

November 2023

Maharashtra, India
www.resqct.org

RESQ NEWSLETTER

Helping animals, people and the places we call home, *since 2007.*

Monthly Newsletter

#193 pg. 01

RESQ Charitable Trust



Jungle Cat (Felis chaus) © RESQ Charitable Trust

A slightly longer road back home. Sugarcane fields are a haven for wild cats, offering a sheltered environment for birthing and raising their young. As farmers begin harvesting, a number of young ones inadvertently get separated from their mothers, who are possibly out foraging. Our teams promptly assist the Forest Department to facilitate reunions when these displaced kittens are discovered and reported. However, if reunions prove elusive for any reason, these orphans find themselves under our rehabilitation care, just like this jungle cat kitten. Its story will not conclude here. Our primary objective is to raise it through intensive rehabilitation and ensure it gets a second chance its natural habitat versus a lifetime in captivity.

Statistics November '23



1,759 Helpline
Calls Received



Ambulances
Travelled **25,317** Kms




PUNE
24,574 Kms



NASHIK
734 Kms



 **Rescue, rehabilitate animals, reach people.**

345 **Wildlife** currently admitted
under veterinary treatment &
rehabilitation care in Pune TTC & Nashik centre.



Awareness sessions, education programs
& training conducted for **274** Individuals

1,017

Community (large animals)
provided support to viz. animal feed and vaccines.



693
Wildlife
provided aid to



Wildlife

Birds

Mammals

Reptiles

Pune
Units +
TTC



629

258

151

220

Nashik
Division



64

26

12

26

[!\[\]\(99f58673407353e96a019fbca558fd72_img.jpg\) Click to view videos!](#)

Updates

RESQ team on field

Just how many leopards are out there?

A duo of leopards (a male and a female) decided to embark on a city tour, venturing too close to and into homes of the citizens of Nashik city. In a race against time Nashik FD and RESQ Nashik team skillfully managed to safely capture both of them despite the urban chaos, all within a swift 4 hours. Blurred boundaries between humans and wildlife in human dominated landscapes.. Everyday is a new challenge in managing their interactions safely. As for these two leopards, they were released in a nearby forest area and have not been sighted near the city again.



Leopard hanging off a tree, rescued and released!

Ensnared in a clutch wire, this leopard was discovered in an agonizing state near a local chicken farm in Nashik. The RESQ Nashik team responded quickly when the Nashik Forest Department reported this situation to them. She was tranquilised using a blow pipe and treated immediately when she was brought down. Luckily, she only had swelling and minor wounds on her paws, which she recovered from within 2 days of wound dressing and medication. On recovery and looking ready to get out – she was released in a safe habitat close to where she was found.

Swift response: safeguarding Lonikand's people and leopard. On November 29th, we received a call from the Forest Department regarding a leopard spotted in a sugarcane field at Lonikand. The message was unclear, suggesting a possible injury requiring medical attention for the leopard. Acting promptly, our team, led by Tuhin Satarkar and comprised of Kiran Rahalkar, Nachiket Utpat, Siddhi Panchariya, Raju, and RESQ veterinary Sushrut Shirbhate, immediately mobilized, ready to address any potential scenarios involving the leopard. After conducting a thorough reconnaissance of the area, they confirmed the presence of the leopard. Interestingly, the leopard had retreated into the fields, displaying no inclination to reemerge. A potential human-leopard conflict was averted through effective communication with the villagers. The team educated them on coexisting safely around leopards, emphasizing that the region is known for a dense leopard population, and peaceful coexistence is the key to mutual survival.



Blue whale calf oscillating between the shore and the depths, loses battle!

On the morning of 13th November, a blue whale calf was reported stranded, washed ashore at the MTDC beach in Ganpatipule on the Konkan coastline of Maharashtra. The local rescue teams and forest department attempted to push it back in but it was unable to go back in. Its health appeared to be deteriorating and that's when our team was called in for support. RESQ team members Dr. Chetan Vanjari, Amit Todkar, Naresh Chandak, and Eknath Mandal, arrived on the morning of November 14th to



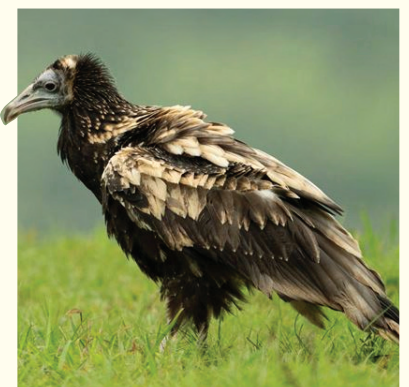
administer treatment. Amidst the immense challenges of the whale rescue operation, our focus remained unwaveringly on the health and well-being of the animal. As soon as our team arrived, we began treatment to stabilize it. It survived for 36 hours out of water, so while all coordination for the boats was ongoing, we remained focused on ensuring the whale's health remained stable. Our technical rescuers, Naresh Chandak, Amit Todkar and Eknath Mandal, ensured that the strapping of the whale was done properly as improper strapping or pressure on critical body parts can lead to damage of the spine and injuries to the animal.

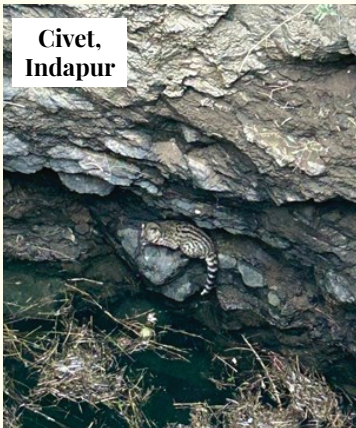
In a joint effort, on the night of 14th November, the Forest Department, Indian Coast Guards, Police department, and JSW teams roped in a boat to take it in while our teams secured it using technical equipment to ensure it can be navigated with least stress. While it swam powerfully into the deep water on being released that night, unfortunately it passed away the next day and resurfaced. Whales that get stranded rarely ever make it back, however, we take solace in the attempts we made to try and keep it as comfortable until the end.



Feathered phoenix: Egyptian vulture returns to the open skies!

Found near Indapur, unable to fly, this Egyptian vulture, found near Indapur. After a prompt rescue and transport to the RESQ Wildlife TTC, the majestic bird received treatment for a lung infection and severe dehydration. Following this, it underwent intensive rehabilitation, maintained a prudent distance from humans - a promising sign of readiness for its return to the wild. After complete recovery, it was certified fit, and was successfully returned to its natural habitat.





**Civet,
Indapur**



**Jackal,
Phaltan**



Well-rescued! Small Indian Civet @ Indapur, Pune District

The RESQ team successfully retrieved a small Indian civet, reported to have fallen into a well in Indapur, utilizing technical rescue equipment. Following a thorough medical assessment confirming its well-being, the civet was promptly released into a secure habitat nearby.

Jackal @ Phaltan, Satara District

An adult jackal was reported to have fallen in a well near Phaltan. It was safely retrieved and since it had not suffered any injuries, it was immediately released in a safe habitat nearby.



**Porcupine,
Daund**

Porcupine @ Daund, Pune District

After being reported to have fallen into a well, our ECO-RESQ remote squad in Daund successfully retrieved the porcupine. Following a brief medical assessment, it was released in a suitable habitat nearby.

A kite-astrophe averted!

The Amazon warehouse in Pune had an unexpected visitor —a black kite, trapped in, unable to find its way out for over 2 days! The bird continuously soared at a height of 60 feet within the premises. The RESQ team initially attempted to divert it out through a safe passage, however, when this proved unsuccessful, the team resorted to using a telescopic pole to safely capture the kite, and released it back out of the facility promptly post-rescue. Let's hope it doesn't go back inside eyeing shopping parcels ;)



Monkey liberation: from orphans to wilderness!

Twelve sub-adult primates, consisting of 6 langurs and 6 bonnet macaques, once orphaned, raised in species-specific groups, through extensive orphan care and wildlife rehabilitation, have successfully returned to the wild. Each one was admitted as it had lost its mother due to unfortunate situations like electrocution or road accidents. As they matured, they were gradually introduced to each other leading to a seamless integration into cohesive, species-specific troops.



It was soon observed that both, langurs and bonnet macaques troops were ready to thrive with their kind in the wild. On release day, witnessing them sprint out of cages and merge into the environment (different forest locales for each troop) was a heartening moment, as if they instinctively knew they belonged there. They immediately went up the trees, stuck together to their bunch, and began eating leaves and wild berries that they were made familiar with during their rehabilitation.

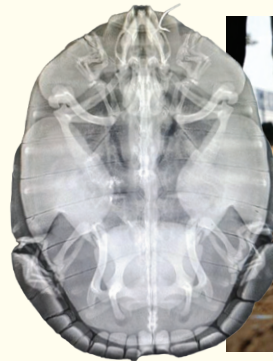


Homecoming of the Indian star tortoises!

42 Indian star tortoises have been reintroduced back into their original habitats after undergoing a lengthy and meticulous rehabilitation. All these tortoises had been admitted from different situations such as illegal captivity or seized from illegal pet trade. After undergoing quarantine, treatment and intensive rehabilitation, they began their transition from captive diets to wild diets and were ready for release thereafter. Although chelonian rehabilitation is time-consuming, we are elated that they have reclaimed their rightful place in the wild.

Indian flapshell turtle unhooked and unleashed!

A local resident from Paud reported an Indian flapshell turtle in distress to the RESQ Helpline. Upon examination at the RESQ Wildlife TTC, it was discovered that the turtle had a fishing hook lodged in its throat. The RESQ veterinary team safely extracted the hook, and as the turtle was deemed otherwise healthy, it underwent a brief period of recovery and rehabilitation before being released into a suitable and secure environment.



Painted snipe wading through the urban jungle!

The Greater Painted Snipe, this 'near threatened' wader was found lying recumbent in a bustling commercial area in Pune. Our rescue team safely transported it to the RESQ Wildlife TTC, where it was rehydrated and stabilized. After receiving a clean chit from the RESQ vets, the snipe was released into a suitable habitat the next day.

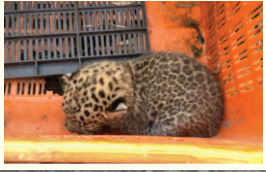
Little egret's manja mishap.

A little egret was observed entangled in manja in a bustling residential section of Pune. Our rescuers, equipped with a telescopic pole, successfully extricated the bird and brought it to the RESQ Centre. The egret is currently undergoing treatment for injuries inflicted by the manja.



Reunions of the month!

In the month of November 2023, we reunited 9 young wild ones with their mothers. Every single successful wild reunion is one less wildling saved from going into lifetime captivity.



A. Swift leopard reunions!

Nashik: A leopard cub was discovered during harvesting on a huge farmland near Nashik. The RESQ Team was called upon to attempt a reunion after the Forest Department had rescued the cub. During the assessment of the area, another cub was discovered in a location far away. It was immediately confirmed that the cubs belonged to the same mother. A reunion was attempted the same night and within minutes of setting up, the mother arrived and whisked her cubs away.

Karad: The Satara Forest Department rescued a leopard cub that had ventured into a residential area in Karad and was chased by free-ranging dogs. The RESQ team was quickly summoned to facilitate a reunion. After 3 days of tracking, multiple setups, patiently waiting for hours at 4:30 am the female leopard finally arrived, called out for her cub, and our teams opened up the door of the cage to reunite the separated!

Shrigonda (Ahmednagar): A 3-month-old cub's adventure took a turn when it ended up in a well. Slightly wet and cold, our team faced a crucial decision. Prioritizing the cub's welfare and placing faith in nature's bond, the RESQ-ECO Daund team warmed it up and opted for a manual reunion the same night. In the wee hours of the morning, the mother came for her cub and they were reunited!



B. Jackal puppies reclaim their rightful place, in the wild with their mother at Phaltan, Satara District

Three jackal pups were found in a sugarcane farm close to Phaltan while harvesting was underway. After two unsuccessful reunion attempts by local teams, the Forest Department alerted the RESQ Team, expressing the desire to admit the pups to the RESQ Wildlife TTC for orphan care. Nevertheless, the RESQ Team opted for one final reunion attempt which was successful as the mother arrived in the early morning hours, and swiftly took away all three pups.

C. Harvesting harmony - jungle cat kitten reunited with the mother: Baramati, Pune District

A kitten of a jungle cat was discovered amidst sugarcane harvesting in a field near Baramati. In collaboration with the Forest Department, the RESQ Team promptly initiated a reunion the same night, and it proved successful as the mother emerged to retrieve her kitten.

D. Triumph spotted as rusty spotted kittens reunited successfully!

The RESQ team, in accordance with the Forest Department, successfully reunited two kittens of a rusty-spotted cat that were discovered in a sugarcane field during harvesting near Daund.



At the RESQ Centre

Not a very well-planned visit by a crocodile!

An adult crocodile was discovered in a well in Dharashiv and was rescued by locals. They handed it over to the Forest Department, who then informed us. Our rescuers, accompanied by a veterinarian, stabilized the crocodile on site and safely transported it to the RESQ Wildlife TTC. It will undergo a



medical assessment and remain under quarantine until a suitable release location is identified by the Forest Department. The circumstances surrounding how the crocodile ended up in a well in a city remain unknown.



Indian wolf loses vision but finds hope!

An Indian wolf was found in a recumbent state in a farm near Dhule and promptly rescued by the Forest Department. Transported to the RESQ Wildlife TTC, the wolf underwent urgent

stabilization and received treatment for dehydration. Unfortunately, a diagnosis revealed blindness in both eyes, but due to the accurate diagnosis and subsequent treatment by our veterinary team, the wolf is displaying gradual yet consistent improvement. With hopeful anticipation, we await its complete recovery and eventual release back into the wild.



Two chousingha fawns under orphan rehabilitation care at the RESQ Wildlife TTC.

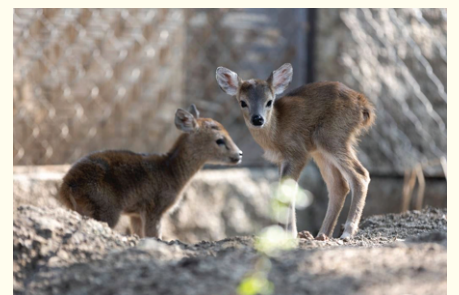


A chinkara undergoing treatment and rehabilitation at the RESQ Wildlife TTC for severe injuries after being attacked by free ranging dogs near Baramati.



Lullabies for these fawn-tastic chousinghas!

Two heavily pregnant four-horned antelopes (chousinghas) were transferred to our care as case property in a legal case by Pune Forest Department. One delivered two healthy fawns last month and the other delivered two fawns this month. The fawns will definitely be raised to be wild.

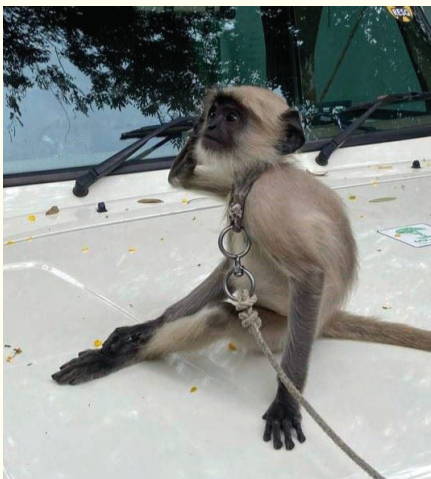


Jackal headed towards healing!

An Indian jackal, discovered lying incapacitated in Uran due to an accident, has been admitted to the RESQ Wildlife TTC. The diagnosis revealed severe head trauma which the veterinary team is addressing and aiming for the jackal's recovery to regain its ability to stand and resume normal activities.



Unlocking wilderness and freedom for this grey langur!



The Dhule Forest Department in collaboration with local rescuers rescued a sub-adult langur from illegal captivity and transferred it to the RESQ team in Nashik. The langur has been admitted to the RESQ Wildlife TTC Pune, marking the beginning of an extensive journey through

meticulous rehabilitation. The ultimate goal is to help the langur by integrating it with a troop and eventually return to its natural habitat.



End of an ordeal for this langur!

Rescued from illegal captivity in Pali village, a langur with a tightly bound rope around its neck, he underwent a critical procedure at RESQ Wildlife TTC. The constricting rope around his



airway was removed, and after a brief period of stabilization under intensive care, RESQ vets sutured the large gaping wound left behind by the rope. The langur, initially in critical condition, is now on a promising

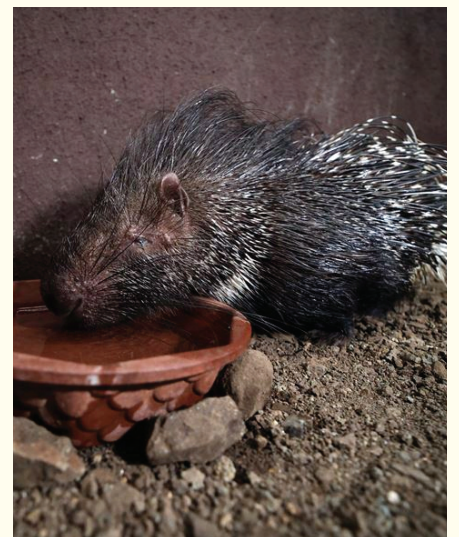


Quill to survive: a porcupine's rehabilitation chronicle

A porcupine has been transferred from RESQ Nashik to the RESQ Wildlife TTC, Pune for rehabilitation after it was seized by the forest department from illegal captivity. This porcupine was raised by a family from a young age. Although it doesn't



require medical attention, immediate release poses a threat as it has become vulnerable and may struggle to survive in the wild. Our goal is to reinstate wild instincts through intensive rehabilitation and eventually release it back into its natural habitat.



Python in peril

A python reportedly stuck in a carelessly discarded fishing net has been admitted to the RESQ Wildlife TTC with injuries and lacerations all over its mid-body. This is the fifth case in the past two months with identical circumstances which makes us wonder how long before responsible waste disposal is taken seriously. For now we're hoping for this python's full recovery and release.



From surgery to a second chance for this monitor lizard!

A monitor lizard has been admitted to the RESQ Wildlife TTC after the Forest Department found it in an injured state during a rescue. After initial stabilization, it has undergone surgery to fix its broken leg.



Given the crucial role of the leg in its mobility, we are optimistic that wildlife rehabilitation will provide the necessary time for recovery after the surgery, allowing the lizard to regain its original range of movement.

A stitch in time for this parakeet!



A rose-ringed parakeet was brought to the RESQ Wildlife TTC after it was found lying with a slit throat on a busy street in Pune. The RESQ vets expertly sutured the throat of the parakeet who would have perished had this procedure not happened urgently. Thankfully it's showing slow but steady progress and will soon move from the ICU to the nursery and eventually to the open skies.



Wings of hope for this grey heron! Discovered beneath a tree in Indapur, a grey heron with an injured leg was promptly rescued by the Forest Department. Currently receiving treatment at



the RESQ Wildlife TTC, the heron is exhibiting promising signs of recovery.

A deadly collision that cost an Oriental honey buzzard its life..

Found on the ground after colliding with a pole, the Satara Forest Department rescued an oriental honey buzzard. Subsequently, the injured bird was admitted to the RESQ Wildlife TTC where an x-ray revealed a wing fracture. As birds navigate urban spaces, collisions often cost them their lives. Despite receiving treatment and stabilization, the avian patient, unfortunately, succumbed.



Spot-billed duck tales!

An adult Indian spot-billed duck was found in a critical condition on the side of the road in Pune. It was safely transferred to the RESQ Wildlife TTC by the RESQ Team and was undergoing treatment for a suspected infection rendering it weak and unable to move much. Sadly it succumbed to the infection but was cared for and pain free in its final moments.



Community Outreach & Education



Coexist with Leopards and Snakes

A session on this topic was conducted for 50 individuals of the SAC United Company in Nashik by Vaibhav Bhogale and Sahil Shinde.

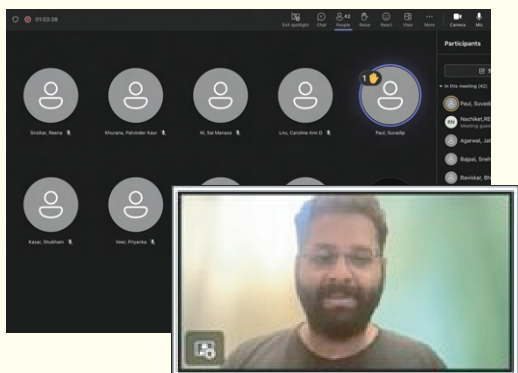


SAFE Snakes

An awareness session regarding snakebite prevention and safely co-existing around snakes was conducted by Shreenath Chavan and a Jyoti Swami for 15 individuals of the Ovalnest Society, Warje, Pune as it is located near a huge farmland and the residents have frequent encounters with them.

AWARE INDIA

Two insightful sessions took place this month at Unschool, Pune. The first session, titled "I am Responsible," was conducted by Jessica Roberts and Manasi Warde. The second session, "Being Street Smart," was led by Sonia Gandhi Limaye and Nachiket Utpat. Both sessions catered to a group of 27 students.



Coexist with Birds

An online session on coexisting with birds in urban ecosystems was conducted by Nachiket Utpat for 45 members of Fujitsu Consulting.



Capacity Building & Training

Wildlife Rescue and Human-Wildlife Conflict Management Workshop conducted at Nagarjunsagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve, Andhra Pradesh

RESQ team members, Kiran Rahalkar and Nachiket Utpat conducted a training session for the Markapur Division staff at Nagarjunsagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve in Andhra Pradesh, attended by 65 Forest Department staff members. This session served as an introductory phase to a comprehensive training program that our team has been requested to conduct. The goal is to equip the staff with the skills needed to respond adeptly and efficiently to any wildlife-related situation in their area.



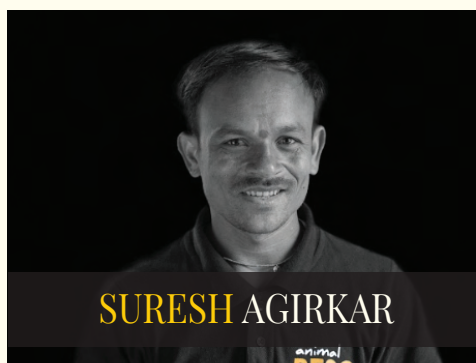
Corporate volunteering at RESQ

17 Fujitsu team members visited RESQ on November 30, 2023. They learned about RESQ's mission and activities, and pitched in by potting bamboo saplings for visual barriers, making gauze pads for veterinary care, and assisting with inventory of animal care items. Additionally, they donated newspapers, bedsheets, and blankets, all of which were a result of the donation drive they conducted before their visit.



RUNA TEREDESAI

RESQ VOLUNTEER



SURESH AGIRKAR

RESQ TEAM MEMBER

Performing at their maximum potential, lauded for their dedication innovation and hardwork, here's our **RESQ stars for the month.**

Features & Articles

Click [🔗](#) to read!

Mongabay Series: [Beyond Protected Areas](#)

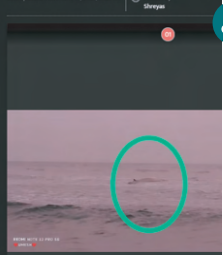
Mistaken identity becomes a major threat for India's small wild cats

by Shailesh Shrivastava on 15 November 2023



Ratnagiri Whale : गणपतीपुढ्याच्या समुद्र किनाऱ्यावर परत आले व्हॅलचे विल्लू, Photo

महाराष्ट्राचे शेवटचे जीववैविध्य विभाग क्षेत्रात रातनागरी येथील समुद्र किनाऱ्यावर परत आले व्हॅलचे विल्लू. या विल्लूची पहिली फोटो घेतली आहे. या विल्लूची पहिली फोटो घेतली आहे. या विल्लूची पहिली फोटो घेतली आहे.



News / Cities / Pune News / Two leopards stray into residential areas, rescued in ...

Two leopards stray into residential areas, rescued in Nashik

By Gayatri Vajpeyee

Nov 17, 2023 10:50 PM IST



According to officials, the rescued animals have been brought to the forest department's nursery facility, and are in stable condition. (HT PHOTO)

Indian rock python tied to tree in Chincholi rescued

Nov 20, 2023, 08:33 IST



Thank you for being a RESQ Supporter!

If we share the same vision, there's so much we can do **together**. The RESQ team continues its work for animals with purpose and passion only because of your generous contributions and support – today, and everyday.

“We are happy to share our **Annual Report 2022-2023** [🔗](#) which captures the work and activities done by the RESQ team during the last financial year. On behalf of all the team members of RESQ and its board of trustees, I express our deepest gratitude to our donors, supporters, partners and well-wishers for supporting our mission to rescue and rehabilitate animals, and to reach people in our endeavors to protect animals and their habitats. **You can become a RESQ supporter** [📺](#) and join us in working towards a shared vision of conservation and coexistence between wildlife, communities, and their animals. Becoming a member is easy, click on this link. [🔗](#) Your annual contribution and belief in our vision helps us to provide medical treatment and care to thousands of animals every single year. Thank you!”

- Neha Panchamiya (Founder & President, RESQ CT)



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