The Big Fix


This report represents The Big Fix's responses to Charting Impact, a joint project of BBB Wise Giving Alliance, GuideStar USA Inc, and Independent Sector. Charting Impact uses five simple yet powerful questions to encourage strategic thinking and help organizations share concise information about their plans and progress toward impact.

The Big Fix
8927 Sherman Valley Rd. SW, Olympia, WA 98512
360-943-9891
www.thebigfixuganda.org

Mission:
To alleviate the suffering of animals through veterinary service, spay/neuter and education. Our work is primarily carried out in Northern Uganda.
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1. What are we aiming to accomplish?
We aim to be a leading organization in Africa in promoting the health and well-being of animals, to improve the quality of veterinary care for animals, to provide free veterinary services for all animals in need, to humanely control rabies in Uganda, to humanely control populations of dogs and cats through spay/neuter, to achieve a day in Uganda when all dogs and cats have a good home where The Five Freedoms are met, to promote kindness and compassion toward all living beings, to promote good human-animal bonds through programs such as our Comfort Dog Project, to teach people to be loving guardians of all the animals in their care, to teach people to reject cruel methods of dog training in favor of positive reinforcement training, and to develop young leaders who will carry forward our mission.

2. What are our strategies for making this happen?
1. We promote animal health and wellness by providing comprehensive free veterinary services in Northern Uganda's remote and impoverished villages.
2. We control dog and cat populations (thus working toward the day when all animals have good homes and adequate care) through a strategic plan of spay/neuter, including trap-neuter-return of feral cats.
3. We work toward rabies control by providing free rabies vaccination, cooperating with local, district, national and international agencies in employing the most effective and humane rabies control strategies, and by carrying out a rabies surveillance and response program (whereby we are notified of any suspected case of rabies, confirm rabies through field testing, investigate and identify bite victims, and administer post-exposure vaccinations).
4. We promote good human-animal bonds by educating school children about the importance of animal kindness, distributing our story book (written in English and the local language), holding essay and drawing contests which promote compassion, administering 40 animal kindness clubs, holding leadership training annually for club leaders to empower them to carry out our mission in their schools and villages, and by administering East Africa's only animal assisted intervention program - The Comfort Dog Project.

3. What are our organization's capabilities for doing this?
We have an exceptionally devoted team of people who have devoted their lives to carrying out our mission. Those who have worked with us have offered high praise, as evidenced by the letters of recommendation posted on our website. We have demonstrated success in mobilizing communities and working well with local and district leaders to carry out our work. We have the support of all government entities and with many international organizations that support and advise us. We have equipment and tools to carry out our work. In October 2015, we were given a grant to build Uganda's first free veterinary hospital on 4 acres of land we own in Gulu, Uganda. Our facilities will include a hospital, recovery kennels, and a staff/volunteer house. We have developed volunteer exchange programs to help support our work. We have developed sources for supply donations. Our primary ongoing need is for operating expenses.

4. How will we know if we're making progress?
We measure our progress in two ways: the numbers (number of animals treated, number of surgeries performed, number of schools visited, number of people educated/trained, number of war trauma survivors counseled) and the individual stories showing the impact of our work on people and animals. We report on both measures of success in our quarterly newsletter and annual reports, all of which are posted on our website.

5. What have and haven't we accomplished so far?
We are in the process of building our veterinary hospital and equipping what will be Northern Uganda's only veterinary diagnostic lab. We are in the process of seeking donations to equip the hospital, lab and staff/volunteer house. We have not yet met the community's demand for dog training resources. We have many people who are very interested in participating in our dog training, Comfort Dog Project, and other programs but we are looking for volunteer trainers to come and help us meet this need. We also have not yet developed the resources to take our work to all the areas of Uganda where our services are requested and demanded by the public.