



Team for Animals in Lantau South (TAILS)

Society Reg. 28270 - Charity Reg. 91/16904 - ATL Exempt. No. IND-00098 & ORG-00113



Annual Report 2023



Society Registration No. 28270 (since Dec 2018)
Animal-Trading-License Exemption Nos. IND-00098 & ORG-00113
Charity Registration No. 91/16904 (since Nov 2019)

About TAILS

TAILS is a volunteer-run animal welfare charity in South Lantau providing:

1. Rescue, medical attention, shelter, and care for cats and dogs in need.
2. Rehabilitation of animals with experienced and committed foster families.
3. Adoption of animals into safe, stable, and nurturing adoptive families.
4. De-sexing of dogs and cats to avoid unwanted litters and ensure public safety & hygiene.
5. Accessible education on responsible pet ownership and animal handling.
6. Animal welfare advocacy.
7. Collaboration with SPCA and AFCD for animal rescue, stray support, foster and adoption.





- We nurture the symbiotic relationship between humans and animals, in which human and animal welfare is interdependent and worthy of protection.
- We advocate for five freedoms of animal welfare: Freedom from hunger and thirst, freedom from discomfort, freedom from preventable pain, injury or disease, freedom to express normal behaviour, and freedom from fear and distress.
- We foster a space where direct experience and education can bring fundamental change toward seeing animals as sentient, living beings.
- We provide opportunity for the community to come together with a sense of purpose for animal welfare and advocacy.
- Collaboration with other animal welfare organizations, animal cruelty inspectors (SPCA), and government (AFCD).

Our Vision



Animals are cared for by fosters until they are adopted. Fosters and adopters are vetted for suitability and provided with on-going operational support, adoption trials, veterinary advice from a registered medical team, and behavioural advice from certified animal behaviourists. All animals receive health checks and medical care, including preventative treatments.

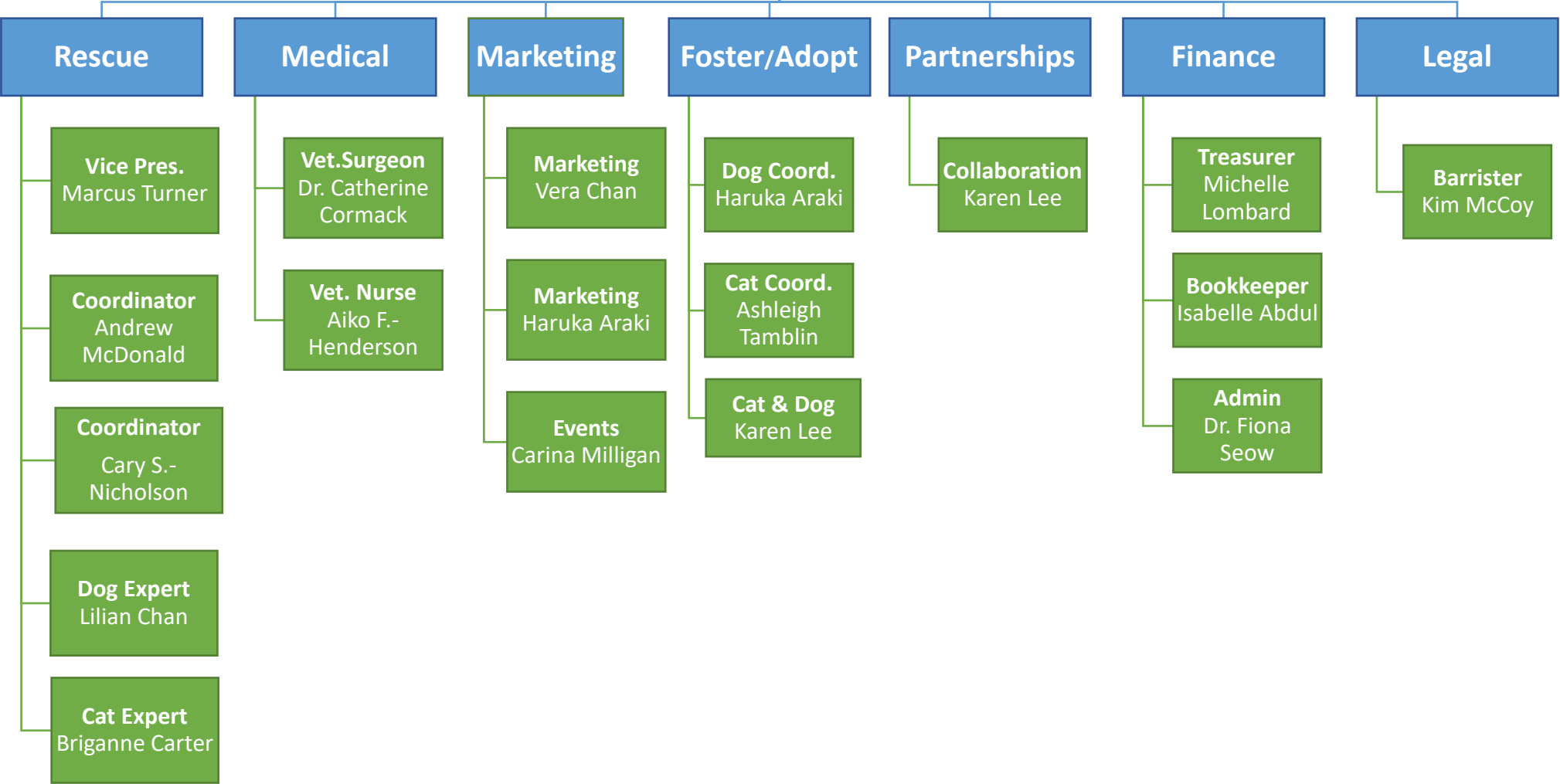


Team for Animals in Lantau South (TAILS)

Our Team

President: Dr. Esslin Terighena

Chief Operations Officer: Carina Milligan





On the 5th December 2023, TAILS had its 5-Year Anniversary! Starting a charity can be daunting enough, but it has been a true rollercoaster ride battling through a first year of national protests followed by three years of pandemic. We fought ever-changing regulations, loss of fosters, adopters and volunteers, loss of veterinary staff, spike in animal abandonment, cancelled fundraisers and adoption days, financial challenges and so much more.

The uphill battle was disheartening and overwhelming, but for our animals we persevered – and so did you! This really showed in 2023: As things stabilized in Hong Kong, we received so much more foster, volunteer, and fundraising support than ever expected. As a result, we were able to help so many more animals! A genuine relief and reward for the exhaustion, frustration, heartbreak, sweat, blood, and tears that the TAILS volunteers have tirelessly contributed over the last five years.

TAILS has strongly established itself in the local community with a qualified, experienced team and effective collaborations in animal welfare. This has allowed us to enhance our operations in 2023. Our valuable contribution to animal rescue has been noted and our challenges are acknowledged. For this, we are incredibly grateful. We are optimistic that as Hong Kong continues to recover from these difficult years, we will see further increase in network and funding. This will directly translate into more animal lives saved in 2024.

Our 2023



[#keepthemwagging](#)



Since Dec 2018 we have supported over 740 animals

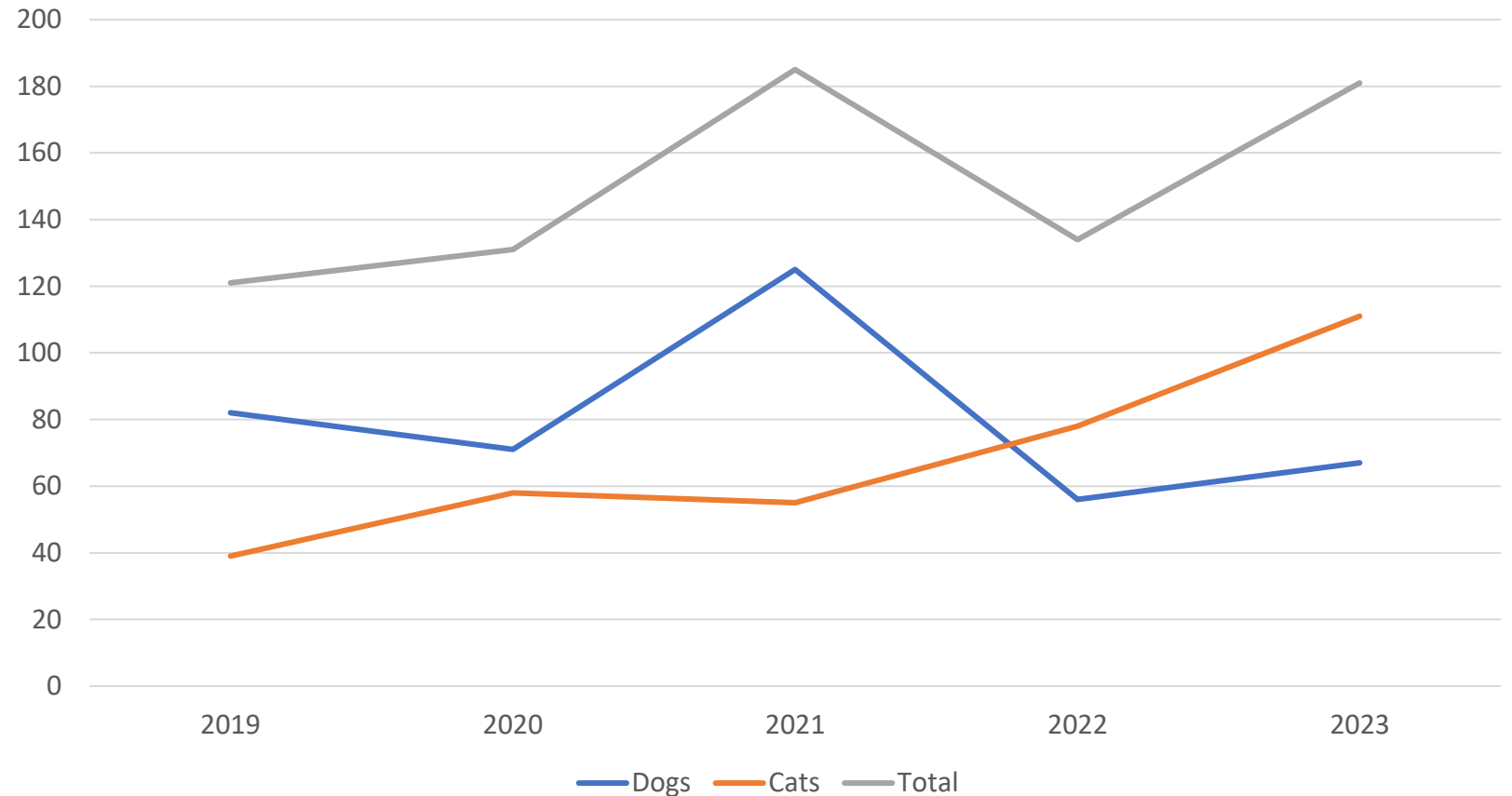
Our Animals

We are excited to have supported significantly more animals in 2023 than in 2022 – almost as many as at our best! This reflects the post-Covid recovery across Hong Kong and makes us optimistic for further growth in 2024.

We received many ex-breeder cats this year, who, despite substantial health issues, have been easier to find foster and adoptive homes for than dogs. We are hopeful that targeted marketing and education on rescue dogs and dog ownership will increase the support we can provide for dogs next year.

A special mention to the three little turtles that snuck in and found homes through TAILS in 2023.

Animals Supported



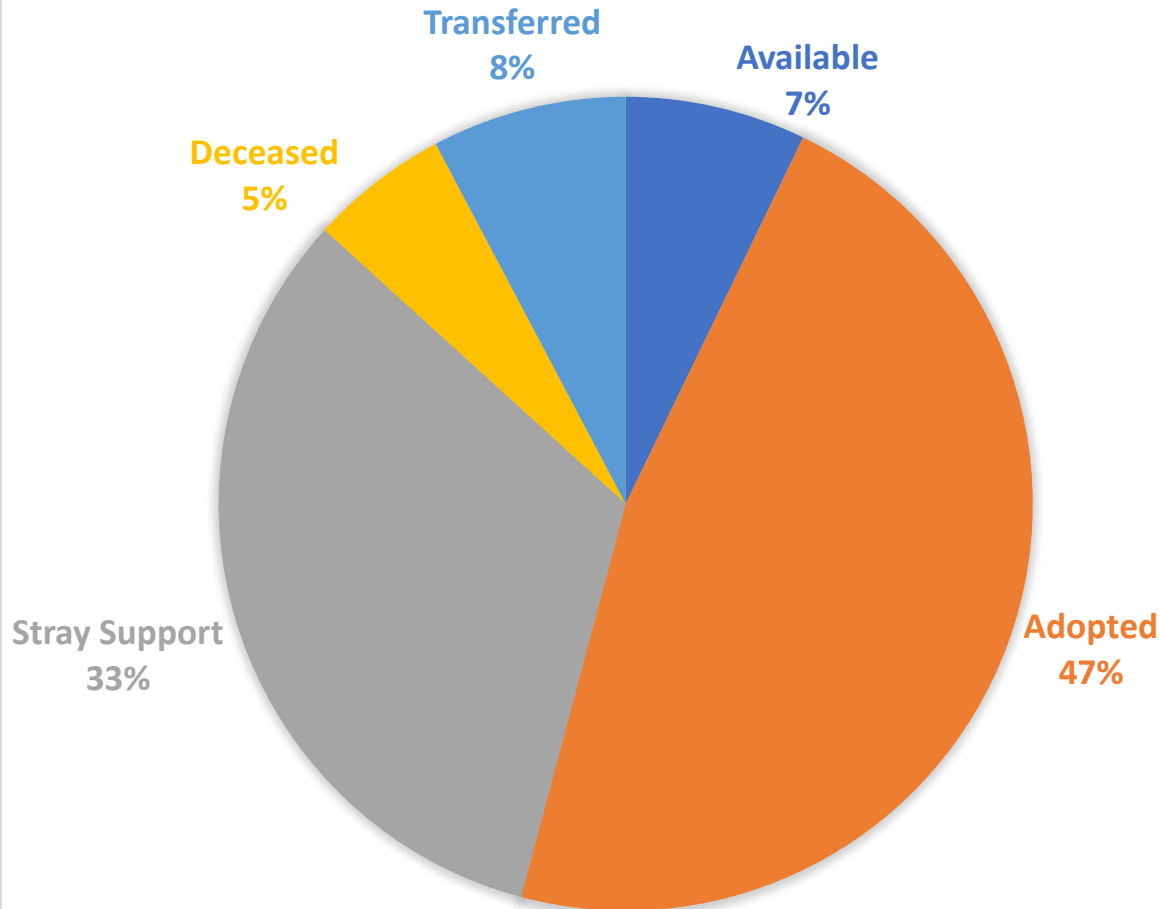


Our Animals

We have faced two key challenges with our animals this year: Illness and reproduction.

Illness and injury put enormous pressure on our resources. We received many ex-breeder cats who come from breeders or pet shops and typically arrive in poor health conditions. We further noted an increase in FIP symptoms among new rescue cats. This illness was previously deadly, but more recently complex (and costly) treatment options have been evolving. This lets us help many more cats to survive and go on to happy lives in their adoptive families! Lots of our puppies also came in with substantial health issues which needed lengthy, expensive treatment, including tick fever.

Reproduction has increased. In the pandemic, there was a significant lack of qualified veterinary staff, and it was not possible to get sufficient desexing procedures for cats and dogs. We now see this reflected in the substantial increase in litters, especially in the stray cat population. We continue to get stray animals desexed and rehome kittens and puppies. Our stray support is a significant part of our operations, and we collaborate with SPCA and AFCD for animal rescue and welfare promotion.





Animal rescue can be devastating. You fight so hard to save a life, but sometimes all the love in the world cannot cheat death. Because if it could, Qantas would still be here.



Qantas was found tiny and soaked in a drain with four siblings. Here the words from his wonderful foster family, who held him in love until the very end:

Our Bear, your time with us was short, but your impact on our lives immeasurable. When you and Clyde, your brother, came to us as tiny, shy puppies, we were excited and apprehensive: The first time fostering two pups.

You were the weaker one and we did our best to care for you. We battled through illness, hoping it was only tick fever. Under excellent medical care, you bounced back for a while, full of playfulness & curiosity. I watched you and Clyde learn to climb the stairs. You led the way and gave him safety, and it was comical. Our home was filled with love and laughter. Unfortunately, your illness persisted, and we embarked on a journey of tests and treatments.



Our Heartbreak

In Loving Memory

As much as I wanted to save you, your liver was not functioning. It was heart-wrenching to let you go. Please know that you were loved deeply. Your memory lives on in our hearts. Your adorable little black muzzle and stubby tail.



Your presence was a gift we will forever cherish. We thank Pet Central for their exceptional dedication and compassion, and TAILS for their support in allowing me to fight for your health. Without their assistance, we would not have had the precious moments we shared.



JIMMY

Jimmy came to us malnourished with weepy eyes & severe skin disease. Despite the pain, his calm warm presence always shone through. **We are so happy to have seen him heal, thrive & find his loving home.**

Jimmy came in severely malnourished (<3kg; now 8kg!), with ringworm, ear mites, major eye issues, and a red raw skin infection. Despite his major discomfort and endless medications, Jimmy was in great spirits - he loved all the attention and especially all the food! Jimmy had to wait for his desperately needed eye surgery until some of his other issues were resolved. He took it all in stride and the clinic staff fell in love with him. Once healed, he was ready to find his forever home. We are glad to say he is adopted and loved very much by his adoptive mum ❤️. (Foster)

Our Happy TAILS



I will forever be grateful for the fosters love and nurturing towards Jimmy. I knew that he was the cat for me when he was calmer than me on the way home. I described my ideal cat as an older, big, fat cat that could just lie on me & share love. Jimmy is exactly what I need and more. He is the happiest, kindest boy who has recently started "catting" really well. He likes to watch the birds in the morning, chats in different dialects & enjoys the occasional zoomies. He is loved by all and has elevated my social status dramatically. Thank you to TAILS for facilitating a match made in heaven. (Adopter)





GO DAI MUI

A lovely foster came across this young stray girl hiding under a bridge, hungry and looking for love. She got her off the streets, gave her food and a warm place to stay. Go Dai Mui turned out to be in the late stages of pregnancy and surprised us with a litter of six pups, which were born safely under our foster's wonderful care. Sadly, the little runt did not make it, but the five siblings grew into healthy strong pups: Yat Sok, Sam Sok, Fuk Tau, Coon Coon, and Little Hedgehog. It often ends chaotic and deadly when dogs give birth in the busy city, so we can confidently say the foster's quick action and continuous nurture over months truly made their lives possible.

Thank you for stepping up when a furry friend needed you most!

Our Happy TAILS





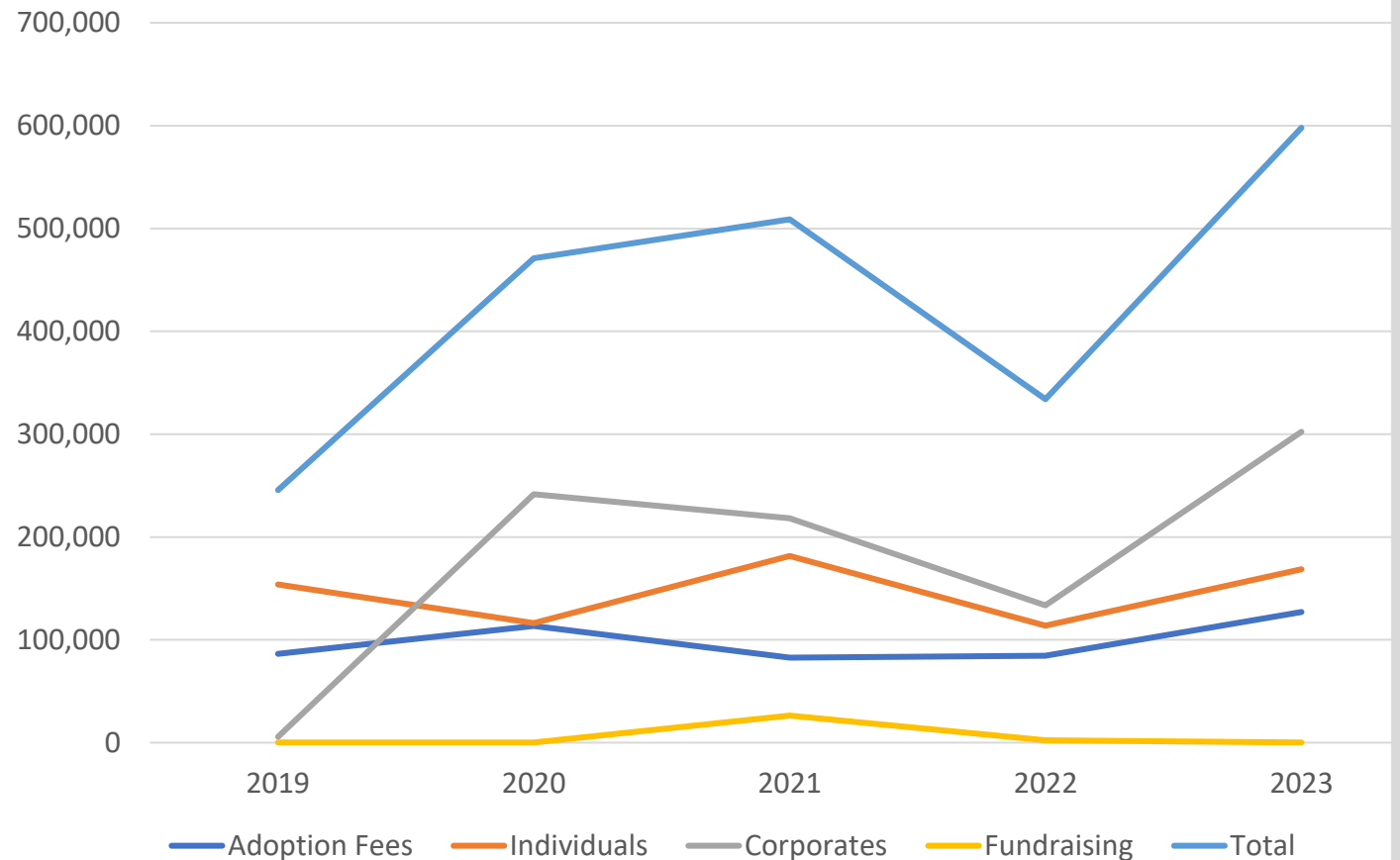
We have seen a significant increase in funding this year thanks to our amazing individual, corporate and government donors, and the fundraising events conducted by TAILS supporters. This has been truly relieving as our medical costs also skyrocketed.

We are excited to see the care and financial support that has been given to our rescue animals. This has allowed us to meet their medical and daily needs, and to continue operations as we support an increasing number of animals. We are optimistic that we will be able to hold more fundraising events in 2024.

A special mention to everyone who supported our fundraising efforts for specific animals who needed urgent medical treatment, including Qantas and Jimmy. Thank you.

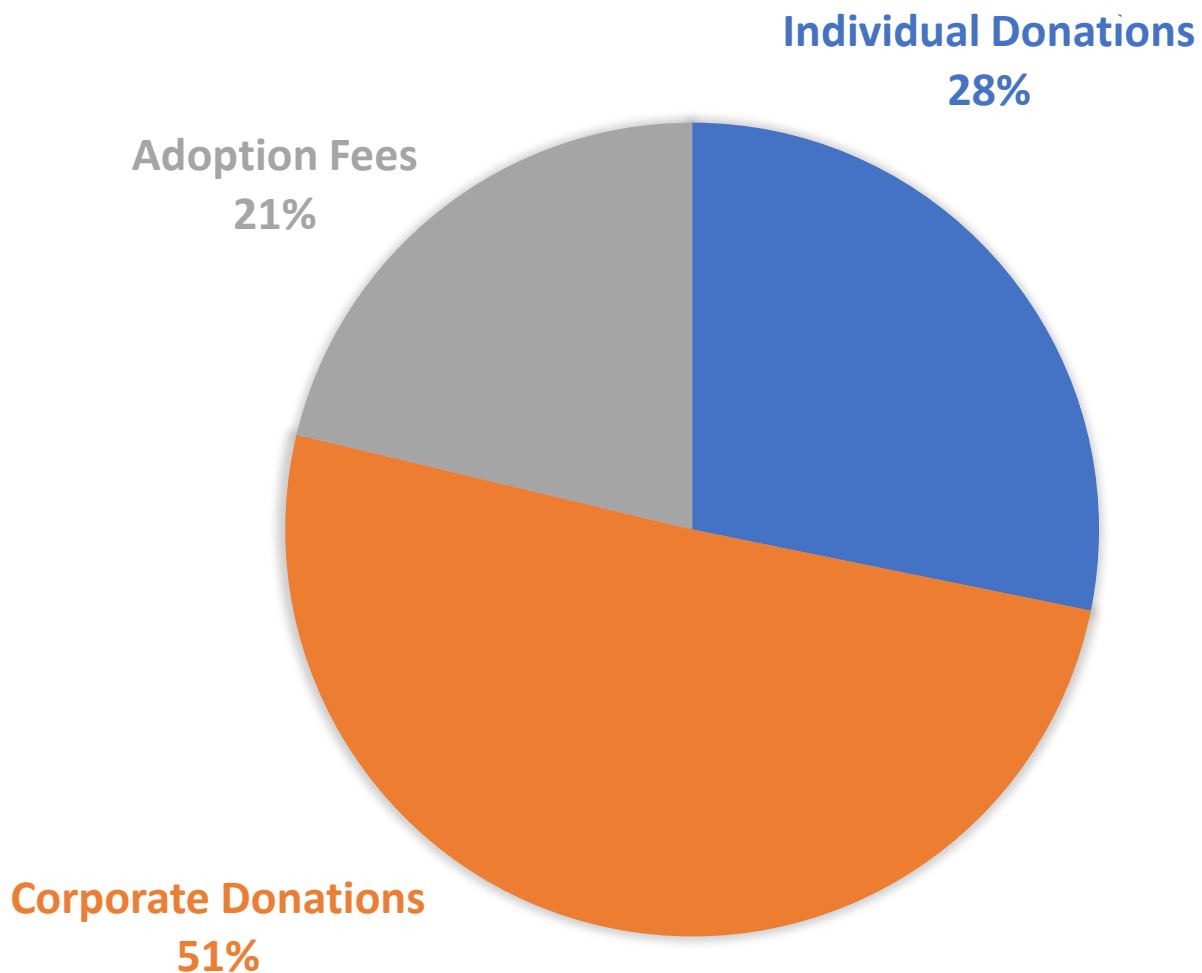
Thank you to every single of our donors: You are who makes it possible for us to save these dogs and cats. Their health and lives are owed to you.

Our Funding





Finances - Income



The majority of our funding in 2023 came from the organizations, including corporate donations and government subventions. Thank you!

We are grateful to individuals who conducted fundraising for us (hikes, runs, sales and more!). When we were overwhelmed with the animal care and foster-adoption issues, you took a huge burden off our shoulders.

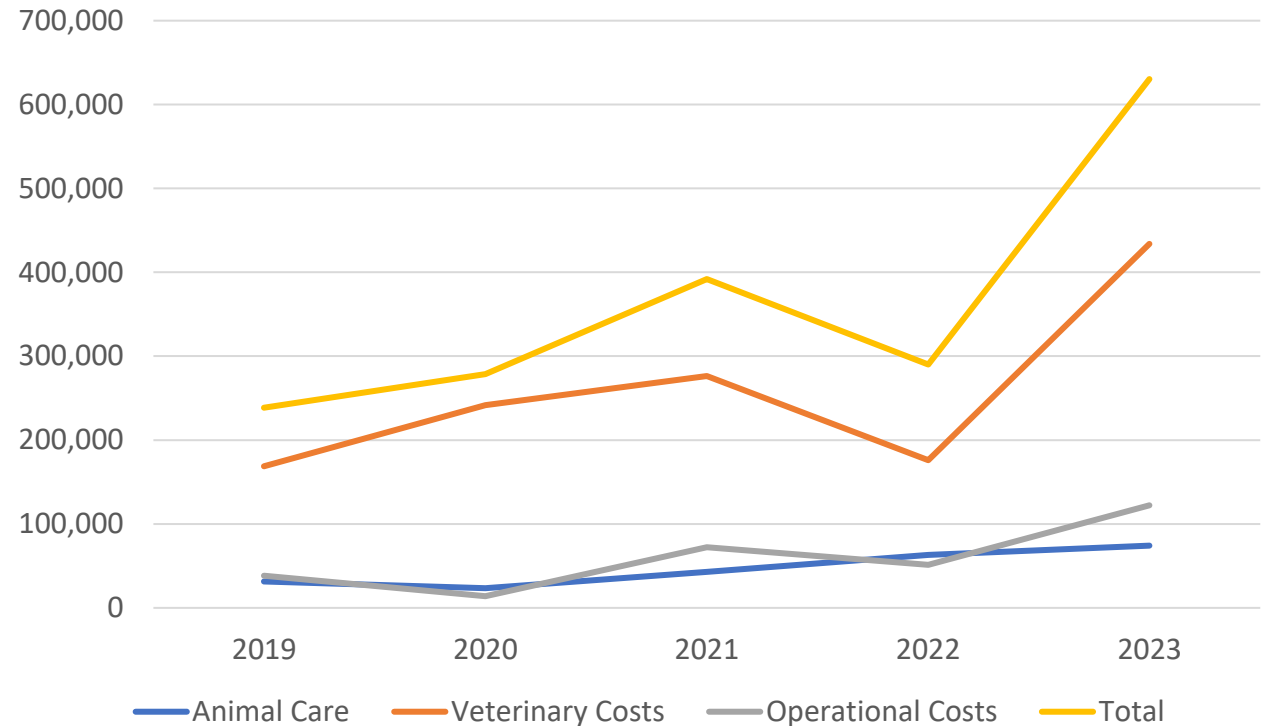
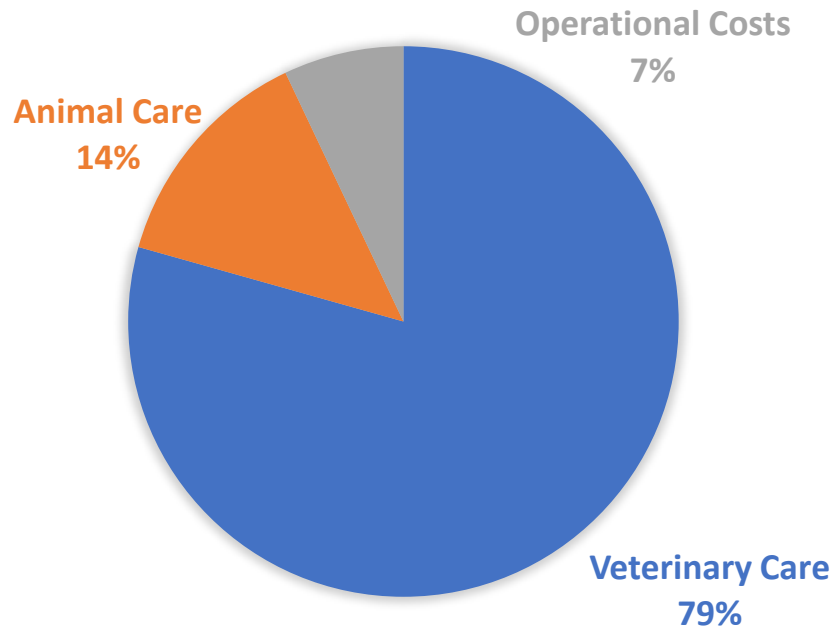
We thank our corporate donors for believing in us and seeing value in the work we do. You have made an incredible difference.

Our appreciation also goes to AFCD for contributing to our medical costs with the AFCD Subvention 2023 (HK\$100,000) and their ongoing collaboration. As our overall funding and foster-adoption network increases, we are looking forward to continuing to take more dogs and cats from you as one of your Rehoming Partners.



Our Expenses

Over 90% of our funds went directly to our animals. Our significant expense increase in 2023 reflects substantially increased veterinary costs. This is in part due to: cost increase for services and medicine, and many animals coming in with injury and illness. Animal care costs have been fairly stable due to the generosity of our food donors and fosters. Our fosters often go above and beyond and cover costs for the daily needs of their foster animal. We are fortunate that despite our vet bills reaching the highest they have ever been (almost HK\$450,000!), we have almost managed to break even with only a comparatively small financial loss. Thank you to everyone who contributed.





We are deeply grateful to all supporters in 2023 who donated time, money, food, and items! Our special thank you goes to:

Our Supporters

- AFCD Subvention 2023 for Rehoming Project for the contribution to our medical bills
- Kangaroo Pet Nutrition Ltd. for their generous monthly donation of 100kg of dog and cat food.
- Life Works Products Ltd. for a substantial cash donation for our animals.
- Run For Freedom – Jo Lodder for his 5 Trails in 5 Days fundraising run (390km & 20,000m elevation!).
- Exploring Dogs – Stephanie Lown for organizing another wonderful hike with dogs with all proceeds to TAILS.
- Trail Maps Limited for their healthy Trail Challenger Fundraiser.
- Our teen supporters: The West Island School Scout Group, the Tung Chung Brownies, and the Christian Alliance International School Grade 5A for their amazing fundraising initiatives.
- Playstudios Impact Fund for two significant cash donations
- Flowga Studio for the fun yoga fundraising event.
- All of our individual Donors for contributing to our overwhelming medical costs!



漁農自然護理署
Agriculture, Fisheries and
Conservation Department



Exploring Dogs
2024



RUN FOR FREEDOM
5 TRAILS IN 5 DAYS



How can you help?

SPREAD the word on TAILS and our rescue animals

FOLLOW us on social media to show support and stay in the loop

SUPPORT our collaborators and partnerships across Hong Kong

VOLUNTEER your time and skills to let TAILS grow and help more animals in need

FOSTER our rescue animals by opening your home to provide short-term care

ADOPT our rescue animals and give them their very own forever home

DONATE to help TAILS cover medical and operational costs and get tax deductible receipts





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