

THE FELINE FOUNDATION



**ANNUAL
REPORT
2022-23**





TILL THE
LAST ONE IS SAFE

WHO WE ARE



The Feline Foundation is an animal welfare NGO in Versova, Mumbai that sterilizes and vaccinates stray cats, gives them medical treatment if required, and releases them back to their original location once they are healthy. We also work with our implementing partner Cat Cafe Studio to find homes for disabled cats that would have a disadvantage living on the streets but are otherwise sociable and healthy. We are the only NGO whose sole mandate is managing the needs of stray cats in the community.

There are thousands of stray cats living on the streets in Mumbai without caretakers to feed and protect them. Our focus as an organization is to address the overpopulation of stray cats and the subsequent issues affecting cats. Our activities include sterilizations, vaccinations, treat-on-street drives, and inpatient treatments. We also hold educational campaigns to spread awareness about the welfare of stray cats. Additionally, we partner with Cat Café Studio, a social enterprise also in Versova, to bring attention to cats that are impacted by disabilities. Cats living on our crowded streets are susceptible to being hit by cars, attacked by dogs or injured in other ways. Cat Café Studio finds homes for these disabled cats that would have a disadvantage living on the streets but are otherwise sociable and healthy. Together, we work to improve the perception of these cats and seek loving homes for them.

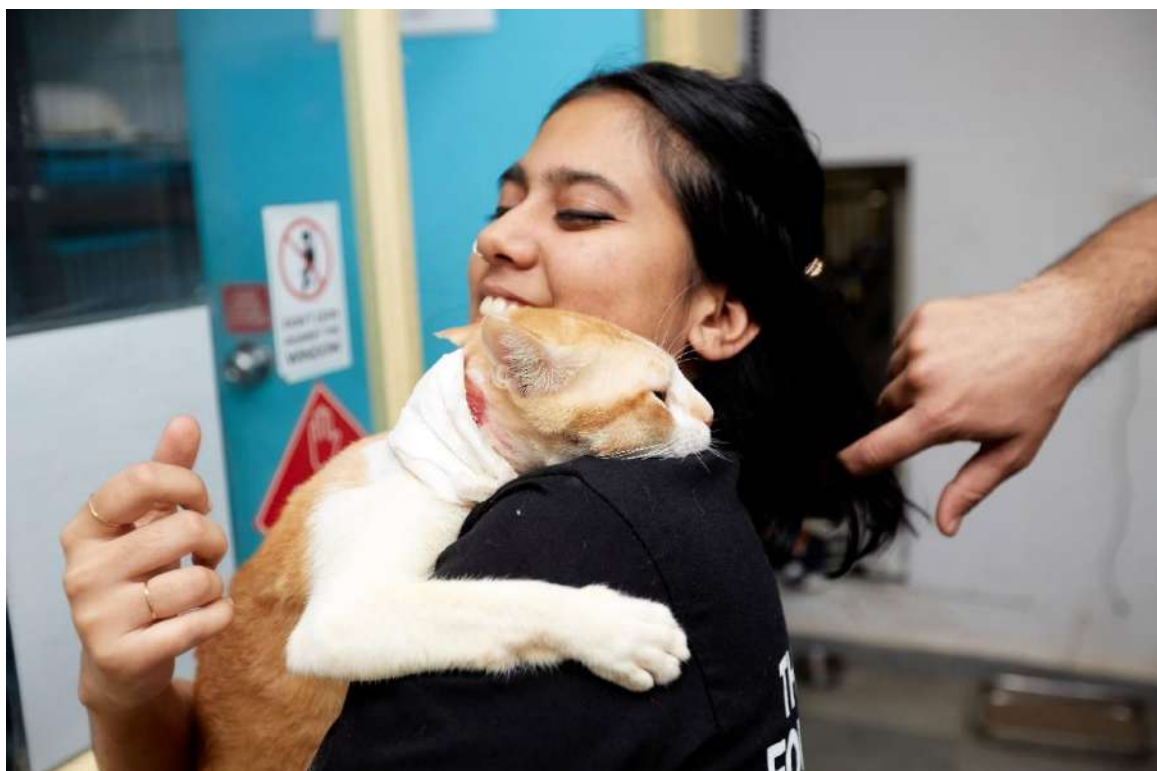
MISSION

Our mission is to enhance the lives of stray cats in Mumbai through medical care, nourishment, population control and community involvement.



VISION

Our vision is a healthy and sustainable population of stray cats living in harmony with people.



HIGHLIGHTS

Here are some of our biggest highlights and achievements of the year:

Versova Gaon Project – 696 cats

We have made tremendous progress in our major mass cat sterilisation project in Versova Gaon. Having set our sights on a target of 1000 cats sterilised in the area, we weren't sure if we would make proper headway. However we are proud and ecstatic to report that we have sterilised 696 cats from the area to date! Our team have become experts at cat spotting, cat catching and of course our veterinary team at spaying and neutering to make sure we sterilise as many cats as possible. We are incredibly grateful to our donors to believe in the cause of sterilisation which let us get so far.



United Way Tata Mumbai Marathon

We had our first foray into the nation's biggest marathon event, the United Way Tata Mumbai Marathon. We had some loyal followers and supporters of The Feline Foundation register to run in the race for our cause. We are incredibly grateful and can't wait for next year!

Spay Day

The Feline Foundation took up a spectacular mass-sterilization initiative and sterilized 76 cats in their facility on 28th February, 2023.

February is globally recognized as Spay Neuter Awareness Month and the last Tuesday of the month is celebrated as 'World Spay Day'. Every year, hundreds of veterinarians, animal shelter workers, volunteers, and community members from around the globe participate in

Spay Day by spreading awareness of the benefits of sterilizing dogs and cats to reduce their homelessness on the streets and in crowded shelters. A total of 40 people including 5 veterinarians, 16 staff and 19 volunteers ably performed their tasks



throughout the day and were jubilated by their achievements at the end of it. The event was generously supported by BookASmile, a charity initiative of BookMyShow, and many samaritans who contributed towards making this epic dream a reality.



A Visit from Kitten Lady!

In October we had a visit from guests we couldn't believe were in our luck to host – none other than Hannah Shaw, 'Kitten Lady' and Andrew Marttila, the cat photographer themselves! They were doing a global tour for an exciting project documenting the lives of cats around the world. We were humbled that they not only chose to visit us during their sojourn in Mumbai but even came along on a 'cat-trapping' trip in Versova Gaon and visited our sister organisation, Cat Café Studio!

Major Surgery Milestones

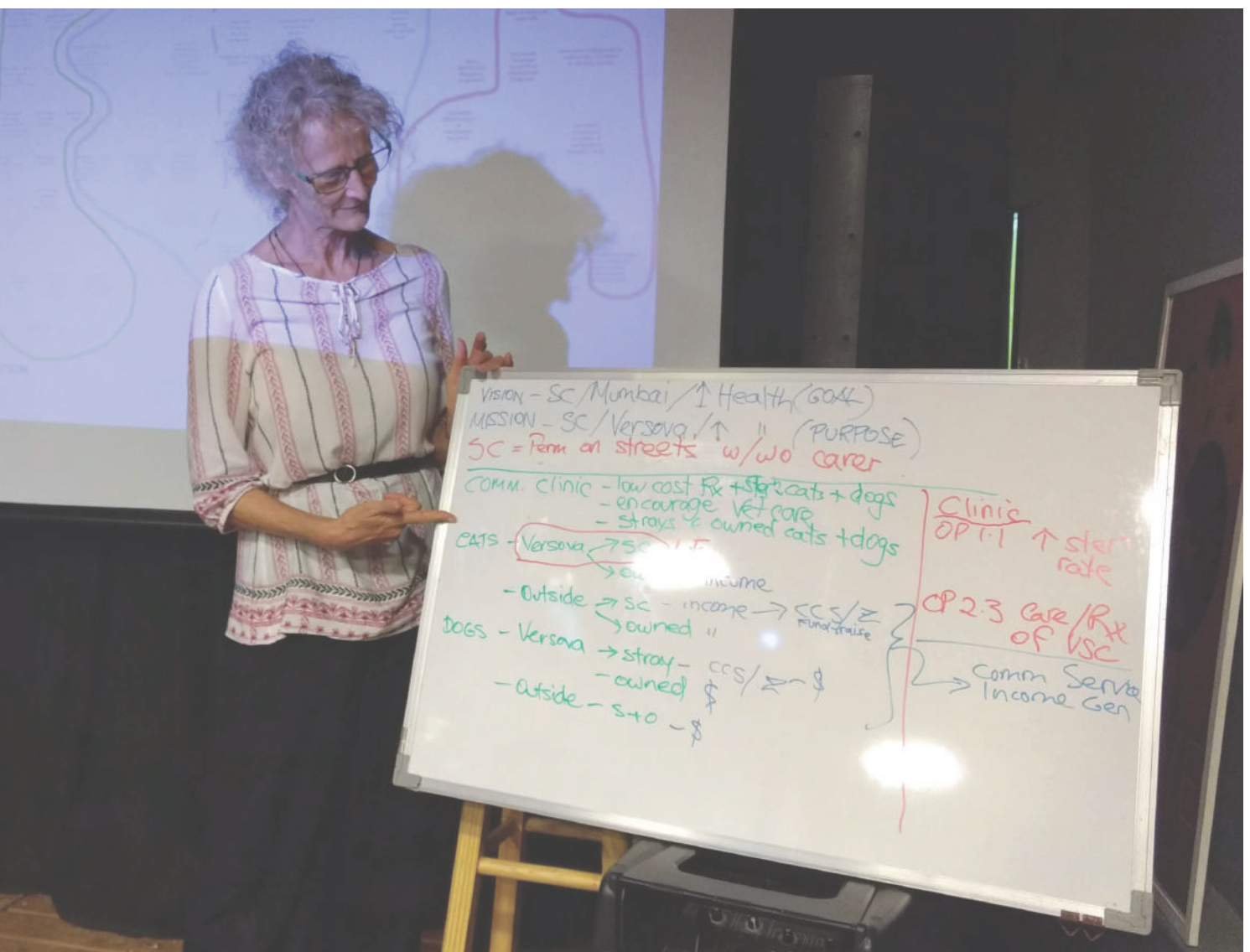
Our Rehabilitation Program had a highly productive year of learning! Our dedicated team not only performed surgeries previously not done at The Feline Foundation but also tried to devise innovative approaches to expedite the healing process and ensure quicker discharges for our hospitalised cats. Notable procedures include a successful Diaphragmatic Hernia repair, a Colopexy surgery and our first Orthopedic bone plating surgery.



Putting the 'fun' in Fundraising

We got creative with our fundraising game this year, with a fabulous comedy night fundraiser featuring Sahil Shah, Rohan Joshi, Neville Shah, and Aditi Mittal, a 'Hissing Tree' at Cat Café Studio's winter wonderland event collecting cat food, and a fun 'Kitty Advent Calendar' with our rescued cats' photos edited to fit the Christmas theme that tickled our donors all the way to December 25th.

OUR PROGRAMS



PROGRAMS

POPULATION MONITORING AND CONTROL

The most efficient way to prevent the growth of stray cat populations is sterilization. Sterilization is a surgical procedure done on both male and female cats that prevents unwanted litters. Performed by skilled veterinarians, it is a short and uncomplicated procedure requiring only basic postoperative care. The process of sterilizing stray animal communities is also known as Trap-Neuter-Release or Animal Birth Control.



The benefits of sterilization include:

- **Stopping unwanted litters** - An intact female cat can have four litters a year with between three to four kittens per litter! Sadly, only some kittens survive to adulthood while others fail to thrive. Sterilization drastically reduces population growth as well as suffering.
- **Reducing injuries** - Intact males often get into fights over mates and territory. They are also frequently hit by cars when roaming for new mates. Sterilization can save lives.
- **Decreasing cancer rates** - Unsterilized male and female cats often develop testicular, mammary or ovarian cancers in later adulthood, which is prevented by sterilization.
- **Preventing spread of disease** - Since it reduces roaming and mating, sterilization also prevents transmission of disease between individual cats and cat colonies.

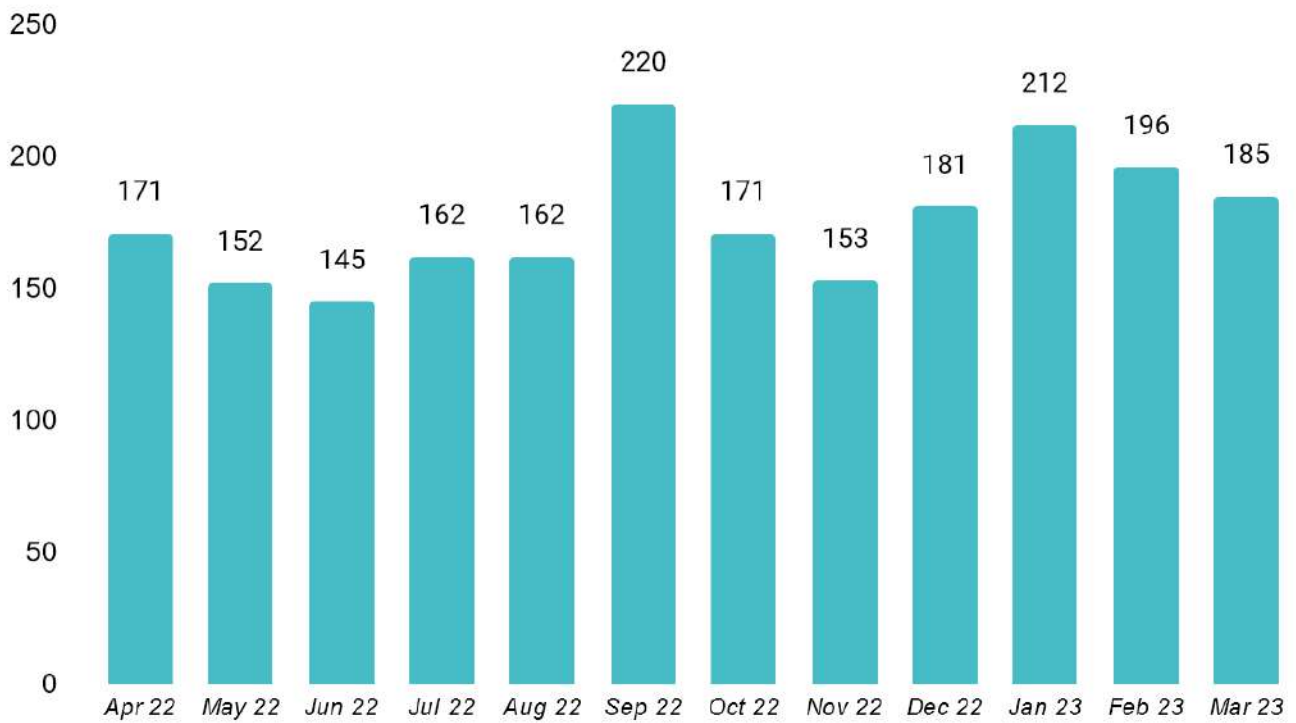


Here are the **total** number of cat sterilizations we have conducted over the last 12 months:

Month	No. of Sterilizations
Apr 22	171
May 22	152
Jun 22	145
Jul 22	162
Aug 22	162
Sep 22	220
Oct 22	171
Nov 22	153

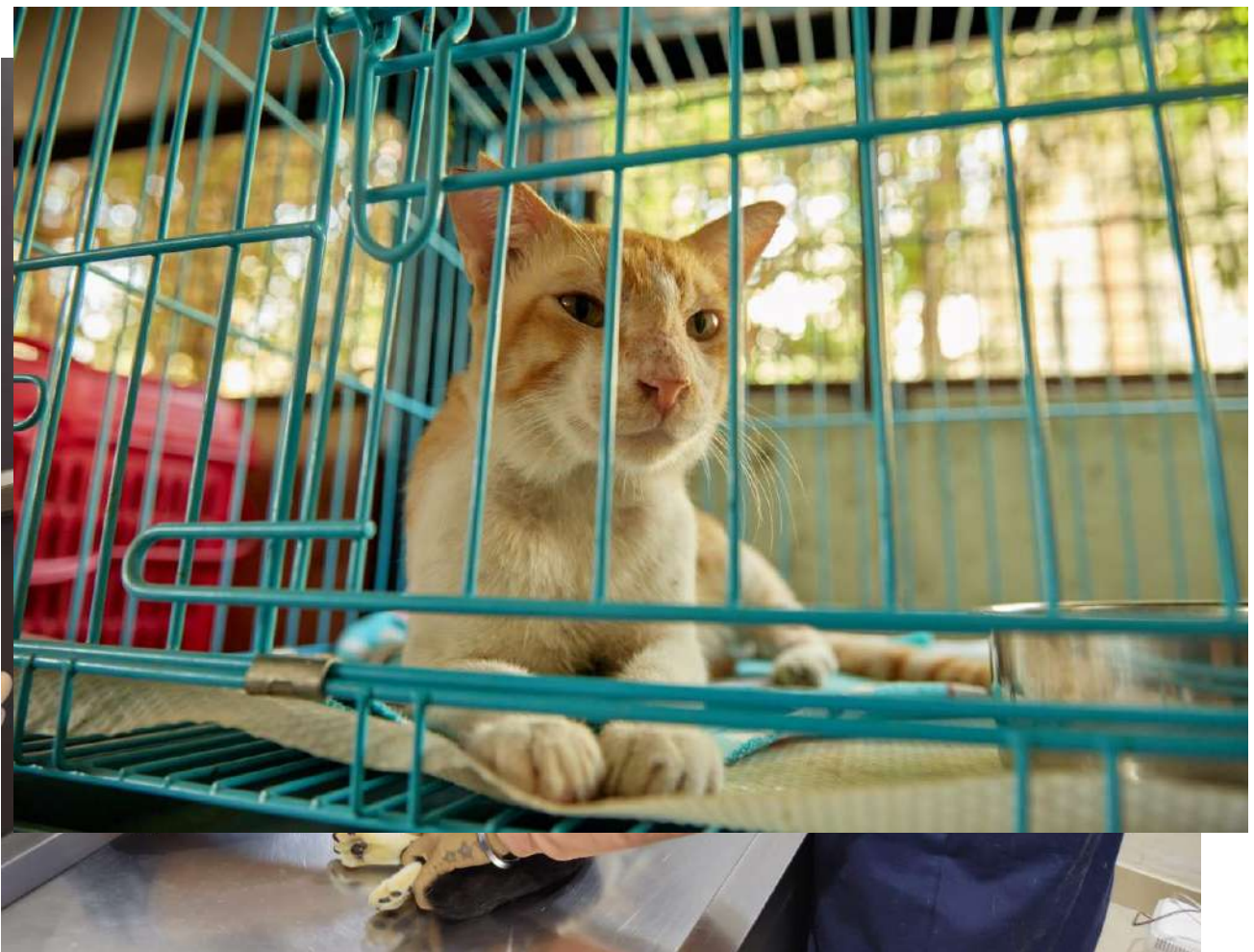
Dec 22	181
Jan 23	212
Feb 23	196
Mar 23	185

No. of Cats Sterilised in the Last 12 Months



REHABILITATION AND PLACEMENT

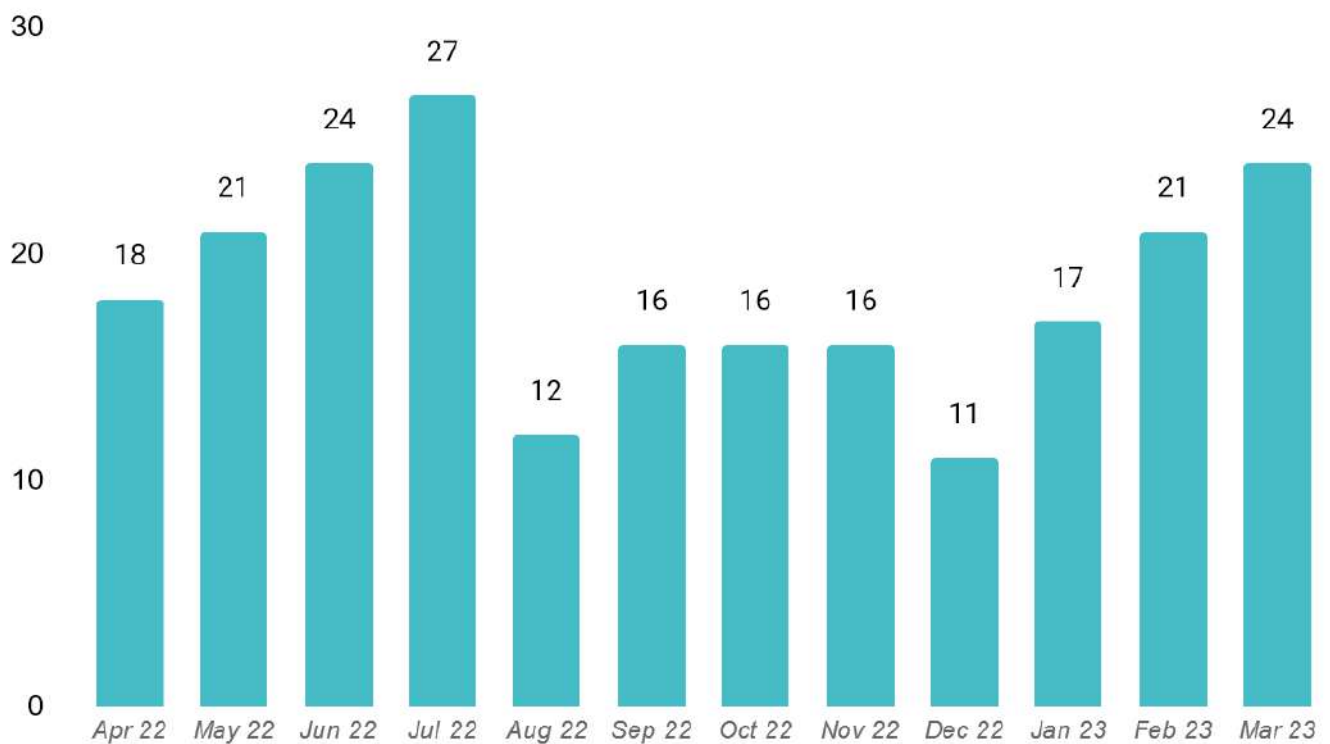
Another core activity of The Feline Foundation is the rehabilitation of Vulnerable Stray Cats. These are stray cats who are negatively impacted by their lives in the streets, and fall into one or more of these categories: sick, injured, malnourished, severely disabled, very young, or geriatric. We are aware that there are thousands of stray cats in Mumbai, and possibly thousands in Versova alone. In order to make the most of our limited resources as an animal welfare organization, we admit only healthy stray cats in our Sterilization Program, and only Vulnerable Stray Cats in our Rehabilitation and Placement Program.



Here are the number of Vulnerable Stray Cats from the Versova Area admitted over the last 12 months:

Month	No. of VSCs Admitted
Apr 22	18
May 22	21
Jun 22	24
Jul 22	27
Aug 22	12
Sep 22	16
Oct 22	16
Nov 22	16
Dec 22	11
Jan 23	17
Feb 23	21
Mar 23	24

No. of Cats Rehabilitated in the Last 12 Months



ADOPTION PARTNERSHIP

Sometimes the cats that we rescue have disabilities that would impact their survival outside even after treatment. These are cats that have lost limbs, cannot see properly, or have some chronic issue that could affect their ability to move out of a car's away or escape from a chasing dog. We work with Cat Café Studio to find homes for these cats since their disability would not prevent them from being loving pets and living long, comfortable lives indoors. Together, we also spread awareness about stray cat welfare. Between one and five cats are transferred to Cat Café Studio for adoption every month. Each cat is fully treated for medical issues, socialized for human interaction, sterilized, and provided with vaccines and parasite prevention.

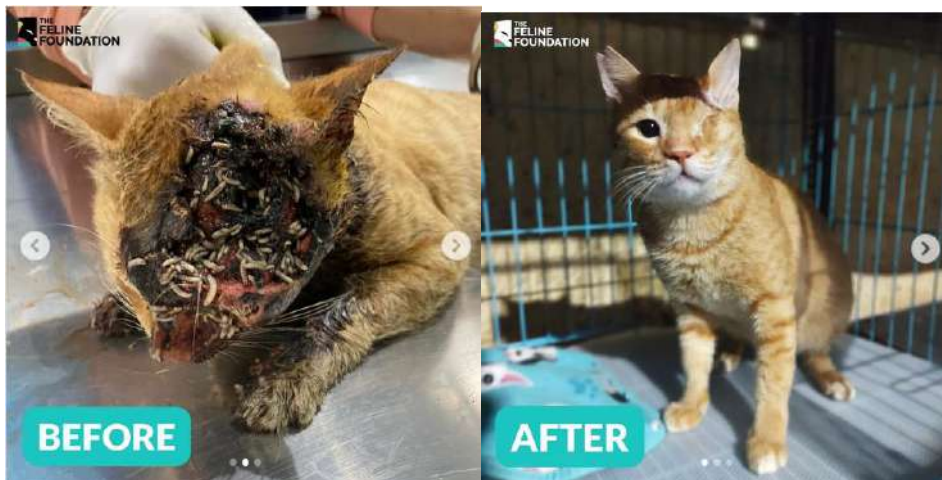


We also have a foster program where our volunteers can opt to care for a young, healthy kitten or a litter of kittens that is not yet ready for vaccination. Foster volunteers help prepare kittens for living in a home before they can go up for adoption at Cat Café Studio. They also help get the kittens adopted since they have closer insight into their personalities. By keeping them in their homes until they can be vaccinated at 8 weeks old, they keep them away from contagious illnesses they could contract in the clinic. Volunteers can also foster adult cats that do not do well in the group housing setting at Cat Café Studio, or need a few weeks of quiet recovery from an illness before they can go up for adoption.

A FEW SPECIAL CASES

Ginger

When Ginger's rescuer Madhur found him, he had an open wound spanning the entire left side of his head, and every inch of the wound was pouring with maggots, including his eye. We were not sure of Ginger's prognosis; however, he perked up in just a couple of days and we knew he would make it. When his condition was a little more stable, we removed his damaged eye and his wound began to heal very well. Ginger began to recover wonderfully fast. 3 months later, Ginger's wound fully closed, and he was released in the care of his loving rescuer.



Chitten

Chitten had an abdominal hernia and bladder damage due to a bad dog bite. He was luckily rescued by Jaya, our longtime supporter. Chitten was in extreme pain when he came to us to a point he couldn't pass stool or urine. Our vets examined him and reckoned he needed surgery immediately for which we took him to another clinic. His surgery was successful after which he returned to our clinic for post-care! We gave him daily treatment and care for a month while he was with us and saw him recover quickly because of the same. We have now vaccinated and released the playful kitty back to his caretaker.



Iftaar

Iftaar had been in some kind of accident, most likely a vehicular accident, that had caused major damage to his tail. Sadly the resulting wound never healed. Without treatment, the tail tissue became infected and started dying. By the time he was found and brought to us, the end of his tail had completely decayed and fallen off. To prevent the infection from spreading in his system, we amputated the tail. The surgery went well and we even neutered him during the operation. After many days of constant care and observation, Ifthar healed beautifully and was released.



Katappa

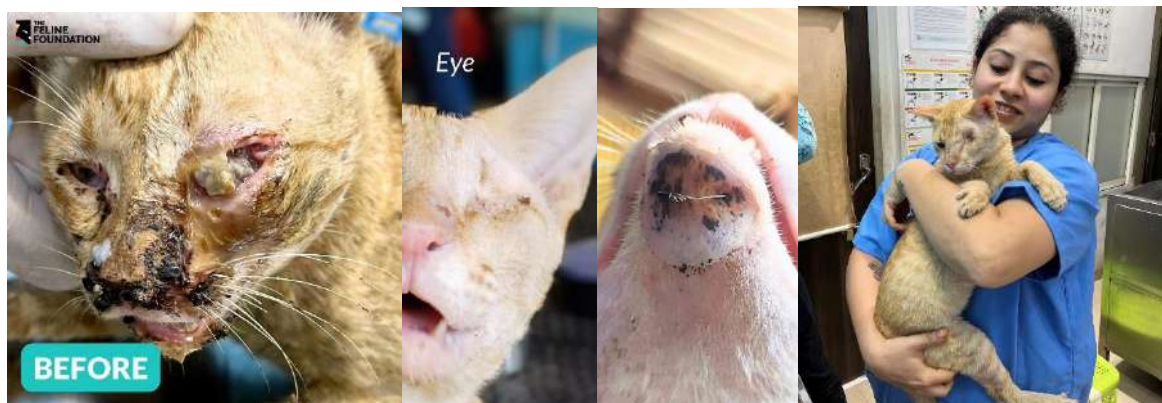
Tomcat Katappa was found by a feeder who was on her regular route. She saw that he had a deep wound on his paw. The wound was full of pus and very painful for him. We admitted him, treated his wound for weeks and then neutered him in our facility. Sweetheart Kattapa has now recovered completely and graduated back as a happy cat in his streets!



Sheru

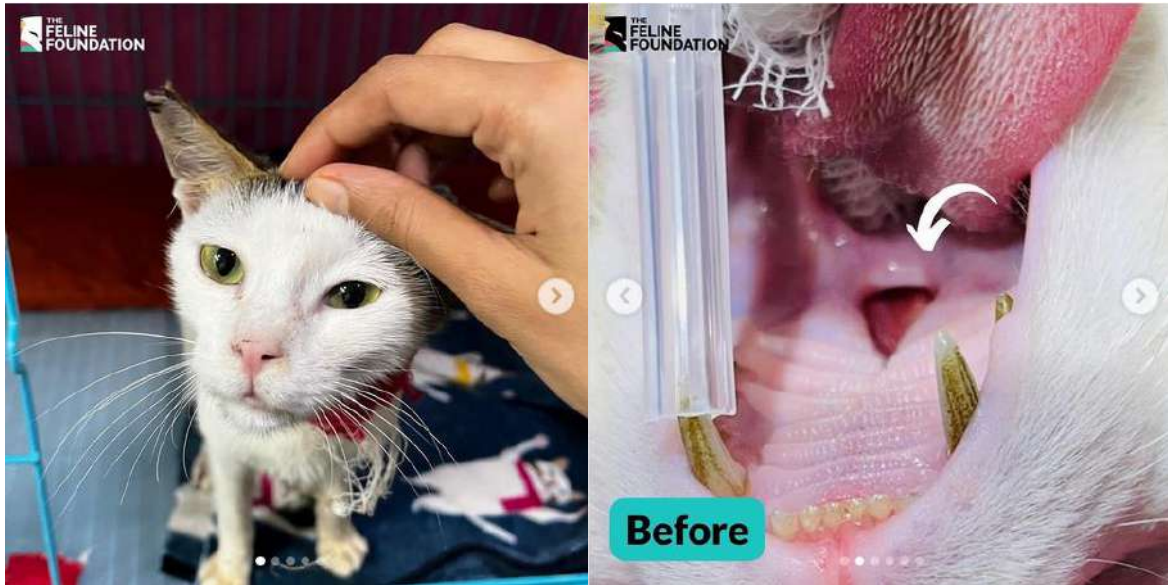
Sheru came to us in a very sorry state. This poor boy's left eye was severely infested with maggots and he also had a fractured jaw. He was unable to eat due to the condition of his jaw.

When his rescuers found him, they thought he had fought with another cat and rushed him to our foundation immediately. While the injury indicated a different trauma than a cat fight, it was difficult to ascertain what caused such a grievous injury to his jaw. We removed all the maggots from his eye, got him a little more fit to operate on, and scheduled his eye extirpation and jaw wiring surgery. Sheru was also castrated while he was under anaesthesia, so he got a 3-in-1 surgery! He recovered very well considering the condition he came in and after his discharge, his rescuers found him a loving forever home!



Vishnu

Vishnu was diagnosed with panleukopenia, a dangerous and debilitating viral infection in cats. He also had a torn upper palate from some kind of accident or trauma, which meant there was a tear in the roof of his mouth. Vishnu had to first recover from the illness post which we conducted the upper palate repair surgery. After that Vishnu had to be fed from a feeding tube until his incision healed. Vishnu had a slow but steady recovery and was released a happy, normal cat.



Kabir

Kabir was rescued with a really bad paw injury. We had to amputate his damaged leg to save him from the infection spreading further. Kabir thankfully took to the treatment very well and was docile and friendly with our staff. He showed rapid signs of improvement as soon as we started antibiotics and soon after we were able to conduct his amputation and sterilization. After his post-op recovery we vaccinated him and released him back to his caretaker.



COMMUNITY VETERINARY CLINIC

There are thousands if not millions of stray animals in Mumbai and the majority of them lack access to medical care. Veterinary medicine is considered the biggest expense for most rescuers and pet-owners when it comes to animal care. After working for years with the close-knit, animal-rescue community in Versova, we wanted a way to give back to the people that helped us save so many lives. We had what felt like a far-sighted vision of a low-cost veterinary clinic that would leave no animal in the city without access to healthcare. In 2019 we were able to actualize this impossible dream when we shifted to a new facility. After assessing the space, acquiring the necessary equipment and engaging a passionate team, we inaugurated the *first-of-its-kind, completely non-profit* Community Veterinary Clinic on September 8th, 2019.

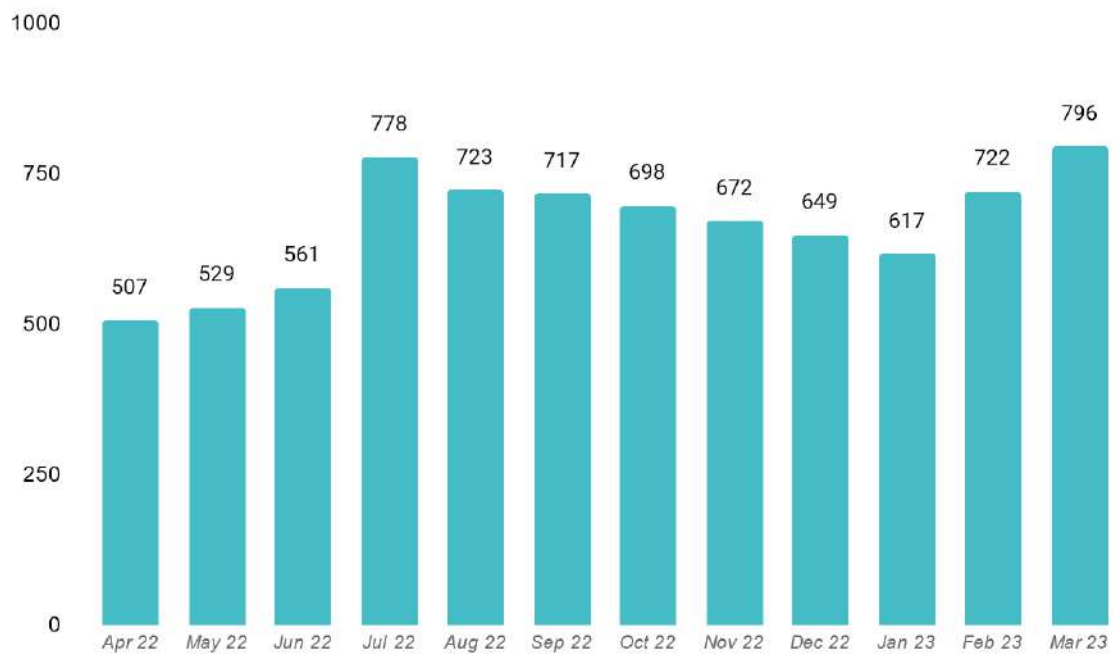


The Clinic offers routine consults, preventative care, urgent care and basic diagnostics for all dogs and cats, and inpatient and surgery options for cats. Our clientele includes pet owners, animal welfare groups, and general good samaritans who want to help stray animals.

Here are the monthly number of patients treated in the Community Veterinary Clinic this year:

Month	No. of Patients Treated
Apr 22	507
May 22	529
Jun 22	561
Jul 22	778
Aug 22	723
Sep 22	717
Oct 22	698
Nov 22	672
Dec 22	649
Jan 23	617
Feb 23	722
Mar 23	796

No. of Dogs and Cats Treated in the Last 12 Months



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

We organize multiple educational events and fundraising campaigns a year to help improve human-animal relations between stray cats and the community, and to engage with our followers.

We fulfil such motives by

- Conducting seminars and workshops on feline care by animal care professionals
- Distributing informational pamphlets on caring for cats and kittens
- Posting educational feline facts on our social media
- Coordinating projects and visits with school and college students
- Running fundraising events such as game nights, stand-up comic nights, arts and crafts workshops, and music performances
- Involving our volunteers in all facets of our operations

VOLUNTEERING PROGRAM

We run a volunteer program for cat-lovers of all ages who are keen to help our cause.

Volunteers help us by:

- Preparing cages and filling food and water bowls
 - Socializing and grooming clinic cats
 - Making cat toys and food puzzles to stimulate our patients
 - Keeping records of our medical inventory
 - Assisting us with visits to the vet for sterilization and treatment
 - Going with our team on Treat-on-Street visits
 - Photographing and filming our activities
 - Writing content for our social media and website
 - Designing posters, flyers and other creatives
 - Assisting us at educational and fundraising events
 - Researching information that would improve our operations
-

ASSOCIATIONS & SUPPORTERS



SUPPORTERS

We have grown tremendously in the last year thanks to the help of our supporters. We are touched that we were able to collaborate with so many organizations and individuals whose interests are aligned with furthering the progress of animal welfare.

Here are some of our strongest supporters who stood by us this year:



We also want to thank the hundreds of **individual** donors who supported us through thick and thin this year!

THANK YOU

Thank you.

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