

# **Business Plan for the Humane Society - Building a New Animal Shelter**

# **Executive Summary**

The Humane Society of the BVI is a non-profit organization, founded in 1975 and is the only animal shelter in the BVI, that offers a safe shelter to dogs & puppies, cats & kittens that have been abandoned, are unwanted and in some cases severely mistreated and abused. The Humane Society purchased one acre of land near Josiah's Bay in 2013, with the intention of relocating the Animal Shelter from its existing location at Johnson's Ghut. The construction project, however, was delayed due to several problems, such as Hurricane Irma and Covid. We were given notice to vacate our existing premises in Johnson's Ghut in 2019, and while the landlord has been incredibly flexible and accommodating, we still need to move quickly. On August 15th of this year, we began the new construction with GK Construction.

## **Objectives**

The primary objectives of this business plan are:

- 1. Secure the necessary funds to complete the new Animal Shelter in Josiah's Bay.
- 2. Create a larger, modern shelter with improved facilities, including larger cages, cat pens, dog runs, a veterinarian clinic, and boarding facilities.
- 3. Ensure the continued operation and expansion of the Humane Society and improve the organization with long-term objectives.

# **Project Details**

The new Animal Shelter will be built in three phases:

| PHASE 1: ROUGH BUILDING                                     |                  |
|---|------------------|
| 1. Site clearing, excavation, foundations and concrete slab | \$<br>182,000.00 |
| 2. Construct all exterior block + concrete walls            | \$<br>128,000.00 |
| 3. Roof with galvalume from our steel building              | \$<br>90,000.00  |
| Total Phase 1   | \$<br>400,000.00 |

| PHASE 2: INTERIOR FINISH                   |                  |
|--|------------------|
| 1. Exterior and interior doors and windows | \$<br>40,000.00  |
| 2. Interior walls, tiles                   | \$<br>84,000.00  |
| 3. Plastering all exterior walls           | \$<br>42,000.00  |
| 4. Dropped ceiling                         | \$<br>9,000.00   |
| 5. Electricity and plumbing                | \$<br>21,000.00  |
| Total Phase 2                              | \$<br>196,000.00 |

| PHASE 3: EXTERIOR FINISH              |                  |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Septic system + soaking field      | \$<br>40,000.00  |
| 2. Fencing outdoor runs + shade areas | \$<br>65,000.00  |
| 3. Car park (optional)                | \$<br>15,000.00  |
| 4. Airconditioning (optional)         | \$<br>14,000.00  |
| Total Phase 3                         | \$<br>134,000.00 |

| TOTAL ESTIMATED \$ 730,000.00 |
|-------------------------------|
|-------------------------------|

# **Funding Requirement & Strategy**

We estimate the total cost for the new building in Josiah's Bay to be approximately \$730,000. To date, we have raised \$400,000, leaving a funding gap of \$330,000. Securing these funds is vital to continue our mission.

To secure the required funds, we will employ various fundraising strategies:

- 1. **Appeals and Campaigns**: Launch targeted fundraising campaigns highlighting our urgent need for funds including a Go-Fund-Me page.
- 2. **Corporate Sponsorships**: Seek partnerships with local businesses and organizations for financial support.
- 3. **Community Engagement**: Engage with the local community through events, volunteer opportunities, and education initiatives.
- 4. **Grant Applications**: Apply for grants and funding opportunities available for animal welfare organizations.
- 5. Online Donations: Streamline online donation processes to encourage individual contributions.
- 6. **Legacy Giving**: Promote legacy giving and planned giving programs.

# **Our Current Achievements (Last 5 years)**

Between October 2018 and December 2019 four new Board members joined the existing three to create a new hands-on and enthusiastic board of 7 members which has since achieved major improvements to the Animal Shelter:

## 1. Rebuilding and renovating current shelter (worth \$90k)

- Repair of roofs and structures
- New puppy play pen, New kitten play pen
- New bird cage
- New larger stainless-steel cages to replace existing cages
- 9 new outdoor fenced dog pens with shade areas
- New boarding facilities with 8 large new cages
- New storage shed

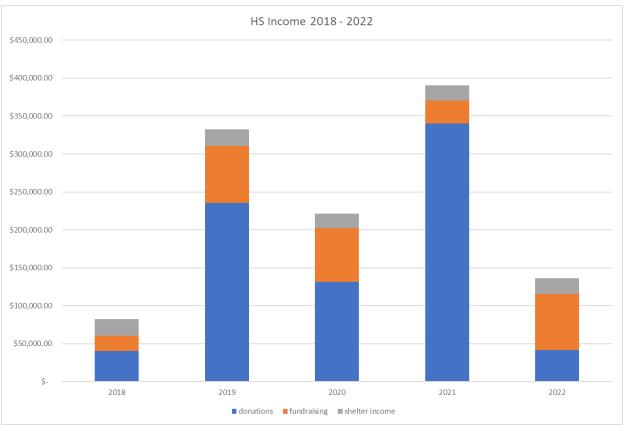
### 2. Working close together with other organizations

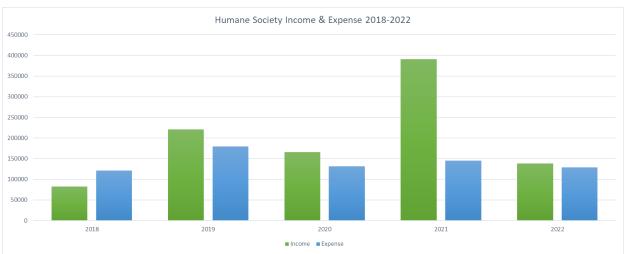
- PAW BVI: fostering, neutering/spaying, international adoptions
- ARC Virgin Gorda: Stray animals from VG
- International rescue organizations

## 3. More fundraising (events and donations)

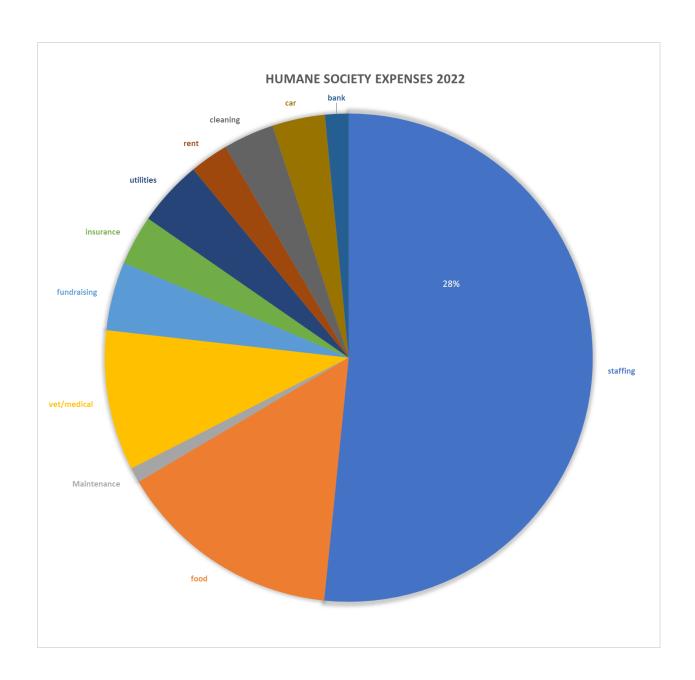
- 4. Better veterinarian/health plan
- 5. Chipping system
  - For better identification and monitoring of our animals we have micro-chipped every shelter animal. We also offer this service to the public, so the owners of a lost pet can easily be found.
- 6. More adoptions
- 7. Implement online animal management system (Shelterluv)
- 8. More volunteers
- 9. Improve transparency.
- 10. More boarding and adoption income

# **Current Financial Situation**



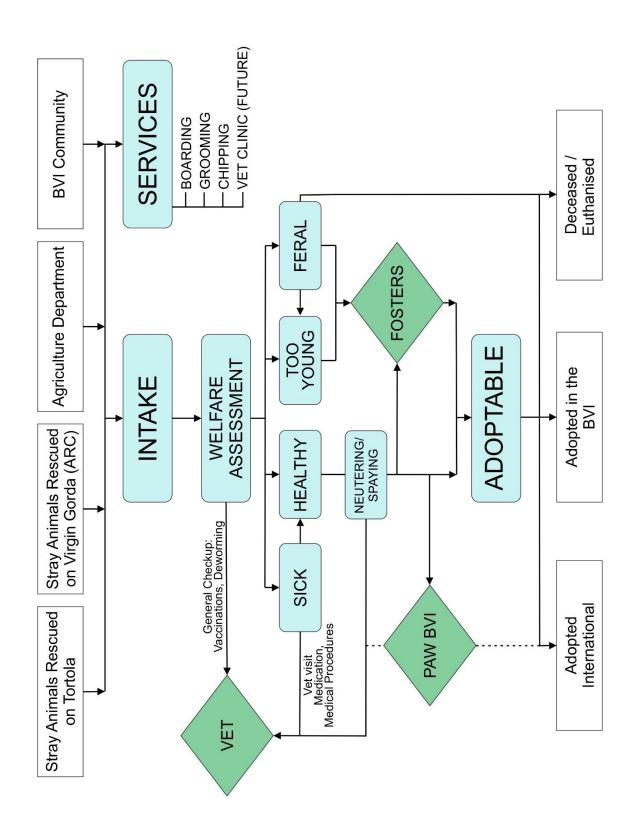


We anticipate that the new Animal Shelter in Josiah's Bay will significantly enhance our capacity and income generation.



We have an average annual cost of \$140,000, with labor, animal food, and medical care accounting for more than 3/4 of the total.

# **Flow Chart Shelter Processes**



## **Future Plans**

#### 1. New location and building

We have updated the 2017 plans to build the steel structure on our land in Josiah's Bay and use most of the renovation materials and new cages we already purchased for the current shelter with donated funds. The new building and dog runs will give us a larger and more modern shelter, with larger cages, cat pens, dog runs, veterinarian clinic and boarding facilities.

#### 2. In-house vet

We are in negotiation with a local (BVI-belonger) vet student, who will graduate in 2021 and is very enthusiastic about setting up a part-time or full-time vet practice in the new building. She will manage medical records of the shelter animals and administer the most common veterinarian needs for the shelter animals like check-ups, vaccinations, deworming, flea, tick and heartworm medications, minor injuries, travel documents, etc.

## 3. Day-care for dogs

On the new land we have plenty of space to facilitate a day-care for dogs, which is helpful for dog owners who work all day. We anticipate that this much needed service will increase adoptions. More staff will be employed to work in this day-care, supporting our current staff of 2 with running of shelter

## 4. Giving back to the community

For those in the BVI community, who cannot afford medication or vet visits, we want to set up a system to give these items or services for reduced rates. We also want to educate the community about welfare of animals, neutering/spaying etc and offer help if needed.

## 5. Student Community Service

We offer students from various schools the opportunity to work their mandatory community hours in our shelter. This teaches students good working ethics but also the love and care of animals. We want to improve this program through meaningful projects and experiences.

#### 6. Air-lifting

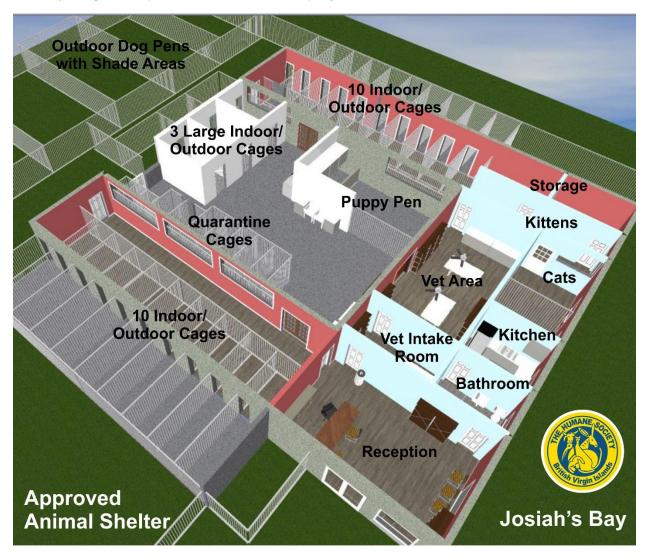
Together with PAW BVI we have managed to get lots of puppies and kittens airlifted to the USA, where they have a much better chance for adoption. In 2020 we had 4 rescue flights for 74 dogs and 12 cats.

## 7. Animal welfare legislation.

The VI Government is undergoing a Legislative review process and the topic of animal welfare will be addressed. The HSBVI has been given the opportunity to participate in this review process by giving feedback to the Government. We are working with the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries to get an MOU as animal pound.

## **New Shelter Plans**

For full plans go to: <a href="http://www.bvihumanesociety.org/new-shelter.html">http://www.bvihumanesociety.org/new-shelter.html</a>



## **Conclusion**

The Humane Society of the British Virgin Islands is dedicated to providing care and support for animals in need. Our commitment to this cause remains unwavering despite the challenges we face. With your support, we can secure the funds required to complete the new shelter, ensuring a brighter future for the animals in our care and the continued success of our mission.

We invite you to join us on this journey by contributing to our cause, volunteering your time, or becoming a partner in our mission to create a better world for animals.

**Humane Society of the BVI** 

www.bvihumanesociety.org