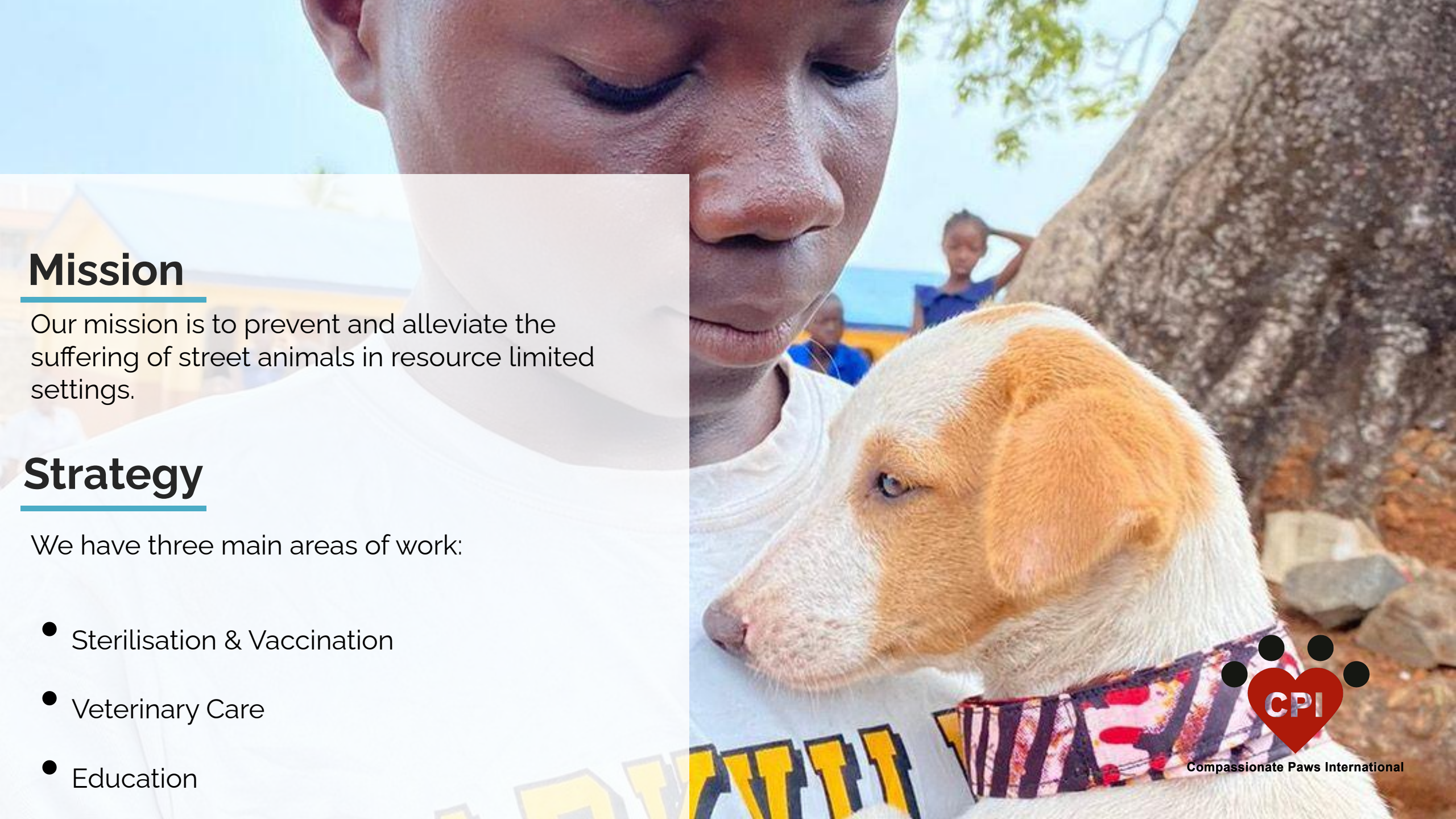
Compassionate Paws International (CPI)

Annual Report March 2022



Mission

Our mission is to prevent and alleviate the suffering of street animals in resource limited settings.

Strategy

We have three main areas of work:

- Sterilisation & Vaccination
- Veterinary Care
- Education

Compassionate Paws International

What Makes CPI Different

- **Impact-driven and data led** - We are very much about measuring our impact: data collection & analysis is at the forefront of everything we do.
- **Innovative** - We are always looking for new and better ways to work and continually seek to learn.
- **Versatile and adaptable** - We understand that nothing ever goes as planned and will always try our best to adapt to each change and challenge that comes our way.

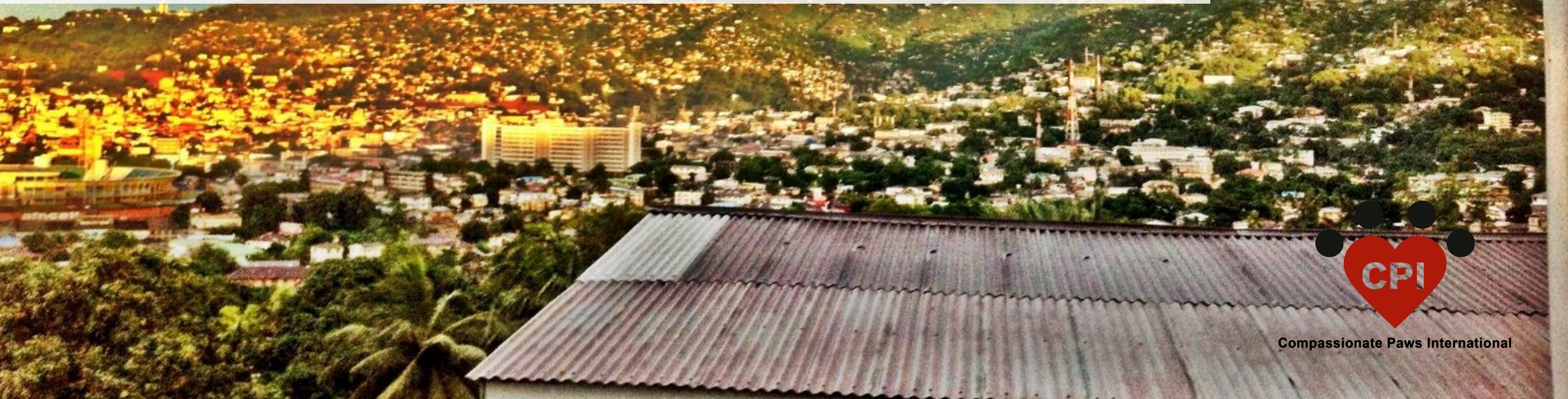
Compassionate Paws International

Our Location

CPI was formally registered as a charity in the UK in October 2020, and in Sierra Leone in October 2021.

In addition to our operations in Sierra Leone, we began, in 2020 and 2021, by also issuing grants to two small, trusted organisations: PATH in Hulu Langat, Malaysia, and MARS in Chennai, India.

While these organisations do incredibly impactful work, due to the extreme lack of veterinary resources in Sierra Leone, it was decided to begin 2022 with a focus solely on Sierra Leone.



Current Activities (March 2022)

1. Intensive CNVR projects (Catch, Neuter, Vaccinate, Release) using international vet teams
2. Rabies vaccination
3. Data collection – mapping, recording & analysis of dog demographics

1. Mobile clinics
2. Small-scale fostering & adoptions

1. Salone Animal Talk Facebook page
2. Training of one Community Animal Health Worker (CAHW)

CPI Programmes

Dog Population Management

Veterinary Care

Education

Long Term Changes Required

Higher proportion of sterilised dogs in Freetown

At least 70% of dogs vaccinated against rabies

Better knowledge of animal care & rabies prevention among people

Qualified, competent and well-equipped veterinary services in Sierra Leone

Closer collaboration of all major stakeholders – governmental, national, local

Vision

- Less or no free roaming dogs
- Eradication of rabies
- All dogs have access to high standard veterinary care
- Improved education on pet ownership

CPI Theory of Change

Impacts – Up to March 31st 2022

Total 2020 + 2021 + 2022				
Programme	2020	2021	2022	Total
Sterilisations				
Malaysia Sterilisations	2	150		152
India Sterilisations	7	82	5	94
Sierra Leone Sterilisations	41	66	45	152
Adoptions (SL)	24	22		46
Feeding (SL)	246	8		254
Medical (SL)	165	321	79	565
Total All-time Impact	485	649	129	1263

What is a free-roaming dog?

We use the term ‘free-roaming’ to describe dogs that spend most of their time in public areas such as in the street.

These dogs can be considered to be either owned and unowned.

We have found that, most often, they do have someone who provides some kind of guardianship or ownership to a greater or lesser degree.

Dog Population Management

April 2021 to March 2022

The Mass Sterilisation & Vaccination Of Roaming Dogs Can:

- Improve the health and welfare of dogs.
- Improve public perceptions of dogs.
- Reduce the number of dog bites, rabies and cases of other zoonotic disease.
- Reduce the overall number and density of free-roaming dogs.
- Reduce wildlife conflict with roaming dogs.

Reference:: Smith, L.M.; Hartmann, S.; Munteanu, A.M.; Dalla Villa, P.; Quinnell, R.J.; Collins, L.M. The Effectiveness of Dog Population Management: A Systematic Review. *Animals* 2019, *9*, 1020. https://doi.org/10.3390/ani9121020

Grants awarded by CPI - 2021

Grant provided to PATH, Malaysia:

- Funded spay of 152 female dogs

Grant provided to MARS, India:

- Funded sterilisation of 100 male & female dogs

The Reasons For Dog Population Management in Freetown, Sierra Leone

Most free-roaming dogs in Freetown suffer from poor health and have low life expectancy.

Unwanted puppies and some adult dogs seen to pose a nuisance are often abused or killed.

Historically, these dogs have had little or no access to veterinary care.

They can be vectors for zoonotic diseases such as rabies, which is endemic in Sierra Leone.

Some people in the community fear dogs for posing a health risk, or see them as a nuisance for creating noise or leaving mess.

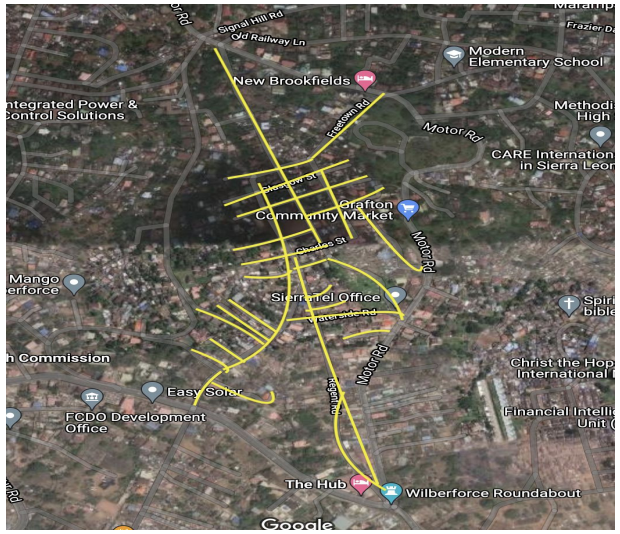
Freetown: CNVR 2021 to 2022

1. Spay of 60 female dogs (Wilberforce Village area, led by Freetown City Council)

2. Spay of 40 female dogs by our first international vet team, Far Vets (Wilberforce & Babadorie areas)

3. Other spays and castrations: 6

CNVR Project Process



a. Mapping of intervention area

b. Baseline data collection – dog counting and household survey

c. One-day free mobile clinic – further engages community members & builds trust

d. Then, intensive catch / collect, spay and return

A focus on sterilising female dogs

Out of the small amount of research available on Dog Population Management, studies indicate that interventions that focus solely on females are as effective at reducing or maintaining the population as those that focus on both sexes (Taylor et al,, 2017).

It is the owners of female dogs that have to deal with unwanted litters, therefore female-only campaigns are likely to have the greatest impact on unwanted litters (ICAM, 2017).

Our research in Wilberforce found a ratio of male : female of 1.7 : 1 - there are far more males than females, making it also cost–effective to target the female population only.

ICAM. Humane Dog Population Management Guidance 2017

Taylor Louise H., Wallace Ryan M., Balaram Deepashree, Lindenmayer Joann M., Eckery Douglas C., Mutonono-Watkiss Beryl, Parravani Ellie, Nel Louis H. The Role of Dog Population Management in Rabies Elimination—A Review of Current Approaches and Future Opportunities. *Frontiers in Veterinary Science* 2017 Volume 4: https://www.frontiersin.org/article/10.3389/fvets.2017.00109

March 2022 Intensive 4-Day Catch, Neuter, Vaccinate, Release (CNVR) with international team, Far Vets

Method

The details of owners were collected during engagement activities prior to the project and where possible, owners were called in advance to be notified of the collection.

Despite having owners, many dogs will not allow their owners to touch them or place them in a cage, therefore two teams of dog catchers were engaged. Catchers had been trained by Dr. Bangura prior to this project.

Each team had a vehicle, team leader and two catchers with protective gear and a net.

Sterilisation consent forms were signed by owners.

Dogs were then brought back to the project site.

Each dog was sterilised using the most up-to-date and sterile procedures.

Every dog was vaccinated against rabies and received wound care where needed.

All dogs were intubated and had an IV cannula. .

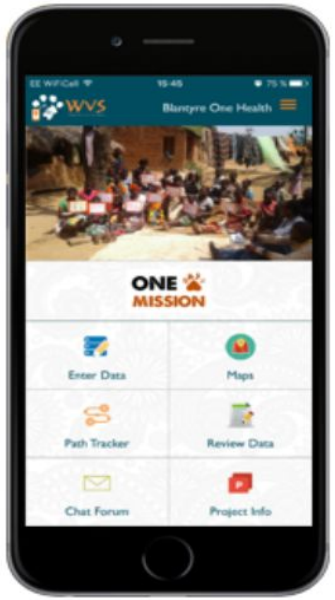
Dogs were kept overnight for observation unless they were identified as having a competent & caring owner who would be able to care for them and keep them safe on the day of surgery.

CPI followed up with owners by phone to check dogs were recovering. Unowned dogs were checked in situ.

The **Far Vets** team provided their services for free.

Veterinary medications were funded by the **Brigitte Bardot Foundation.**

Dogs were taken back to owners or dropped in the location they were collected.



The WVS app was used to collect details of each dog, its owner and GPS location.

Research on Blood-Borne Parasites

In March, sixty 4DX tests were kindly donated by IDEXX Laboratories.

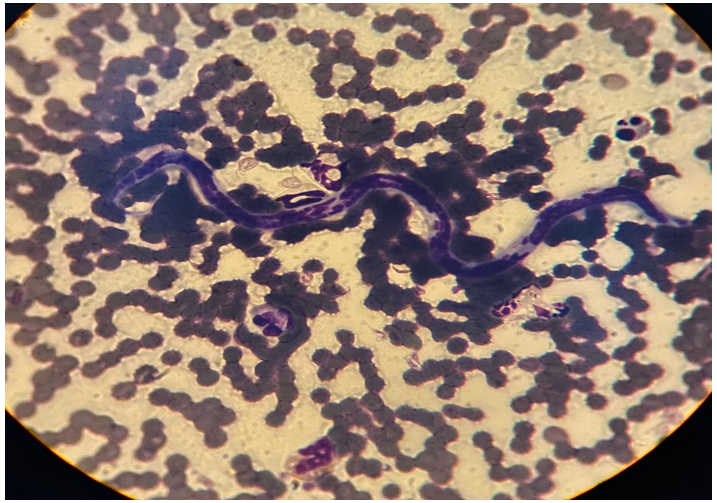
A microscope was also donated by the University of Bristol in conjunction with ESCAPP (European Scientific Council for Companion Animal Parasites)

During the March 2022 CNVR project, CPI's veterinary director, Dr. Rebecca Dobinson, conducted a study of blood-borne parasites in 53 dogs.

In collaboration with parasitologist, Dr. Ian Wright, the results and an analysis will be published in the Veterinary Record on 22nd July 2022.

Parasite	Positive 4DX (n=53)	Positive blood smear (n=24)
Dirofilaria immitis (heartworm)	4	4
Erlichia	21	7
Anaplasma	10	2
Babesia	-	2

A 4DX test showing a positive result for 3 blood-borne parasites – many dogs showed co-infections.

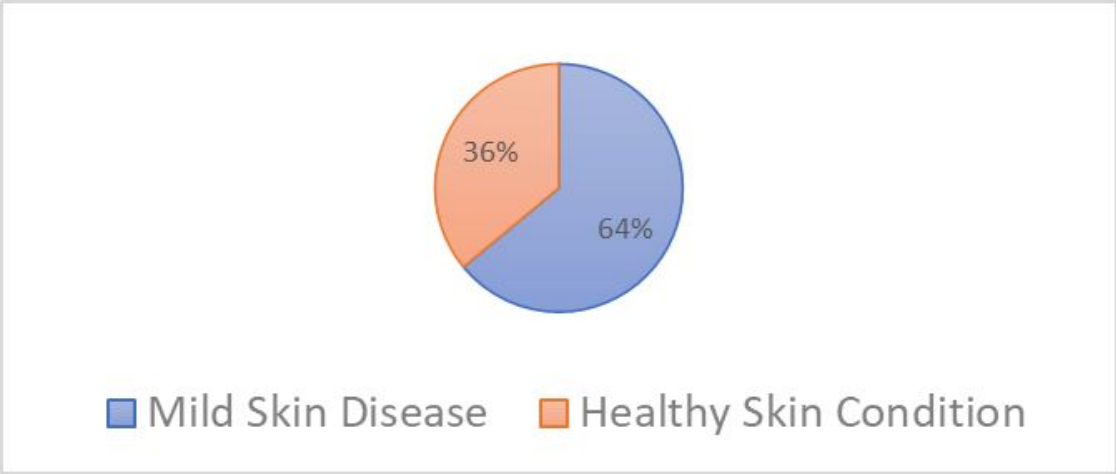


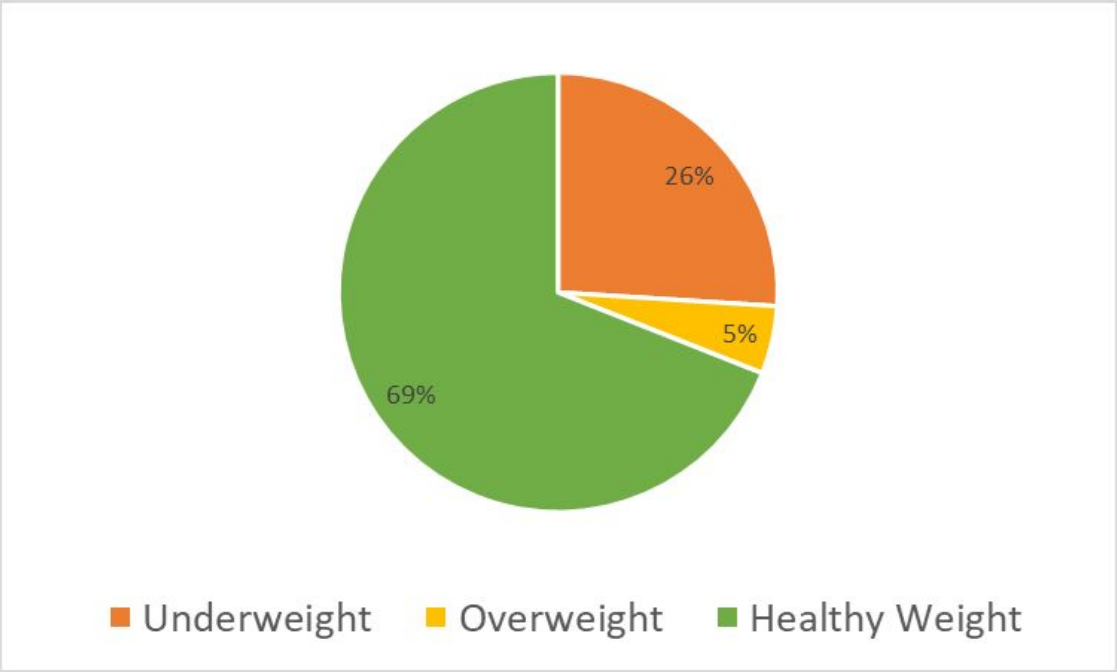
A heartworm found in the blood sample of one of the dogs, as viewed under the microscope.

Analysis of Health Data Collected during March 2021 CNVR (n=39)

Skin Condition

Mild skin disease: 64%
Healthy skin: 36%





Body Condition Score

Underweight: 26%
Healthy weight: 69%
Overweight: 5%

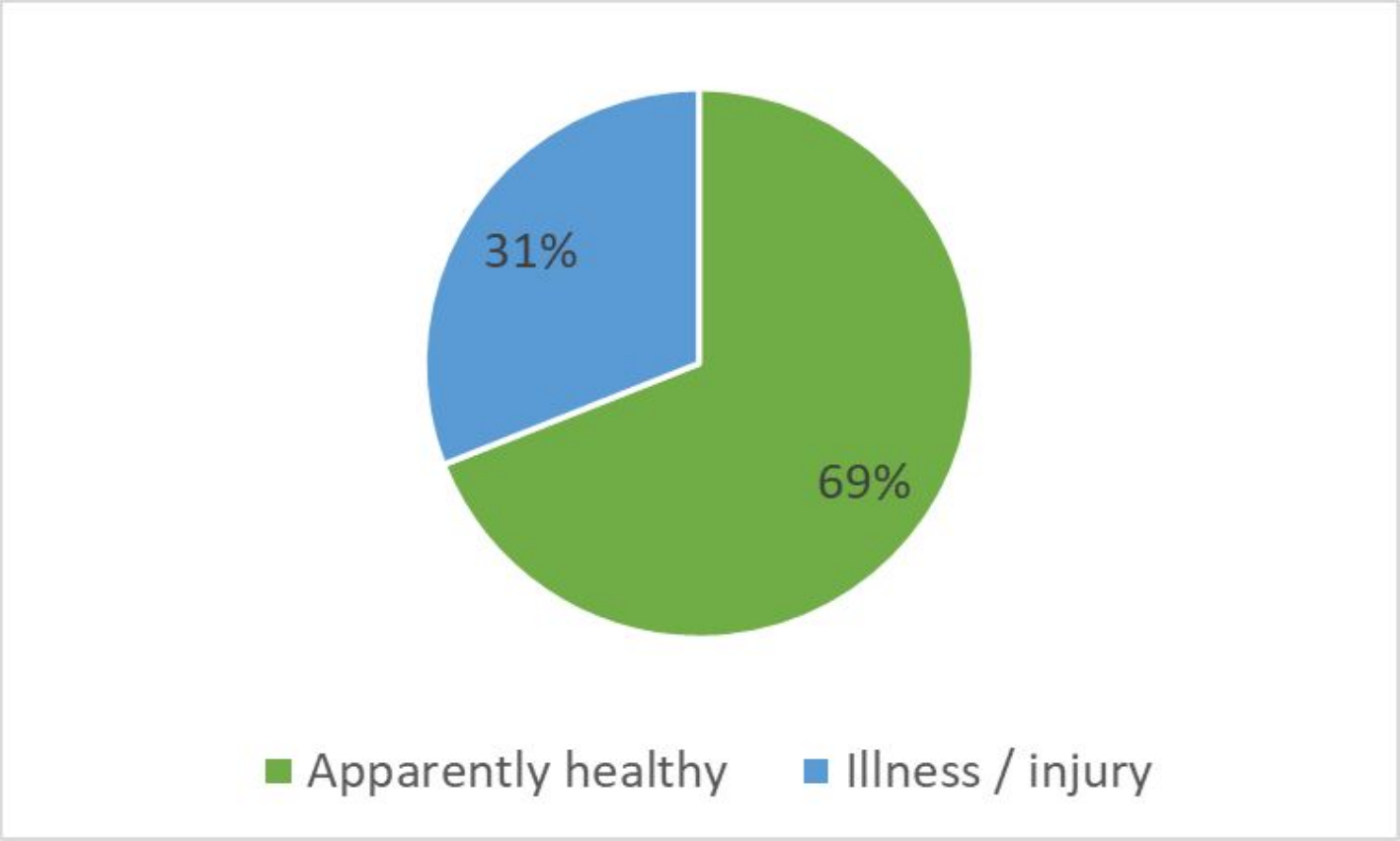
Reference: Are We Making A Difference? A Guide to Monitoring and Evaluating Dog Population Management Interventions. (2015).

Analysis of Health Data Collected (n=39)

Obvious Presence of Illness or Injury

Apparently healthy upon examination & surgery: 69%
(not taking into account blood-borne illnesses tested for later)
Illness / Injury: 31%

Health problems included ear lesions, tick infestation, broken leg & pyometra.



On-Going Project:
Rabies Vaccination Programme - FLI Grant

The Freetown City Council (FCC) has been awarded a grant of 50K USD from FLI (German Federal Research Institute for Animal Health) to conduct a rabies vaccination project in a selected part of Freetown.

In December 2021, CPI was asked to oversee/advise on:

- Mapping of project area
- Data collection & analysis

Stakeholders from across One Health have been brought together.

Organisations involved:

- FLI - Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut
- FCC - Freetown City Council
- SLAWS - Sierra Leone Animal Welfare Society
- MAF - Ministry of Agriculture & Forestry
- MR - Mission Rabies
- CPI – Compassionate Paws International
- FAO - Food and Agriculture Organisation (United Nations)
- WHO - World Health Organisation

Veterinary Care

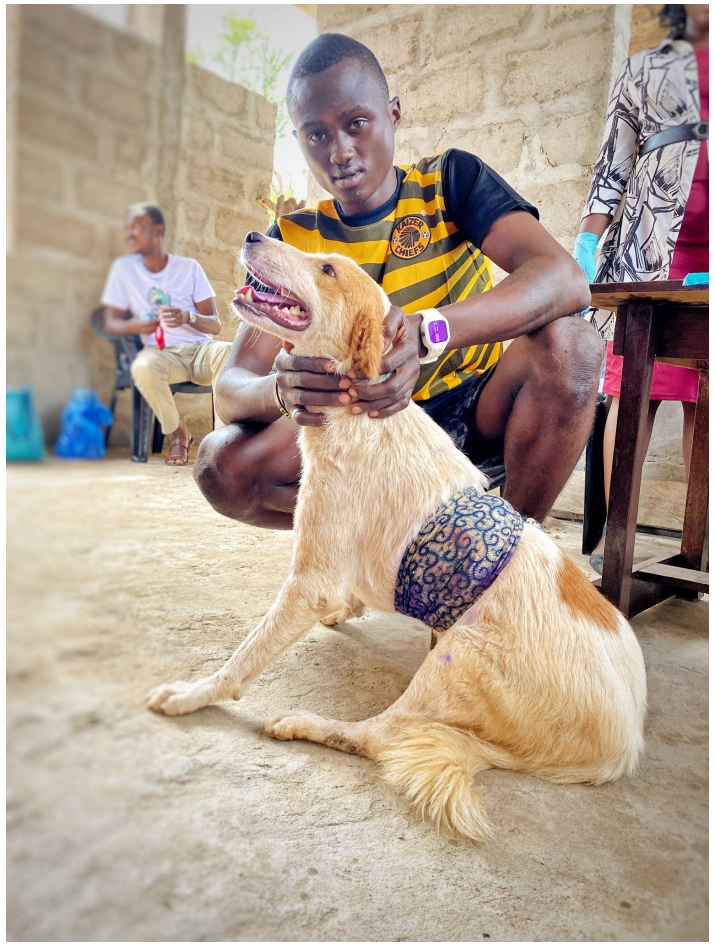
April 2021 to March 2022

CPI

Compassionate Paws International

Veterinary Interventions

Medical Interventions All-time Total	
General	223
Susans Bay	88
Wilberforce Phase 1	101
Babadorie Lumley	74
Dr. Rebecca Dobinson (2022)	39
FARVets (2022)	40
Total	**565**



Susan's Bay fire

On March 24, 2021, a devastating fire raged through Susan's Bay -one of the largest slums in Freetown, Sierra Leone.

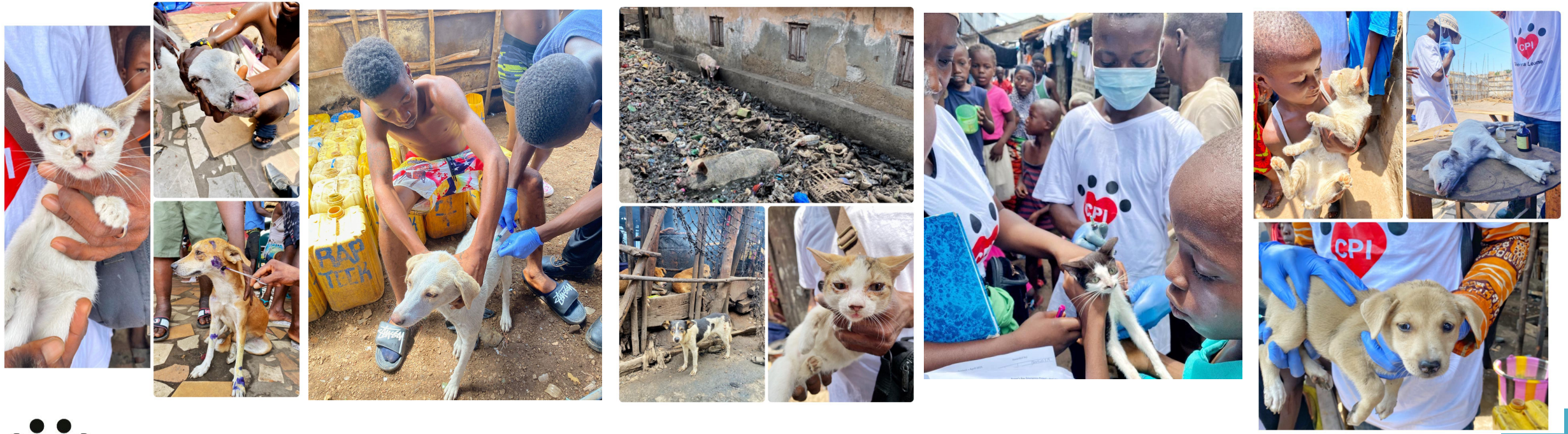
Thousands of people were left homeless.

CPI and Freetown City Council carried out an assessment which discovered many dogs and other animals in need of help.

April 2021: Susan's Bay

With an emergency grant issued by SPCAi, CPI provided emergency treatment to animals impacted by this disaster.

During the first week of April, CPI treated a total of 88 animals which included dogs, cats, and goats, using local vet, Dr. Bangura and his team,



Wilberforce Village Veterinary Outreach
May-Aug 2021

During any type of community outreach we often come across animals in need of treatment.

Treatment was provided for animals with skin infections, flea and tick infestations, tumbu maggots, wounds, tumors and a TVT case.

Achievements:

- 101 dogs successfully treated
- By engaging with the community, we have built trust and understanding with many of the dogs and owners/guardians in this community

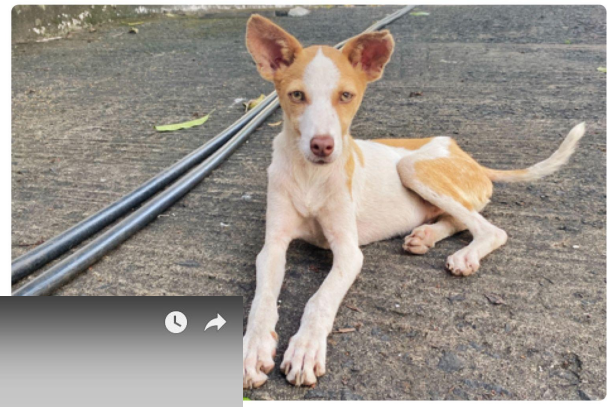
Butter Bean

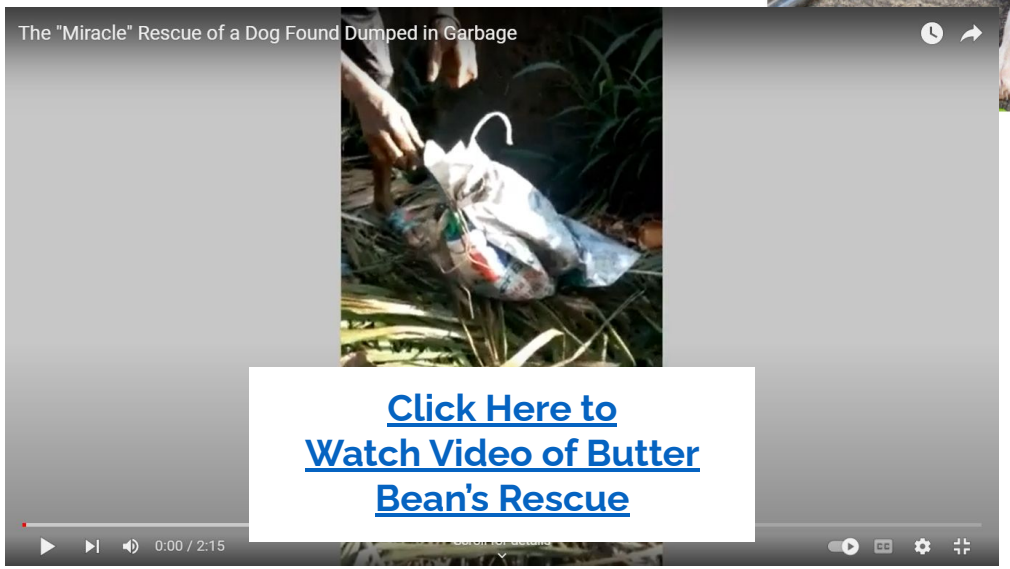
Butter Bean was found by CPI's Programme Director, Sea Ramanat, in the hot sun, on a pile of rubbish, where he had been placed inside a rice bag. The bag had been tied with a knot and he had been left to suffocate.

It was an absolute miracle that he was still alive and that Sea had found him just in time. He was severely dehydrated and in a bad way.

Sea took him home and he was treated by Dr. Bangura. He slowly learnt to trust Sea and became confident and playful.

Thankfully, we were able to adopt him out to a lovely home where he lives together with 3 other dogs.





Click Here to Watch Video of Butter Bean's Rescue

Snoopy

Snoopy was found by our dog catching team with an enlarged, painful eye.

Dr Rebecca Dobinson diagnosed this as end-stage glaucoma. After discussion with the owner it was decided that removal of the eye was the best treatment.

Snoopy has recovered well from his surgery and is now pain-free.

Before surgery

After surgery

Will

Will, an elderly dog, was found collapsed by the side of the road by our dog catching team in March 2022.

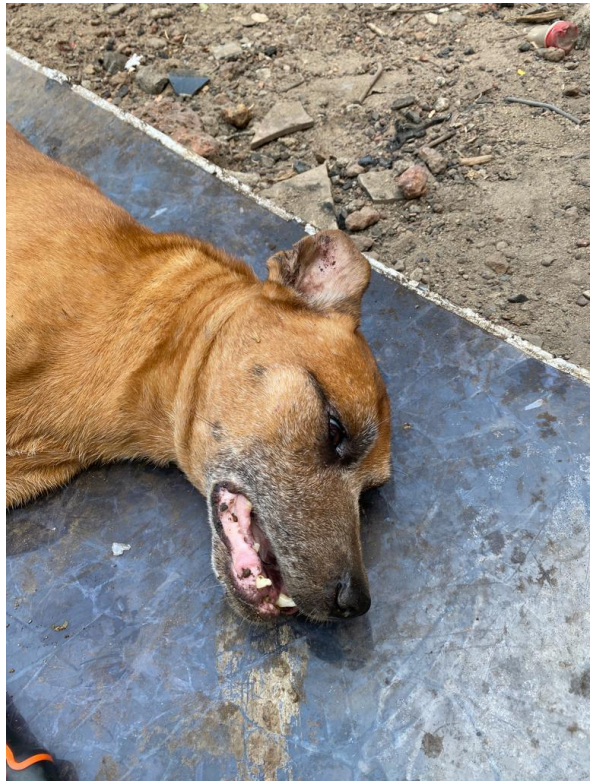
He tested positive for Ehrlichia and was treated with antibiotics, intravenous fluids and vitamin injections.

He was fostered by Sea Ramanat where he received lots of love and care for over one month.

Although he got stronger at first, he never regained his appetite and began to become more sick. Despite all our efforts, sadly Will passed away and is much missed.

Billy

Billy had a large mass removed from his leg. It had been growing for two years. Had it not been removed the mass would have bled and become infected.



Henry

Henry was hit by a vehicle and sustained a broken jaw and wounds to his face.
His wounds were stitched and a wire was placed to fix his jaw so it healed in the correct position.
Six weeks later, the wire was removed and Henry's jaw had healed

CPI Re-homing Sierra Leone

With our work in Sierra Leone we are bound to come across rescue/medical intervention cases that results in having to rehome the animal, once recovered.

Given limited resources, our rehoming options are either to release back to its community or rehome locally to a vetted owner.

Total adoptions to date as of March 31st 2022: **49**

CPI Re-homing Process Sierra Leone

Our rehoming process usually starts with a dog in need of medical treatment.

Step 1
The minimum basic medical treatment provided prior to any rehoming includes:

- Full health check performed by certified vet
- Deworming
- Parvo vaccine for puppies under 1 year of age

Step 2
Building adopters list by:

- Checking current waiting list
- Posting ads on Freetown forums (Freetowners, 3Towners)
- Asking friends and family

Compassionate Paws International

Why Adopt from CPI?

Benefit for Owners

You are saving a precious life!
You will be providing a loving, fur-ever home for a dog in desperate need!

Your family and your other pets will be safer.
All CPI rescues will have been assessed for critical illnesses by a qualified veterinarian.

We have your back.
CPI will carefully match you with a dog that suits your situation. We provide educational material on how to care for your pet and personalised support if you need it. You will also have access to our veterinarian.

Benefit for Animalkind

We reduce street dog over-population and animal homelessness because we require sterilisations for all adopted dogs.

We help to improve public health by requiring vaccinations for all adopted dogs.

Together with you, we are building a local community of animal lovers who strive to improve welfare for animals. All new owners are thoroughly vetted to ensure they provide high quality care for their new pets.

CPI Re-homing Process Sierra Leone

Step 3
Vetting the potential adopters by following all steps below:

- Phone interview
- In person house visit
- Use your judgement
- Go through adoption agreement and vetting check-list with potential adopters.

Step 4
Contract and Hand-over

- Go through adoption agreement and vetting check-list with potential adopters.
- Read through care sheet
- Have adopter sign agreement
- Complete vetting checklist
- Ensure adopter understands CPI will be conducting following ups.
- Pre-book/schedule vaccine/sterilisation dates with local vet.

CPI Re-homing Process Sierra Leone

Follow-ups
Below follow-ups are mandatory, depending on capacity, extra follow-ups (in person or by phone) may be required.

Follow-up 1
Next-day phone call

- Contact owner the following day to check how the night went and how the dog and owner are adjusting and if there were any questions.

Follow-up 2
After one week photo requests

- Call/message and ask for a photo of dog.

Follow-up 3
Vaccination and/or sterilisation follow-up

- Contact owner on pre-scheduled dates to remind and follow-up on rabies vaccination and or sterilisation.

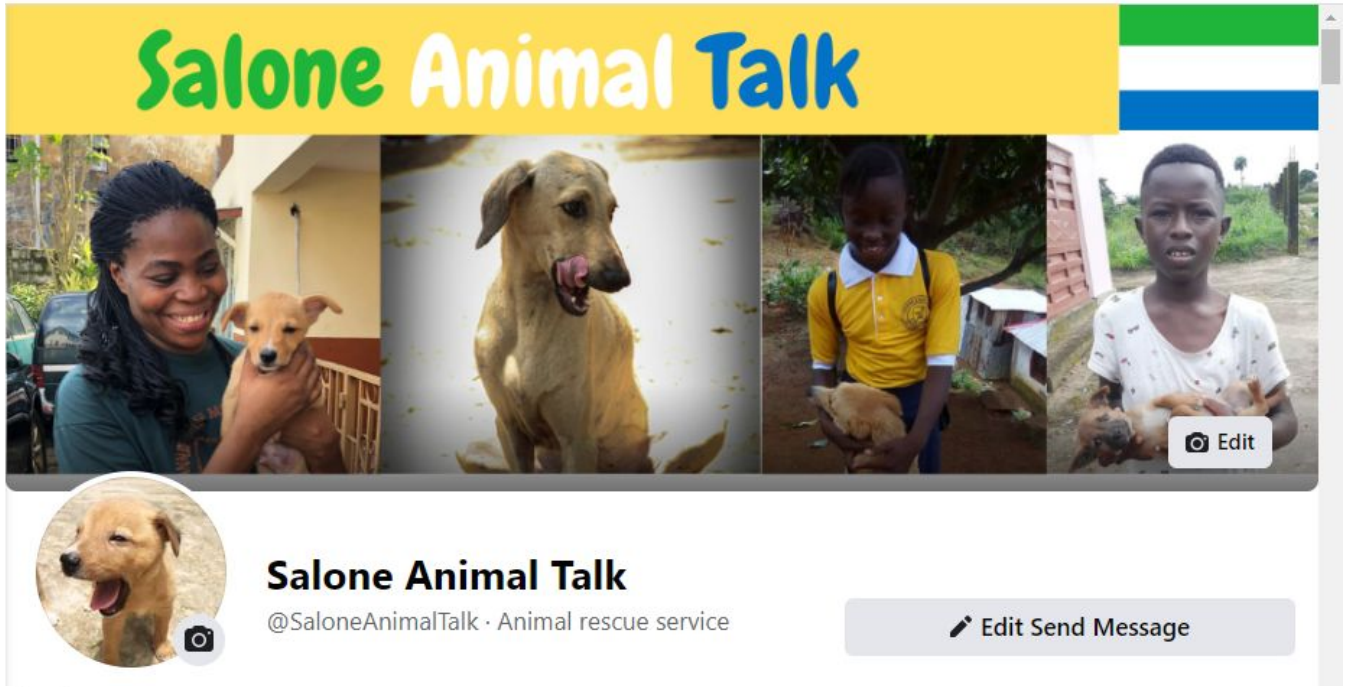
Education

April 2021 to March 2022

Compassionate Paws International

March 2022: training of Community Animal Health Worker (CAHW), Andrew Bockarie.

Follow up check shows improved skills have been maintained and are being put into practice.



Our Salone Animal Talk Facebook page aims to engage animal owners and lovers in Sierra Leone.

Educational content on various animal health topics are posted in both Krio and English, by UK-based veterinary nurse, Faye Clyne.

Other News

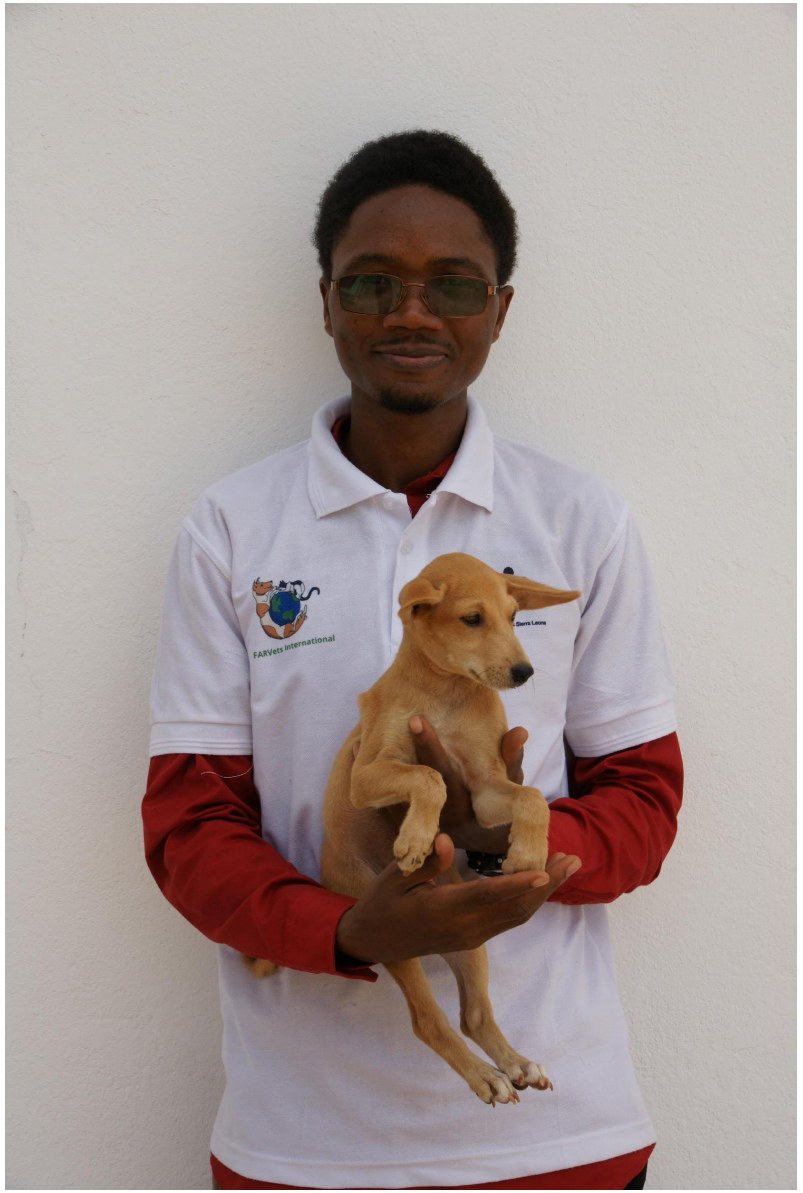
Appointment of Alie Turay as Programme Co-Ordinator

In January 2022, Alie Turay became CPI's first and only paid employee.

Formerly a teacher, Alie had been volunteering with CPI in his free time and was recognised for his enthusiasm, hard work and attention to detail.

Alie says:
"If you ask me how I feel about the job I do at CPI, this is what I have to say, in all the best moments in my adult working life there hasn't been a job for me that is as satisfying as my present work at CPI - helping in my little way to alleviate the suffering of neglected animals, especially dogs."

"Finding them a loving, caring home gives me joy and hope for the future of all animals in my country, Sierra Leone, and the planet."



Financials

Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account) for the period ended 31 March 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted Funds 2022 £	Total Funds 2022 £
Incoming resources				
Incoming resources from generated funds:				
Voluntary income:				
Donations		23,975	718	24,692
Grants		1,113	2,292	3,405
Total incoming resources		**25,088**	**3,010**	**28,098**
Resources expended				
Costs incurred for the period				
Expenditure on charitable activities		- 18,056	- 5,293	- 23,349
Salary costs		- 180	-	- 180
Total resources expended		**- 18,236**	**- 5,293**	**- 23,529**
Net income for the year				
Other recognised gains				
Foreign exchange movement		23	-	23
Net movement in funds		**6,874**	**- 2,283**	**4,592**
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		-	-	-
Total funds carried forward		**6,874**	**- 2,283**	**4,592**

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the period. All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

Financials

Compassionate Paws International
Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2022

	Notes	2022 £
Current Assets		
Cash at bank and in hand		4,592
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		-
Net Current Assets		**4,592**
Net Assets		**4,592**
Unrestricted funds		6,874
Restricted funds	-	2,283
Total funds		**4,592**

Our Beneficiaries

We work closely with community members to understand their relationships with dogs.

Compassionate Paws International

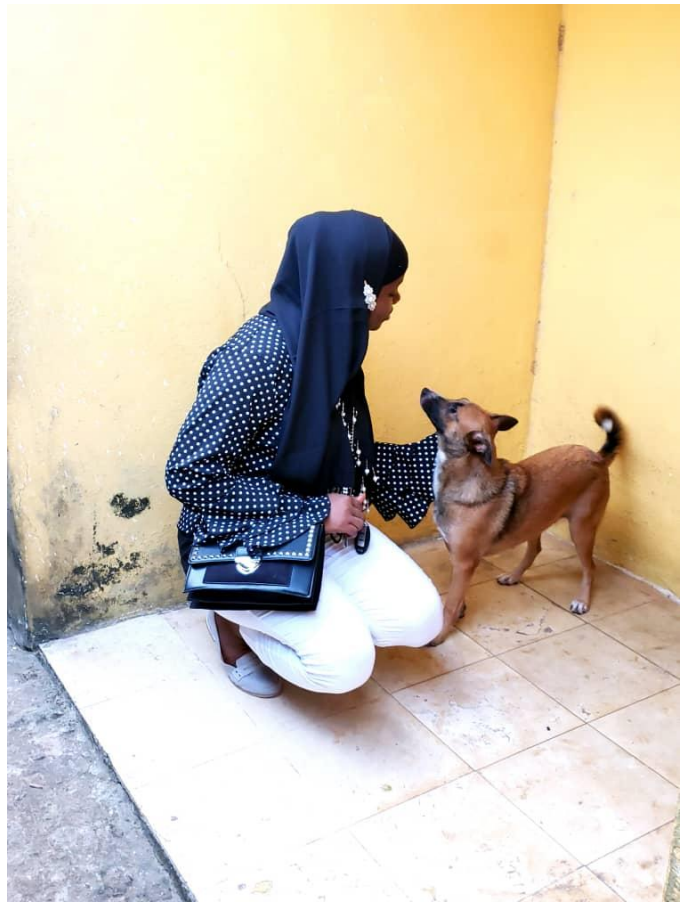
Florence & Gucci

Spay Beneficiary

"I came to know about CPI when they came to our area looking for female dogs to sterilise, so I told them I have a female dog. They took my dog and did the surgery on it and brought her back the next day; they did well for us. I feel good about CPI's work. You know, normally many people don't see value in dogs: they throw them away. But since CPI's intervention, all the dogs in the area are looking nice, so we are happy about that and we thank them very much."

Hassanatu, Rosie & Topsie

Adopter & Spay Beneficiaries



"You [CPI] gave me Rosie when she was about three months old, The thought that Rosie was in the state that she was previously, and you nurtured and cared for her: you gave life to Rosie.

I was so worried about Rosie's spay surgery but you gave me the assurance and confidence that everything will go well and it was perfectly done,

I am happy and grateful for your help. I know there are lots of dogs out there that need a lot of love and care and you guys are seeking and helping them out! I am so happy I have Rosie and Topsie, You gave me Topsie too (I named him Topsie) and they are doing very well.

I appreciate them being with me because they are very friendly and I know with time, you will do much more in the future to help more and more animals."

www.compassionatepaws.org

facebook.com/compassionatepawsinternational

Registered Address:
63 Regent Road, Leicester, LE1 6YF

UK Charity Commission Registration #: 1191988
Type of Charity: CIO

Board of Trustees:

Rebecca Dobinson MRCVS
Sea Ramanat
Sarah Morris
Karen Malia
Raj Rajput
Andrew Lofthouse

CPI

Compassionate Paws In