



# 2013 Annual Report

Letter of recommendation from Dr. The Hon. Ralph E. Gonsalves, Prime Minister,  
submitted with the VSPCA grant application for a mobile clinic to the  
Grenadines Partnership Fund September 2013



**The Prime Minister  
St. Vincent and the Grenadines  
West Indies**

August 28, 2013

Mr. Richard W. Molten  
Executive Director  
Grenadines Partnership Fund  
808-C Lady Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201  
**U.S.A.**

Dear Mr. Molten,

It is with pleasure that I recommend the Vincentian Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (VSPCA) as the very worthy recipients of a grant that will enable them to proceed with their plan to acquire a Mobile Veterinary Clinic. The veterinary services that the clinic will enable them to provide throughout this multi-island nation will greatly strengthen the organisation and its ability to offer much needed help to animals and their owners over the length and breadth of the mainland and the Grenadines.

My family and I are very supportive of the work of the VSPCA. We have attended several of their fundraising efforts, and we know most of their members (all volunteers), and can attest to their dedication and hard work in furthering a cause which sometimes seems overwhelming.

VSPCA is definitely making an impact on the state of animals in our country and their education outreach programmes will, I hope, gradually improve Vincentians' attitudes to animal welfare.

I therefore recommend VSPCA to you as a most worthy cause and greatly appreciate any help your organisation is able to offer to assist in its vital work.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Ralph E. Gonsalves'.

Dr. The Hon. Ralph E. Gonsalves  
Prime Minister

/aw

Tel: 784 456-1703 < Fax: 784 457-2152  
E-mail: pmosvg@vincysurf.com



**"Molly"**  
Rescued  
August 23, 2013



**"Bella"**  
Rescued  
June 16, 2013



**"Cocobay"**  
Rescued  
July 14, 2013



# ANNUAL REPORT 2013

## Contents:

- 2** Letter from the VSPCA President
- 3** Forging Ahead
- 4** We're On Our Way!
- 5** Bequia Brief
- 6** Financials
- 7** VSPCA Board, Officers & Volunteers
- 8** Members, Donors & Sponsors
- Inside Back Cover** What You Can Do

## OUR MISSION

*VSPCA exists to develop the infrastructure for the protection and rehabilitation of animals in need, promote public awareness and understanding of the proper care of animals, and to strengthen the human and animal bond.*

## OUR VISION

*Our vision is to provide the education and tools needed to raise consciousness and sensitize the public on the need for protection and compassionate treatment of all animals - wild and domestic.*



**VSPCA**



Dear Friends,

As we look back on VSPCA's accomplishments during its second year, I think we can all be proud of how far we have come in such a short time.

I would like to express our gratitude and appreciation to all our members, donors, sponsors, partners and volunteers – you are the foundation from which our organisation is growing and your support has been vital to our mission.

Protecting animals from abuse is only part of our vision; this past year we rescued \_\_\_ dogs and cats (and one monkey) from a daily life of suffering and misery. We also continue to advocate and seek cooperation from those responsible for the enforcement of the Protection of Animals Act. However, to focus only on animals in crisis merely addresses the symptoms of animal cruelty, not the root causes. And the greatest cause of cruelty is twofold: firstly, lack of education and a society that does not recognize the value of a loving pet and secondly, from having far too many stray and owned dogs and cats roaming around malnourished, diseased and in pain. We all witness suffering animals on a daily basis and it makes our hearts bleed. This is why we continue to struggle to get our message across and making ours a more caring, humane society.

Spaying and neutering are the only proven and humane methods of controlling animal over-population and we are happy to report that the number of VSPCA-sponsored operations more than doubled from last year through partnerships with the Ministry of Agriculture's Veterinarian Department and private veterinarians as well as the hard work and passion of some of our volunteers, in particular, Traudl Arthur who has travelled the length and breadth of St. Vincent arranging clinics. We also offer basic care services at our Community Animal Clinics and we are thus able to reach families who care for their pets, but who experience financial and transport difficulties which prevent them from seeking the medical attention their animals need. The owners' involvement on a local level is how we're achieving greater numbers. I would also like to place on record our special thanks and appreciation to Dr. Eric Audain who has made such a difference to our organization.

We're growing. Witness the formation of a VSPCA Bequia Branch. The influx of volunteers, though many more are still needed in all areas to reach our goal of zero dog/cat population growth. We're educating the public in small steps through the clinics, but schools and communities still need our attention. Other animal species in SVG also need our respect as living, breathing creations. Cruelty to any of them is just not acceptable. We need to draw attention to the fact that St. Vincent and the Grenadines has a marvelous abundance of wildlife - including some (the Vincy parrot and Whistling Warbler) that are only found here. We must protect the environment that harbours and nurtures this wildlife.

We need, more than ever, your help and involvement in the VSPCA so we can continue to expand our programmes and create a better environment for all. Together we can make a difference!

Mary Barnard  
President





## Forging Ahead



There were tearful good-byes when VSPCA co-founder and past-president, Kiersten Anderson, returned to the United States last February. We miss her dynamism, determination and diverse skills, and we're extremely grateful that this former Peace Corps volunteer, along with a handful of animal-loving Vincentians, helped lay the groundwork for SVG's only animal welfare organisation.

Local volunteers continue the work of caring for SVG's needy animals under the savvy and inspiring leadership of its second president, Mary Barnard. Each volunteer has his/her own strengths to keep VSPCA functioning, although all multitask: there are those with an inner drive to keep the Community Clinics increasing their numbers; a creative genius in advertising; workaholic fundraisers who focus on raising money to keep the programmes going; and the saintly souls who possess the patience and selflessness to foster and then surrender their 'babies' and other rescues to loving homes. In the past year there have been dogs and cats saved from horrifying circumstances. Regrettably, some could not be saved: dogs and cats died from birth complications and had to be put humanely to sleep; life had left them beyond repair.

Even with the dedication of these loving and passionate people, what lacked after Kiersten's departure was someone to write grant applications and to continue the Education Programme. But as the song goes, 'When you wish upon a star...' – our dream came in the form of the elected Chair of the newly formed Bequia Branch of the VSPCA, Lesley Quashie, who has already procured a matching grant to fund a much-needed mobile clinic. In addition, with education being key to a more loving and humane society, and by partnering with the Ministry of Education, volunteer medical students and professors are revved up to visit schools and give presentations on the humane treatment of animals.



With continued help from members, volunteers and other supporters, we will forge ahead in our pursuit of making SVG a compassionate, respectful and healthier nation, enjoyed by Vincentians and visitors alike, a haven for all animals – both wild and domesticated.

## We're On Our Way!

Like newborn pups and kittens who first take wobbly steps then gradually grow and develop their own strengths and character, so too has the VSPCA. The Community Spay/Neuter Programme is a good example because not only has the number of surgeries increased (181, up from 75 at this time last year), community awareness and participation are slowly expanding and evolving.



Initially we offered minimal-cost sterilizations through our Open Clinic Days at Dr Collin Boyle's Unique Animal Care Centre and Dr Colleen Phillips' Pets 'N' Medix. These brought in some owners, but not enough to make a real difference. Posters and media advertising also attracted some owners and their pets to our free Community Animal Clinics, which began with help from the Ministry of Agriculture's chief veterinary officer, Dr Kathian Hackshaw, and her crew. Again, it was a start, but not enough.

Oh, the frustration of growth! How do we reach Vincentians to let them know that spaying and neutering are proven to be the **only**

**spay** /spā/ verb  
sterilize (a female animal) by removing the ovaries

effective and humane ways to control dog and cat over-population? That with fewer animals making babies, there will be fewer precious newborns suffering needlessly. That there will be a reduction in animal-to-human

diseases (zoonoses), yet a likely increase in economic prosperity through more tourism, and more crops and livestock unmolested by roaming packs. Even a 'town hall' meeting with drinks and sandwiches didn't entice the crowds.



But then ... one special person wanted his dog neutered. 'Let people know', clinic-organizer extraordinaire, Traudl Arthur, told him. And he did. Then he told someone in another village who organized the owners and venue – Dr Eric Audain and VSPCA volunteers were there. And again and again and again this happened. A few misunderstandings occurred, such as the gentleman who brought his goats, but with clinics arranged by word-of-mouth in 14 communities in only the last two months, the number of fixed animals has increased significantly. At these clinics Dr Audain also performed surgery on pets with tumors, hernias, bone obstructions and the like, and the animals were treated for

worms, fleas, ticks and mange. With a few instructions on the proper care of their pets, and a request for a donation of whatever the person could afford, happy owners and animals were sent on their way to spread the word to others.

**neu · ter** /'n(y)ōōter/ verb  
castrate or spay (a domestic animal)

So, we've taken our baby steps, now we're off and running! With continued donations from our members and sponsors; with more volunteers coming on board to assist with the clinics and finding/verifying strays; with more vets to perform the surgeries; and with the near reality of a mobile clinic to reach rural communities and the Grenadine islands, we'll keep going until the only dogs and cats in SVG are the ones who are wanted and cared for.

## Bequia Brief

In June this year a VSPCA delegation came to the island of Bequia to talk with members and friends about creating our own branch of the Society. 'So said, so done', and the following week Bequia members convened to elect officers and begin discussions about



how we may contribute to the ongoing endeavour to combat cruelty to animals in SVG. We agreed that the two main issues to first address were a spay/neuter programme to shift the balance of 'supply and demand' of dogs and cats, and a public awareness campaign that promoted improved treatment of animals.

The seasonal nature of our volunteer base meant that the summer was seemingly quiet – a good time for the seeds of new ideas to germinate and begin to grow, also for some successful 'firsts'. We rescued our first itchy puppy, had our first VSPCA-assisted dog spay and castration, helped with our first cat-neuter day, and the first orphaned puppies are becoming lively, healthy young adults. We are learning too, for example, that canine

contagious venereal cancer is not uncommon, that children can be terrified of fluffy little puppies, and that there are a lot of very decent Bequians eager to be empowered by the VSPCA's help and advice.

We know already that the island has a feral cat problem so we plan a series of Trap/Neuter/Release days over the winter. Bequia is fortunate to have a benefactor of the dog spay/neuter programme (thank you BARCC - Bequia Advocates for Reproductive Control in Canines), which we now help promote as an alternative to population control by poisoning. With the pressure thus taken off us to raise money for this programme, we are happy to spearhead the funding drive for the VSPCA Mobile Veterinary Clinic and are off to a good start thanks to the Grenadines Partnership Fund.

Still, there is much other animal welfare work to be done. As our community of animal-loving winter visitors and residents return, we look forward to involving them in mentoring and sponsoring animal care and in planning fundraising and public relations events. With their help and what is already proving to be a great volunteer base, we will be helping change the world, 'one animal at a time'.

Lesley Quashie,  
Chairperson  
Bequia Branch



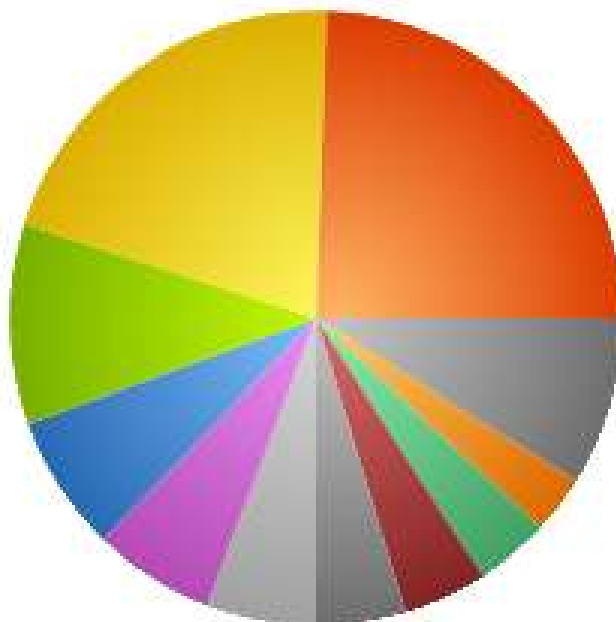


# FINANCIALS

## INCOME

2012-13 CST Donations	12,670.09
Bank Credit	59.37
Bequia Fundraiser Income	13,845.25
Bookmark Sales	10.00
Calendar Sales	72.00
Clinic Donations	511.07
December 2012 Fundraiser	8,202.89
Donations	16,577.06
Membership - Corporate	1,001.93
Membership - Lifetime	1,250.00
Membership - Resident	630.00
Polo Shirt Sales	348.00
T-Shirt Sales	1,327.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>56,504.66</b>

## Breakdown of VSPCA Veterinarian Charges



Spaying	24.58%
Meds	20.62%
Veterinarian Services	11.58%
Boarding	7.25%
Vaccines	6.26%
Neutering	5.85%
Food	4.79%
Medical Tests	4.51%
De-Worming Meds	3.85%
Miscellaneous Services	3.02%
Other:	7.70%
Flea and Tick Meds	2.43%
Supplies	2.24%
VAT	1.47%
X-Ray	0.78%
Tick Fever Tests	0.30%
Chemotherapy	0.29%
Euthanasia	0.19%

## EXPENSES

2012 Calendars	-600.00
Advertising	-1,531.22
Bank Charges	-664.73
Bequia Fundraiser Expense	-992.32
Bequia Meeting Expense	-330.00
Clinic Expense	-159.36
December 2012 Fundraiser Expenses	-660.88
Digicel	-452.36
Fencing	-279.35
Fostering Expenses	-8,635.82
Supplies	-4,506.54
T-Shirts	-1,881.00
Transportation	-360.00
Travel Expenses	-1,657.49
Veterinarian Charges	-39,748.40
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>-62,459.47</b>

**OVERALL TOTAL -5,954.81**

Note: these financial summaries were compiled by the VSPCA Treasurer





## OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS & OFFICERS

### Mary Barnard

President

Rescue, rehabilitation, fostering, fundraising, community clinics, transportation

### Margaret Hughes-Ferrari

Vice-President

Legal Counsel, rescue, transportation

### Leslie Gonsalves

Rescue, rehabilitation, fostering, fundraising, community clinics, transportation

### Winston Ferguson

Director

Fundraising, fostering, rescue, community clinics

### OFFICERS

#### Pam Ratti

Secretary, Editor in Chief

#### Lisa Walker

Accounting, fundraising, public relations, community clinics, transportation

## OUR VOLUNTEERS

### Elizabeth Allock

Rescue, community clinics, TRANSPORTATION

### Kiersten Anderson

Co-founder, rescue, community clinics, education, fostering

### Traudl Arthur

Rescue, fundraising, community clinics, transportation

### Samantha Beaupre

Fundraising

### Chris Dotterill

Fundraising

### Brian Glasgow

Accounting

### Sophie Goddard

Transportation, social media

### Sheena Johnston

Fundraising, community clinics

### Carolyn Mawson Lee

Fostering, community clinics

### Kate Punnett

Rescue, fostering, fundraising, community clinics, transportation

### Tipi Punnett

Rescue, transportation

### Yvette Pereira

Community clinics

### Guy Walker

Community clinics, fostering, transportation, VSPCA Santa

To all of those listed here, and to those who have helped in lesser, but very significant ways, a warm and heartfelt THANK YOU!

Together we **can** make a difference!

## VSPCA GOALS TIMELINE: SEPTEMBER 2013-SEPTEMBER 2017



All images/photos displayed herein are property of the VSPCA and cannot be copied without written consent from the organisation.



# VSPCA MEMBERS, DONORS and PARTNERS

Abrahams, Maria  
Alexander, Joanna  
Allen, Lisa  
Allock, Elizabeth  
Anderson, Kiersten  
Arthur, Trudy  
Arthur, Mike  
Beaupre, Samantha  
Brewer, Cornelia  
Burke, Nancy  
Campion, Mark  
Casino, Lisa  
Child, Vivian  
Clarke, Walt  
Clarke, Jennifer  
Clarke, Christina  
Clayton, Elizabeth  
Connell, Toni  
Cunningham, Indra  
DeFreitas, Rene  
Demircivan, Vanessa  
Dotterill, Chris  
Dougan, Carol  
Edwards, Marisa  
Erdle, Sally  
Ferguson, Winston  
Ferrari, Patrick  
Ferrari, Lindsay  
Francois, Glender  
Gallegly, Laura  
Goddard, Sophie  
Gonsalves, Leslie  
Gonsalves, Eloise  
Gonsalves, Soleil  
Gonsalves, Issis  
Gonsalves, Storm  
Gooding, Joshua  
**Greaves, Phillippa**  
Gun-Munro, Loren  
Gunn, Lavinia  
Hart III, Walter  
Hart, Kristina  
Haydock, Bob  
Haydock, Noreen  
Heller, Melanie  
Herberg, Stina  
Hewings, Jane  
Hoogstraten, Ton  
Hughes , Perry  
Hughes-Ferrari, Margaret

Jagger, Mick  
Jakl, Arthur  
Jakl, June  
Jeffrey, Nicholas  
Johnston, Sheena  
Kaak, Lynn  
Knight, Noelle  
Kydd, Sandra  
Layne, Lenore  
Leacock, Melissa Kae  
Lewis, Danladi  
Lewis, Julie  
McCarthy, Seamus  
McIntyre, Wyatt  
Minors, Wendy  
Munafo, Pam and Dominik  
Pennington, Dr. Sheila  
Providence, Richael  
Punnett, Kate  
Punnett, Tipi  
Quashie, Lesley  
Ratti, Pam  
Richmond, Jennifer  
Robertson, Charlotte  
Schaedle, Otmar  
Schaedle, Viviane  
Schrama, Sharon  
Sethia, Narendra  
Shapiro, Dr. Eileen  
Sinson, Janine  
Spence, Nanette  
Steele, Sophia  
Stephens, Susan  
Stroman, Mary Bennett  
Taylor, Sheila  
Trotman, Carol Ann  
Tucker, Odette  
Tull, Sam  
Walker, Lisa  
Walker, Emily  
Walker, Guy  
Walker, Jessica  
Wallin, Jesse  
Williams, Bert  
Williams, Zoe  
Wilson, Diane  
Woods-Hypolite, Debbie

## VSPCA PARTNERS

Audain, Dr. Eric  
Boyle, Dr. Collin  
Driftwood  
Phillips, Dr. Coleen

## VSPCA CORPORATE MEMBERS

Barefoot Yacht Charters  
Coreas-Hazells  
CK Greaves  
Karib Cable  
Mustique Airways  
Mustique Company  
St. Vincent Co-operative Bank  
Sunsail  
SV Aviation Services  
SVG Air



# What You Can Do!

**Do you like animals?**

**Do you want to learn a new skill or utilize an old one?**

**Do you want to meet new people?**

**Do you want to feel good about helping the animals of SVG?**

If so, the Vincentian Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is looking for volunteers in the following areas:



**Fundraising  
Education  
Administration  
Public Relations  
Rescue/Rehabilitation/Fostering  
Community Vet Assistance**

Give a few hours or a few days each month  
in any or all programmes and  
together we can make a difference!



Contact us today to find out how you can volunteer!

784-532-9327

Email: [admin@vincentianspca.org](mailto:admin@vincentianspca.org)

Visit us at [www.vincentianspca.org](http://www.vincentianspca.org) or on our  
Facebook page: Vincentian Society for the Prevention of  
Cruelty to Animals





“If you have men who will exclude any of God’s creatures from the shelter of compassion and pity, you will have men who will deal likewise with their fellow men.”

*St. Francis of Assisi*



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

784-532-9327

email: [admin@vincentianspca.org](mailto:admin@vincentianspca.org)