five focusing on dog-bite prevention and compassion towards animals. Classroom teachers participated in the awareness program.

We wish to thank Triyog High School for letting us impart humane education to their students, Shiree and Friends of Nepali Street Dogs for providing the materials and certificates for the students along with Cheryl and Peter for relating their experiences at our workshop.



Sweekriti Shrestha

Grade 9 student, Triyog High School

We enjoyed participating in PHN's workshop and activities planned for us during our winter break. During the weeklong program, we were also taken to visit a dog shelter, Community Dog Welfare (CDW) run by a dedicated couple. There, they explained about how stray dogs in our city were brutally treated by many people. We met several dogs who were rescued, treated from diseases after being abandoned by their owners. I learned many new things during these five days. These classes were very useful for students like us. Inspired by the project, I even adopted a dog from CDW! I'm thankful to PHN team for giving us an opportunity to learn about these beautiful creatures and much more. We had a wonderful experience.



Mr. Nikendra G. Tamu

Junior School Co-ordinator, Triyog High School

As an educator, my objective is to make my students understand that there is much more to be learned beyond textbook knowledge. In this research to find something different and unique for the learners, I happened to get found & got in touch with Project Humane Nepal. They produced a stimulating and exciting proposal of sensitising the students towards caring for companion animals and relate to the needs of community dogs, rather than hurting them.

Angeela and her team initiated a month-long awareness campaign in our institute to educate children about safe interaction with companion animals and be kind and compassionate towards them. I strongly agree with Project Humane that children are the future, and the young minds need to be sensitive towards the animals. The campaign was realistic & powerful. Kudos to the entire team of Project Humane and best wishes for your future endeavours!



Thecho, a beautiful village near Kathmandu, is home to 300+ homeless dogs, many sick, injured, and abused. A rapidly multiplying stray dog population with a community unable to show a little compassion towards street dogs, Thecho was in dire need of an Animal Birth Control program.

Project Thecho was our first sterilisation venture and a joint venture with Dr. Arjun Aryal, Veterinary Officer, Central Veterinary Hospital, Government of Nepal. PHN planned to spay a minimum of thirty female dogs, to de-worm and give anti-rabies vaccinations with medical aid as required. Two rooms were given to us, one for surgery and other for a postoperative care unit. With the help of our persistent volunteers, a professional medical team, keen community members and dog handler managed to spay 40 females & vaccinate 171 dogs against rabies and distemper. We saw an increase in enthusiasm and support from the community members, as it was the first time they had witnessed dog sterilisations in their neighbourhood.

PHN tasks included:

- Quick community dog survey, distributed

pamphlets, hung up posters and banners.

- Held free humane education classes at the local schools with the support of Thecho School's Principal, community residents, local health post officer, and municipality office.
- PHN communicated our mission for awareness about dog behaviour, responsible pet ownership, dog bite prevention and compassion towards community dogs.
- Veterinary surgeon Dr. Arjun and the medical team spayed 40 dogs in three days.
- 171 dogs were vaccinated against rabies and distemper.

Sneha's Care dog rescue organisation has followed and taken over the dog population management project. We thank Dr. Arjun and his medical team, Bharat, our dog handler, the many volunteers and the Thecho community members for making a difference in the lives of many free-roaming dogs. PHN gratitude is given to Help Animals India, Friends of Nepali Street Dogs, Ingrid and everyone who purchased our charity tote bags. Your support and generosity made Project Thecho possible and made a big difference in the lives of many dogs in the village.

Happy Tails: Kalu's Story | Feb '17

Although Project Humane Nepal has brought together many vaccinations, deworming, feeding and even a sterilisation camp, we are solely rooted in humane education. However, we often see unjust situations on the streets of Kathmandu- injured dogs, being bullied or abused without any sign of humanity from people. We at PHN try our best to change the lives of as many dogs as possible through our social media channel, and by reaching out for help from enthusiastic animal welfare followers,

Kalu, a tiny street pup, was one of those cases. Seen by Angeela on her way to work, being kicked and bullied by local kids. Next day, she found him searching for food in the roadside dump and dangerously crossing the busy street to escape.

This is a normal scenario for countless dogs in the streets of Nepal. Particularly, puppies don't survive for long on the streets, due to road accidents, disease illnesses, malnutrition hunger and cold in winter. Angeela posted Kalu's photo for adoption on Project Humane and her Facebook page. And guess what, he got adopted, the very same day! Reassuring us that good people do exist! Thank you, S. for giving Kalu a loving and caring home. Someone once said that you can't buy love, but you can adopt one. It sure is true!

People should consider adopting stray dogs instead of buying from irresponsible breeders, kennel clubs or pet shops. Many lives can be saved! Thank you, Kerry, for providing leash, toys and tick/flea treatment for Kalu.



Buddhism Moral Education Class | Jan '17

"Teaching children to be kinder to animals today, is our only hope for a kinder world tomorrow."

As a part of परियक्ति शिक्षा (Buddhism Moral Education Class), initiated by Nani Bajracharya and friends, PHN spoke with neighbourhood children and families about kindness, empathy and respect towards animals. Besides getting acquainted about safe interaction with dogs, children also learnt that targeting birds with slingshots, stomping ants, hurling stones at dogs for no reason, is not fun at all.





After attending Project Humane Nepal's in-class humane education presentation, fourth graders from Ullens School visited Community Dog Welfare (CDW), an organization founded by Kate and Doug Clendon to help Nepali stray dogs.

The visit included a briefing about CDW's mission and tour of the facility. Kate also shared with the students, experiences and stories of some of the rescued dogs. Towards the end of the visit, children were engaged in reflection activities, and Kate answered many questions from the curious children.

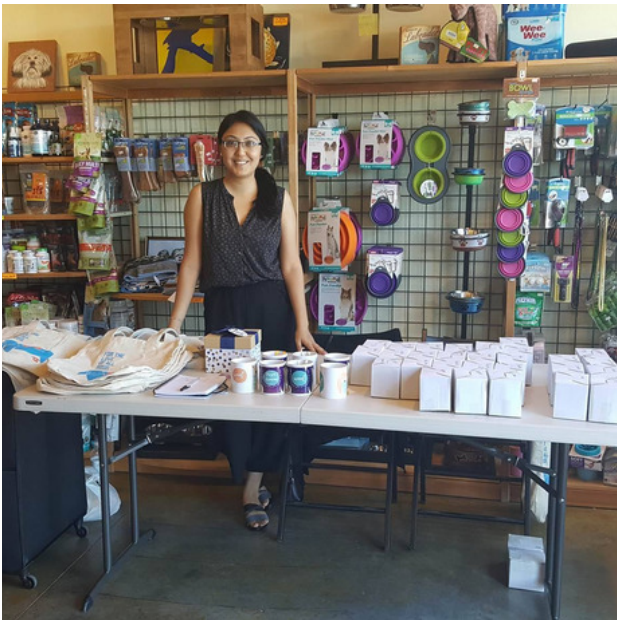
A poster competition was also organized amongst the pupils, and the ones with kindest messages & designs were awarded certificates from Friends of Nepali Street Dogs and gifts from Community Dog Welfare.

The students were able to experience the reality of free-roaming community dogs and welfare on this visit to CDW. Thank you, Community Dog Welfare for being wonderful hosts and the teaching staff from Ullens school for giving us a chance to enlighten students with our program held at your school.

Omaha Fundraiser | July '17

During Angeela's stay in Omaha, Project Humane Nepal's journey started in 2015. This city holds a special place in our hearts.

We organized a fundraiser on July 1 at Long Dog Fat Cat (LDFC) in Omaha, to make people aware of our humane education work in Nepal and raise money by selling our merchandise. We are grateful to Indre and Kazu, LDFC owners who have been supporting PHN since its inception. We had a huge turnout of our well-wishers that afternoon who shared the same mission as ours. Thus, encouraging us to proceed. Special thanks to Indre, Kazu and Long Dog Fat Cat Staff for your generous support over these two years. Despite being thousands of miles away, you have made a fantastic impact on lives of many stray dogs and children.



Cookie for a Cause! | Dec '16

We set up a booth for a bake sale fundraiser at AWON's annual Christmas Bazaar 2016, selling baked treats, dog-themed merchandises and engaging the audience in fun games, attracting many people, especially dog lovers. Many were interested in our mission, never having heard of a Humane Education Organization in Nepal. We sold out all of our baked treats and raised money through sales & kind donations, all going into helping the stray dogs we meet.

We had great fun at our booth talking to many animal lovers and sharing our joy for helping the animals in need. A huge thank you to everyone who swung by our stall and supported us! It makes a bigger difference in many ways to our cause. It was a hard work super enjoyable day for all of us who planned, organised and manned the stall!



From the Streets to the States: A Heartwarming Journey of a Nepali Street Dog

We moved to a new neighborhood last year, and that's where I met Shiyu for the first time. A shy, fearful stray dog, Shiyu lived in the locality. His home was under parked cars when it rained or, outside the gate of a kind colony resident's house, who fed him often. I too started feeding some rice and lentils to him and his two friends, which soon became a routine.

Shiyu started showing up outside my home every day and would greet me with a couple of happy barks, probably a hello gesture from him and a wagging tail. It didn't matter to him if it rained or if it was too sunny out there, he'd always turn up to see me. More than the desire for food, it was for the love and attention he received that he came and waited for hours. It broke my heart to see him struggle for food and love every second. Besides Shiyu's usual story of neglect and hunger, what happened with him in the next few weeks left me heartbroken.



I started to notice the abuse Shiyu faced daily. Local children found it fun to chase him on their bicycle to try and hit him, and a security guard enjoyed throwing stones at him. The guard's excuse, "Oh, it's fun to see him get scared." For Shiyu, the worst was yet to come.

In the days to follow, I saw my neighbor, an old man, strike Shiyu repeatedly with a stick as he yelped for help. His explanation for his action, "This stray dog jumps over my vegetable garden's fence and digs up the ground. So every time I catch him doing this, I'm going to beat him to death for he is just an unwanted stray and needs to learn a lesson." How cold and heartless can one be to inflict pain and cruelty on a voiceless being?

In spite of several efforts to persuade the colony residents not to harm him, the beatings and abuse continued. Life became so harsh for Shiyu that the old man would often wait for him to pass by his house in order to visit my house. When the man saw him, he would beat him brutally. He would hurl big stones and bricks at Shiyu even if he was playing with the other dogs, scaring them all away. Can you imagine the horror Shiyu went through every day, much less experience it?

Now Shiyu would then disappear for days. Then one day, he arrived at our gate, but with a big wound on his forehead, from the old man's heartless attack. This time when I confronted the man, he warned me that he intends to poison and kill Shiyu saying he had the approval of all the neighbourhood residents.

There is a limit to any animal's capacity for suffering. Without any further delay, I brought Shiyu inside our home and promised myself he would never have to suffer such ugly abuse from such inhumane human monsters again.

Finally, Shiyu had a home after years of suffering. Now, he could eat without searching for his next meal and sleep without any fear. At first, Shiyu was nervous, but my other dogs, now his new friends, helped him ease into his new home. So now I had five dogs at my place and it was beyond crazy! Nevertheless, I was happy and relieved for Shiyu. For the first time in two months, I slept well that night.

We went for a quick walk the next morning. Shiyu's first ever walk on a leash! I still remember that he had no experience of walking with a lead. But gradually with some reward treats, and lots of patience, he learnt how to walk correctly with confidence and without any fear at my side.

With time, I recognized that Shiyu was different from my other four dogs, in many aspects, perhaps due to his past torments at the hands of so many humans. While on the streets, he was abused so much that when we tried to pet him, he'd become petrified. Even a gentle, loving touch seemed like a threat to him. He maintained a safe distance from us for a while. It was just so rare to even see him play with other dogs. He would isolate himself in one corner and sleep mostly. Gradually, he started to make contact with the other dogs, especially with Lucy who happens to be his BFF now. Lucy is another dog whom I rescued from the colony too.



Shiyu gradually learned to trust humans again with us. He made an incredibly heartwarming transformation from a shy, fearful dog to a calm and a happy one. All it took for the change was some love, care and patience.

He stayed with me in Nepal for six months. In May 2017, Shiyu flew to his forever home in Virginia along with his best buddy Lucy, where they now live happily with their new human friend, Roy. Although, Shiyu still gets frightened of noises and becomes anxious and maintains distance. But he is getting more confident day by day and is learning to relax from the fear of the unknown.

I often receive photos of Shiyu and Lucy sleeping on their cozy bed, playing with new toys, enjoying delicious home cooked meals and getting spoilt from all the love and attention from Roy and his friends who visit them often. They now live a new life, with caring people, in a new place when they can call it home.

Reflecting on Shiyu's journey from the streets of Nepal to a home in Virginia, it reminds me how challenging and heartbreaking a street dog's life can be. However, it has also taught me optimism, knowing the positive power humans have to change the world for dogs like Shiyu.

Roy tells me how Shiyu follows him everywhere in the house, wherever he goes, room after room.

How safe he feels to be with a loving human and how much he loves to be around his human companions.

Every dog in our world deserves love and a home purebred and mixed breeds alike. Many people feel that stray dogs are meant to live on the streets, that the 'mutts enjoy it', enjoy the freedom. But I beg to differ. If Shiyu had loved wandering on the streets so much, he wouldn't have come back to me, every time he left our gate. He could have left, but chose not to.

I really hope that you will consider opening your home to adult homeless dogs and not just puppies. The love and gratitude you will receive from them is indescribable, and you will be saving precious, innocent lives and have a loyal companion for life. Dogs deserve no less than humankind's very best. I hope and pray for every stray dog to have a happy ending like Shiyu and Lucy.

Edited by: Kerry Ecklebe



Advisory Board

We welcome aboard our advisory team this year. We are fortunate to get your guidance and mentorship. Thank you, Jessika, Kerry and Pam for your continuous support all these years and expert advice. Project Humane Nepal stands where it is because of all your help.

Jessika
Ava



Kerry
Ecklebe



Pam
Ashley

Goodwill Ambassadors

We're grateful to have three kind-hearted Goodwill Ambassadors, Ashlesha Rana, Jyotsna Yogi and Rheanna Limbu, supporting Project Humane Nepal and our mission to promote the welfare of dogs in Nepal through humane education. They will be leveraging their public platform to make an impact on the lives of the many stray dogs and companion animals who are counting on us to assist with our aid & teach the values they deserve. Thank you so much for being a role model to so many aspiring animal welfare ambassadors and helping to break the negative stigma surrounding homeless dogs in Nepal.

Ashlesha
Rana



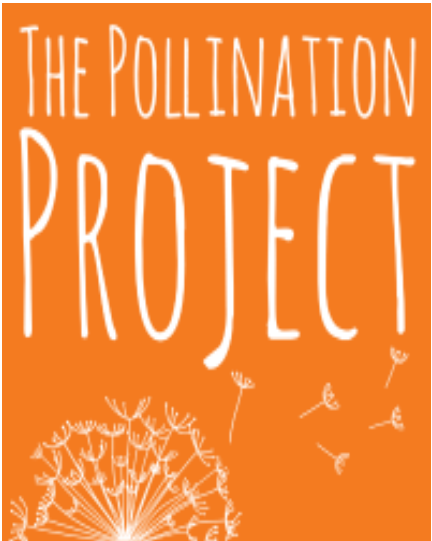
Jyotsna
Yogi



Rheanna
Limbu

Pollination Project Grant | March '17

The Pollination Project provides grants through a global network of grantees and community partners, by identifying extraordinary grassroots leaders who would not likely qualify for funding from other foundations or institutions. We are honoured to be awarded a seed grant from the Pollination Project and to have our work featured on their website as well as on Huffington Post. We are using Pollination Projects funds to conduct week-long humane education workshops to teach students empathy and compassion towards stray dogs, educate children how to prevent dog-bites and enlighten them about other animal welfare issues. A big thank you to Pollination Project for backing us up for future endeavours and making an impact on the lives of so many children and homeless dogs.



Help Animals India Award | Oct '16



We are delighted to be awarded "New organisation of the Year 2016" award by Help Animal India, in acknowledgement of Project Humane's achievement, community impact, excellent teamwork and the potential for future growth. A huge thank you to Help Animals India for supporting our hard work and effort. You encourage us to continue with our mission to face the everyday challenges. Special thank you to Jessika Ava and Eileen Weintraub for constantly motivating us. You have kept us stimulated to continue with purpose since the project's inception. In fact, Help Animals India was the first organisation to give us a grant back in 2015.

Rewarding Children for Kindness Initiatives | Sep '17

Jana Prabhat School students were awarded certificates and prizes for writing heart-touching essays about their thoughts about stray dogs in the city.



Letter from the Founder

Year 2016/17 2073/74

This year Project Humane Nepal (PHN) celebrated its second birthday! This has been an incredible journey, and we have crossed paths with many wonderful people. Together, we have achieved & experienced significant accomplishments.

In 2016, we initiated a joint sterilisation camp program, spaying 40 female dogs at a village in dire need of an animal birth control program or dog population management (DPM). PHN witnessed significant changes in the community's negative attitude and behaviour towards the dogs. We saw the residents become compassionate towards the free-roaming stray dogs during the DPM camp medical operations and with the posters + flyers literature we distributed.

The above experience became a deciding factor for us to use our abilities with DPM concerns by designing & researching extensive awareness programs for community understanding towards our canine population. Also, to stimulate aid, know how to recognise inhumane treatment, causing suffering to many free-roaming dogs, and see the positive role the dogs may contribute to the community.

This starting point involved developing our own mission to enable communications with the schools & teaching staff. We created informative lessons & workshops for a variety of ages to participate in parallel to relevant curriculum programs. To date, we have communicated our awareness mission to a total of 5500+ children & students in private & Government schools, as well as orphanages. This involved 135 presentations.

Our presentations involve comprehensive, informative lessons created according to time available given to PHN. We educate children about dog bite prevention through understanding dog behaviour, dog welfare issues, plus discuss the role of shelters, adoption procedures & DPM camps. All our presentations have been assessed to verify their impact on those participating in our programs.

In this edition of our newsletter, we also extend our thanks to our social media followers. We have included the story of four terrified malnourished stray dogs having suffered from continued abuse on the streets. Within a short period of fostering care, patience, perseverance, and oodles of love, they showed a healthy, happy transformation and have now found loving homes in the U.S and Nepal.

PHN requests your continued support to aid our canine companions, and our keyword is

Adoption

Every dog should have a home, and every home should have a dog!

This year has definitely been a rollercoaster ride. We have been able to impact so many lives positively. We would not be where we are today without valuable, necessary supporters & donors from abroad and at home. These people have made time in their busy lives to make a difference for many needy dogs in Kathmandu.

Thank you for being part of our mission. In unity & harmony, we may continue to save & bring care into many needy dogs lives free roaming in Kathmandu.

With gratitude,



Angeela Shrestha

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