Helping Organisation for People, Environment and Animal Trust (HOPE & Animal Trust) is doing the vital work of protecting and saving urban animals from cruelty and suffering. We approach our work with energy, hope and determination every day. We use all the levers of change available for helping animals like- direct care, education, sterilisation, rescue, treatment, rehabilitation and release. Through our education programme we tried to disseminate information among the community and especially amongst children as a humane society could be made through them who are the future. Our efforts have continued in helping animals in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh and Aurangabad in Maharashtra. This year we extended help to animals of Patiala, Punjab. In Ranchi we are continuing our efforts to keep and maintain zero human deaths due to Rabies. We have completed three years of achieving zero human deaths due to Rabies in Ranchi city. At Varanasi we have rescued, treated, rehabilitated and released thousands of animals including cats, dogs, cows, monkeys, pigs and donkeys. We have renovated new animal facility for the dogs in the holy city of Varanasi and in the historical city of Aurangabad. This year, we have initiated animal welfare activities at Patiala, Punjab.

Ranchi – Animal Birth Control and Anti Rabies Vaccination

The Ranchi project has moved a long way, right from temporary camps being organised for Animal Birth Control (ABC) programmes in various localities of Ranchi to a permanent establishment given by the Ranchi Municipal Corporation. We are thankful to Ranchi Municipal Corporation for it. We have a long association with Ranchi Municipal Corporation, it is now over 12 years. We are able to gain support from International organisations to
fund partially which helped Ranchi to be up on the World map in the field of rabies. Ranchi has been celebrating Rabies free status for last three years now and we hope to work with the Government to keep rabies away. This year Total of 23,172 dogs have been helped out of which 10,042 dogs have been operated (Male – 5584 and Females – 4458) 23036 have been vaccinated. 57 dogs have been treated successfully and released back, 79 dogs were euthanized. 87,940 dogs sterilized since the work started in Ranchi in 2008.

**Ranchi – Rabies Surveillance**

Under the rabies surveillance activities during the year, total suspected calls for rabid dogs were 8. Out of which we tested 3 positive rabid dogs and 5 negative.
We have been successful in rescuing extremely critical cases from various areas of Ranchi. Treatment of dogs, cats with mange, tumours, malignancy and amputation have been successfully done. After being cured they have been either released back to the areas from where they were brought or given back to the owner or given after adoption.
Children are the future of our country. In order to make a sensitive and humane society it is essential to inculcate good virtues in them which comes through education. Our aim through education programme is to make them feel, think and act with respect for themselves and for others. We want them to pursue their own well-being while also being considerate of the needs and feelings of others including the community animals.

Children who grow with strong, positive values are also able to balance their personal needs and contribute positively to the society. 39,848 School students and 1443 Teachers 2870 Children and 3462 adults in the community were educated about prevention of rabies, importance of vaccination, jhar-phook cannot cure rabies, being kind to animals, importance of sterilisation and on general animal welfare which is linked with the welfare of society. 50% of Ranchi Schools have been covered due to repetition of the program for almost 10 years.
Varanasi for Animals is the Project name for Varanasi chapter of HOPE and Animal Trust supported by Help Animals India. This year in January Varanasi Municipal Corporation has signed MoU with us to run Animal Birth Control Program.

VFA has been engaged in rescue, treatment and release of various community animals. Since Varanasi has high influx of foreign tourists the call for rescue by them comes very frequent. Apart from this a huge number of volunteers and inhabitants of the city who have been vigilant, keep calling for rescues of injured animals. We have been attending 10-15 calls on an average daily to which we have been responding as quickly as possible.

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Varanasi – Rescue, Treatment and Care

We have been successfully providing treatment to critical cases on spot as well as in our clinic. Cases of maggot wound, TVT, communicable disease like canine distemper, tumours etc. have been successfully treated by our Vet. Treatment of various community animals like dogs, cats, piglets, monkeys, cows, horses, and donkeys are being successfully carried out. After being cured they have been either released back to the areas from where they were brought or given back to the owner or given after adoption.
Several such cases have been helped every case tells one story…..

**Varanasi – Education and awareness**

We have been able to organise workshops, competitions, talks etcetera to bring in young generation in the field of animal welfare. The children, the future of the society are the hope of tomorrow. They are to be made aware of the importance of the community animals. VFA through its awareness programmes has been instrumental in shaping attitudes and behaviours of people, especially children towards community dogs. The animal welfare crisis of today can be resolved only when the younger generation participates. The children at an early age easily internalise the values which are put before them. We need to generate a greater understanding of animals amongst them so that there is an improvement in the way animals are treated.

We covered 64 schools and reached out to more than 50,000 children and community members. Our message is simple, help animals, save lives and to release back to their community.
Laura Gozzi a visitor writes: As last day in India I wanted to do something different. I went to visit the friends of Varanasi for Animals who deal with recovery and rehabilitation of animals in difficulty. The structure is big enough, animals well kept and separated based on problems. I saw puppies with a paw amputated, with broken paws, with skin diseases waiting to be back in sixth and then return again to freedom. Help them by bringing them food or making a donation for spaying (every dog that enters the structure is spayed) is something that costs us little but for them it is fundamental. Thank you very much to Sundilip Sengupta who showed great love and devotion for these beautiful creatures.
Varanasi – Working in the Field and at the Centre
The Aurangabad for Animals is another Project name for Aurangabad chapter of HOPE and Animal Trust. It is in Maharashtra. Regular meetings with various animal lovers & groups, national as well as International donor agencies are being approached for support. Our effort to get Government support was successful. As promised, we got the work order on 2nd August from Aurangabad Municipal Corporation. The talk was going on for months and we were partially prepared to start the work.

As usual all new projects always have challenges and difficulties, but with our 20 years of experience, we prepared ourselves better in time. We got teams from Jharkhand and Uttar Pradesh immediately after getting the work order and also hired local people to run the program. Our priorities are to provide employment opportunities to local people and train them.

Aurangabad resumed work like Ranchi, set up operation theatre in the Pond, prepared ourselves for field like conditions. Requested Municipal Corporation to improve the infrastructure for better animal welfare practices. However, with all odds, we provided help to more than 4200 dogs in just 8 Months. Out of which, we sterilized 3966 dog, rescued and treated 250+ dogs and had to euthanize 77 Dogs.
Cruelty to stray dogs in India is a concern which we are not ready to take responsibility. Individual and community behaviour towards stray dogs are very low as they live on streets, are abandoned, lead a very low-quality life. And the worst part people have notion that all stray dogs have rabies. But are they so bad that we need to encourage our demonic traits to suppress them. Absolutely No!! They are just like us, they have same emotions and their love is unconditionally.

**Aurangabad- Efforts on Educating Community**

While going for catching and releasing our team tries making people aware on issues like importance of dog in community, vaccine related to dog bite, having compassion and humane attitude towards them. It is a fact that helping animals on the street helps people. The community dogs face plethora of problems like malnutrition, starvation, diseases, abuse etc. They at times cause certain social problems also like biting children, spreading rubbish, causing road accidents etc. The moment we develop humane attitude towards them and aid and help in promoting ABC (Animal Birth Control)
programme the social problems will be reduced automatically. Our team cited the example of Major Ankit Budhraja of the Corps of Signals posted at Gulmarg who died saving his dog when his hut caught fire. We salute him for his bravery as he did not leave his dog to die. What we need today is people like him who give importance to lesser mortals- the dogs. It is very true that the community dogs are part of the civil society and we must recognise their presence.

Patiala Guardians of all voiceless Animals Trust – New Chapter

It is an extremely ambitious chapter added by HOPE and Animal Trust. The project has been funded by many international donors across world especially from USA, Mexico, France, UK, Germany and Australia. Apart from this many Indian donors also contribute thereby help the community animals of Patiala. This project mainly aims at rescues of the injured community animals. Our team is well trained and fully equipped which responses quickly to all rescue calls. The injured is given treatment on spot as well brought to our clinic. We have been successfully in giving treatment to several community animals like cows, dogs, goats and cats. We have treated community animals with fracture, mange, vital organ related diseases, eye injuries, Tumor, maggot wound infestation, TVT and accident cases etc. The injured animal is either released or given back to the owner or given for adoption. We focus on providing temporary shelter to these injured animals and then finding a compassionate guardians for them.
We have been successful in launching adoption drive locally as well as internationally. Successfully 75 rescued Indie community dogs were adopted in US, Canada and European countries. As owing a pure breed dog is no longer a pride abroad. Adopting a community dog has become the new mantra there. In this race of adoption our Indie breed dogs have won. We got the formalities done and arranged their deportation as soon as possible.

We aim at increasing awareness about the importance of the community animals among people through our programmes. We try developing compassion and empathy for all sentient beings. We have organized several workshops, seminars, camps, talks, competitions to empower the community members especially children.

We have extended the operation in the holy city of Rishikesh as well in a very small scale to support rescue work. A small facility of an individual is developed here. Rescue calls are attended and treatment is carried out every day. Here we have been successful in rescuing dogs, cats and cows. Since the influx of tourist both foreign and Indian is very high the rescue calls are frequently made by them along with the local inhabitants.

Local feeding of the community animals is organized by us from time to time. We have also carried out Animal Birth Control Programmes for the community animals. The
injured animals which are rescued are sterilised also before release or adoption. This helps in controlling the population of these animals there by promoting welfare of society as well as these animals. As the sterilised community animal is less furious hence incidence of dog bites reduces considerably.

Issues for 2019 – 20

- Continue Animal Birth Control Program in Ranchi, Varanasi and Aurangabad.
- Rescue and Treatment for the diseased/ill-treated animals in Ranchi, Varanasi, Aurangabad and Patiala.
- Make efforts to continue education and awareness programmes in Ranchi, Varanasi, Aurangabad and Patiala.
- Make efforts to work with Varanasi and Aurangabad Municipal Corporation for Rescue and Spay/Neuter activities.

Funding and support –

Our Animal Welfare Activities were supported by

- Help Animals India
- The Mayhew Animal Home
- Capt. Amit Basu
- Mr. Harcharan Singh
- Ranchi Municipal Corporation
- Varanasi Municipal Corporation
- Aurangabad Municipal Corporation
- Mission Rabies
- Guardians of all Voiceless Animals and Children