



**DHARAMSALA**  
**ANIMAL RESCUE**  
2025 IMPACT REPORT





DHARAMSALA  
ANIMAL RESCUE

*a world of difference for animals and people*

# 2025 IMPACT REPORT

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# OUR MISSION

**To create a better world for animals and people by ending the human/street dog conflict**

DHARAMSALA ANIMAL RESCUE

# CEO & FOUNDER MESSAGE

**What a year!** 2025 showed us all what becomes possible when compassionate, thoughtfully-designed programs take root in a community. I was able to see this first hand during my trip to India in October. I can't begin to express how incredible it felt to be back at DAR after two years. It truly felt like coming home.

But what moved me most were the changes I witnessed, including every single dog wanting love and attention. This was not always the case. Many of you know that on my very first trip to India, I volunteered at a preschool where children threw rocks at a sick, helpless street dog lying outside. That moment changed everything for me. It made me realize: we can sterilize and vaccinate every street dog, but unless we also change hearts and minds, the cycle of fear and cruelty will continue. I saw the results of what behavior change can result in. Happier dogs, happier people.

Right now, the future of India's stray dogs hangs in the balance. With little government or NGO support in most regions, fear and hostility toward these animals have surged. A case currently before the Supreme Court could lead to all street dogs being confined to tiny kennels, indefinitely, and without medical care or access to the outdoors. Animal advocates are urgently pushing back, urging the Court to support proven, humane solutions: sterilization, vaccination, education, and adoption, not incarceration.

In the meantime, we will continue to run our proven programs, ones that I have seen with my own eyes work.

You can feel proud of the impact your gifts supported. You'll find more detail about these highlights as you read on.:

- **Road Safety Murals = Safer Streets with a 17% reduction in hit and runs.**
- **Community Education is the DAR Difference** reaching over 600 adults and children in person and thousands via radio and press.
- **Record Totals and Increased Community Participation** allowing for a 7% increase in sterilizations and a 9% increase in rabies vaccinations.
- **Clinic/Shelter Upgrades. Thanks to you, we have a new ambulance, laptops, a cauterizer, and a biochemistry analyzer**
- **DAR is Featured in *Tails of the Himalayas...of Dogs and Devotees* Documentary, scheduled to be released this year.**



A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Deb Grant'.

We continue to closely monitor ongoing government and legal developments affecting street dog welfare. While outcomes remain uncertain, our commitment to humane, evidence-based solutions--and to the communities and animals we serve--remains unwavering as we move into 2026.



# WHAT CAUSES THE HUMAN/STREET DOG CONFLICT?

1

**62 million strays live in India**, the highest street dog population in the world

2

India accounts for **36% of global rabies deaths**, averaging **one every 30 minutes** (WHO)

3

India has **no national mass spay/neuter or rabies vaccination programs**

4

India has **no national education** about life-saving protocols after dog bites

5

**Communities lack training and guidelines** for interaction with unknown dogs

6

Open dumps and waste management challenges create **ideal breeding grounds**

# WHAT ARE THE REAL LIFE IMPACTS?

1

**Significant post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) gaps and delays**, especially in rural areas

2

**Inhumane methods of population control**; poisoning, beating to death, drowning

3

**Vets don't learn about companion/stray dog welfare**, focusing instead on livestock

4

**Generational fear and hatred of street dogs** leads to apathy, neglect, and abuse

5

**Village myths/beliefs supercede medical science**, e.g., drinking holy water will prevent rabies after a bite





DHARAMSALA ANIMAL RESCUE

# A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO SOLVE THE CONFLICT

## Animal Birth Control

**Stabilizing population** growth through efficient and humane mass spay/neuter

## End Rabies

**Vaccinating** street dogs and pets and educating on post-bite protocol awareness



DHARAMSALA ANIMAL RESCUE

A HOLISTIC  
APPROACH TO SOLVE  
THE CONFLICT

## Street Animal Rescue

Providing **emergency veterinary care** and rehabilitation

## Humane Education

Teaching adults and children **how to coexist with street dogs** with compassion and safety

IT'S ABOUT **community change;** a holistic approach to end the conflict and stop the suffering.



1312

DOGS STERILIZED

3424

DOGS VACCINATED

# 2025 BY THE NUMBERS

460

ANIMALS RESCUED

636

TOUCHED BY HUMANE  
EDUCATION PROGRAMS

# NEW STREET MURALS HELP SAVE MORE LIVES



**Thanks to your contributions, we expanded our Brake for Strays street mural program 2025**, adding two new murals near busy and deadly intersections. Hit and runs continue to be our most frequent and deadliest reason for rescues.

With a total of 5 murals in town, we are pleased to report a 17% reduction in hit and run cases. In addition, we had 13.5% less deaths caused by road accidents.

This represents a total 6 lives saved, and 10 less amputations. We will continue this project in 2026.

# PARTNERSHIPS AND KNOWLEDGE SHARE



2025 also brought a new **strategic partnership with Humane World for Animals** (formerly Humane Society of the USA/International).

DAR was chosen to be part of their Veterinary Training and Capacity Building Program. The benefits include:

- Ongoing training for our vets and para vets to keep us current with protocols for mass spay/neuter
- Training to ensure our catchers are using up to date humane catching methods
- Training our Community Outreach team in creating a KAP survey (Knowledge, Aptitude, Practices), to identify a baseline when planning programs and measuring behavior change
- Being a support to our Community Outreach team in collateral, handling community complaints, and planning
- Providing legal support if needed
- Scholarships given to attend Humane Pro and Animal Expo

We are so grateful for this invaluable support.



# THE DAR DIFFERENCE - BEHAVIOR CHANGE



Children lining up to learn how to pet DAR dog Rosa

**At DAR, we believe the problem is not the street dogs, it's us.**

It does not matter how many dogs you sterilize and vaccinate. If the people still look at the dogs with fear and disgust, then cruelty and conflict will continue. This is why Humane Community Outreach and Education is one of our core programs.

**In July, we added Himani Negi to our DAR Team as Community Engagement Manager.** This staffing investment helped us expand and connect with more than 636 adults and children in person and reach thousands more via radio shows and press coverage. We also created and began our KAP Survey in the village DAR resides in, Rakkar Village.

**Dog behavior and bite safety messages were presented within bookstores, universities, training institutes, pre-schools, elementary schools, and a disabled children's care center.** We also partnered with local NGOs on cleanliness drives, which included education as a part of the event.

# THE DAR DIFFERENCE - BEHAVIOR CHANGE



## Participant quotes from Programs:

*"I never knew rabies is preventable. This session gave me confidence to spread awareness in my community."* – College Student

*This session made me realize **dogs are not to be feared**, but understood and cared for."* – Café Attendee

*"Today I learned for the first time that **after a dog bite we must go to a human doctor, not an animal doctor.**"* – NGO Employee

*"Being from Dharamsala, I've noticed **dogs are much friendlier and healthier now than when I was growing up.** Programs like these and DAR's work are making a real difference in our community."* - Trade School Student

*"I was **scared** before, but now I know dogs are friendly if we behave nicely."* – 9-year-old student

*"Now I know we should not **hit dogs** — they also have feelings."* – Mother of toddler



# YOU CAME THROUGH FOR US



**In 2025, your targeted donations helped us replace mission-critical equipment like our cauterizer, laptops, and our ambulance.** You also helped us upgrade our diagnostic capabilities with a biochemistry analyzer.



# ANNUAL RABIES VACCINATION CAMP SCALE



**Year after year, our annual rabies vaccination and awareness camp grows bigger and bigger.**

This year, we were invited on a local radio show to discuss the upcoming camp and shared information about how locals can help keep their community safe from rabies.

The Camp started with an event for awareness and pet vaccination in Rakkar Village where DAR is located, supported by our village council.

1,860 vaccinations 11 days. A 13% increase over 2024. This Camp was funded by Mission Rabies and Vets Beyond Borders Denmark.



# LOCAL & INTERNATIONAL ADOPTIONS

3 dogs found forever homes



**Dude**



**TIKSI**



**Ellie**



# DAR FEATURED IN NEW DOCUMENTARY

*Tails of the Himalayas...of Dogs and Devotees (2026 planned release)*



**In 2022, filmmaker Harpreet Kaur reached out to DAR Founder, Deb Jarrett, about her plan for her next documentary, to show the power of love, resilience and compassion of India's strays and the people who care for them.**

After being scared of dogs her entire life, her brother adopted a dog during Covid, and she fell in love. With regular trips to India throughout her life, she could not get her mind off the street dogs who have no homes.

**In 2024, Harpreet spent 4 months in Dharamshala** with the DAR Team and other locals to capture footage. The resulting film is in final edit and will be released in 2026.

**Many of the DAR Team are featured in the film.** You can get a glimpse of the film in the trailer [here](#).

Harpreet is still raising funds to complete production, and anyone can contribute [here](#).

## TESTIMONIAL

# POWER OF EMPATHY

Last month, during a personal trip to India, I had the **incredible opportunity to spend a week volunteering with Dharamsala Animal Rescue**— an organization that pours its heart into caring for dogs in need. This was truly a **transformative experience** that allowed me to support the welfare of community animals and contribute to the broader pet ecosystem in my home country, India. **It reminded me of the power of empathy, patience, and unconditional care** — values that extend far beyond animal welfare and into how we live and lead every day. I returned with lasting memories of service, learning, and connection — and a renewed commitment to bring that compassion into my daily life.

*-Sandeep Theeda*





Behind the Scenes

## TESTIMONIAL

# EXTRAORDINARY WORK

The work of Dharamsala Animal Rescue and **DAR team will be highlighted in my upcoming documentary, 'Tails of the Himalayas...of Dogs & Devotees'**. I'm grateful to Deb Jarrett for sharing her story with me and so proud of her for leading the way to make the streets of Dharamshala a better place where dogs and humans can learn to coexist. **My experience working with them in production left a deep impression on me.** This organization has been doing extraordinary work to improve the lives of street dogs through sterilization programs, community outreach, and educating children on how to treat these animals with care and respect. **Despite having limited resources, they refuse to let that stand in the way of making a difference. Their resilience and heartfelt mission truly inspired me,** and their work continues to be a model of what impactful animal welfare can look like!

*-Harpeet Kaur*

## TESTIMONIAL

# VISIBLE IMPACT

I volunteered at DAR in April 2025 and have nothing but good things to say. **The DAR team is some of the most compassionate and caring folks I have ever met.** The human/street dog conflict in India is a very tough one to tackle due to the massive stray dog population, lack of a proper birth control program and education/awareness. Despite this, the DAR team works tirelessly to not only rescue/rehabilitate the dogs in need, but also to raise awareness in the neighborhoods around Dharamsala. And **you can visibly see the impact they are making** - in the time that I stayed there, **one of my biggest observations was the peaceful coexistence of humans and animals** in the same area. It really showed me that with the right intention, attitude and planning, **it is possible for both humans and animals to be happy and thriving.** All we need to do is be a little more compassionate!

*Mousami Naik*

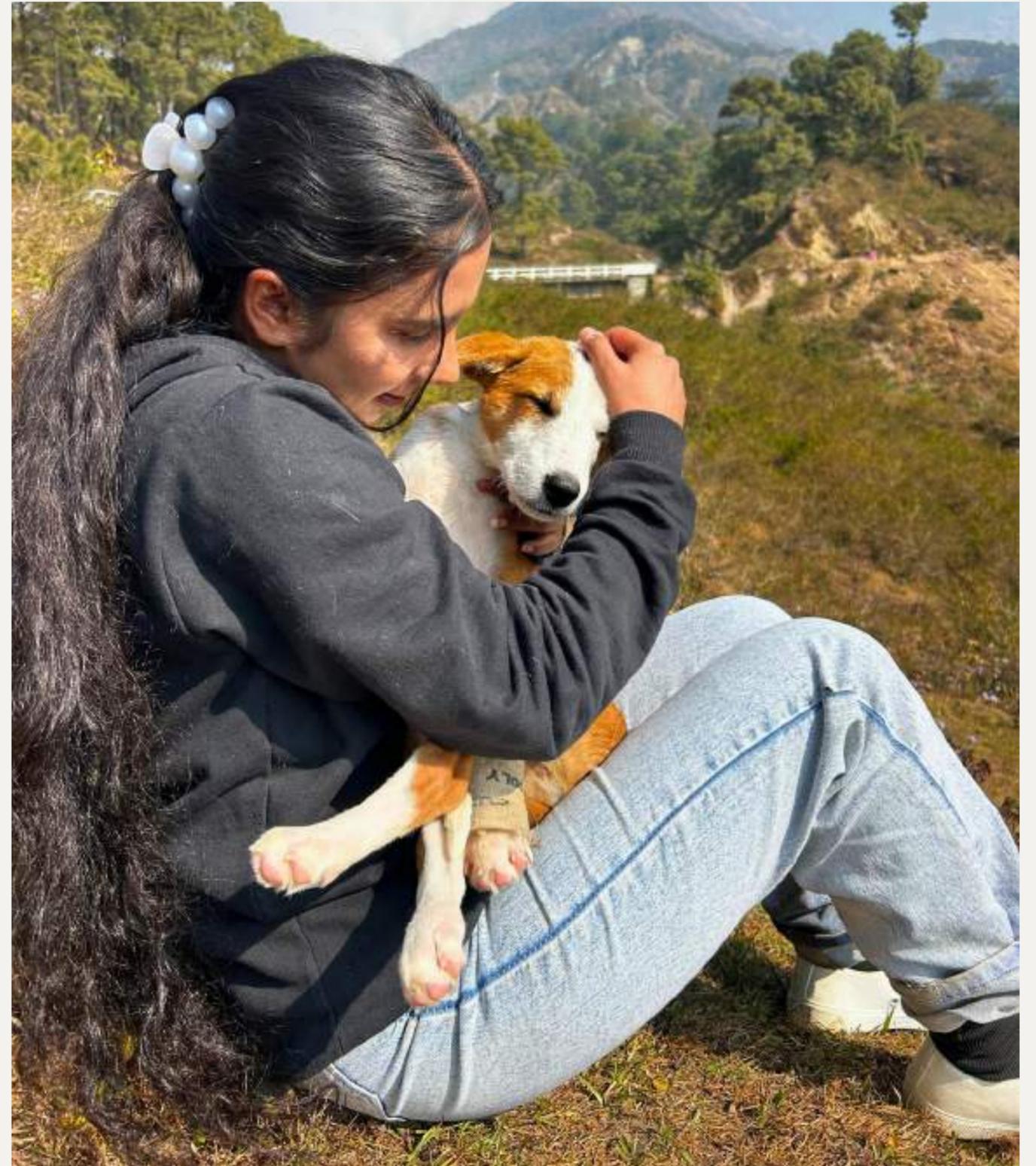


# THANKS TO YOU

**Each year, we see progress.** We now have a healthier, more social population of street dogs with locals stepping up to help feed and care for them, *but only in the areas we focus on.*

**The work is not finished.** We still rescue hundreds of dogs each year. We are at max capacity for what we can provide with the space we currently have.

**We must find more land to expand** and build more kennels so we can increase our sterilizations, vaccinations, and improve our care by having space for a digital x-ray, ultrasound, and additional diagnostic tools for increased welfare.



# CYCLE OF BENEFIT



## OPPORTUNITY

**With your support,** we can continue our work to stabilize the population humanely through sterilization, vaccinate street dogs and pets against rabies, and educate communities about compassion and bite prevention.

**Our Cycle of Benefit** shows that these efforts not only reduce suffering but also foster a culture of kindness.

**Your contributions** help us make a lasting difference in the lives of vulnerable dogs and the communities they live in.

# WHAT'S NEXT? DAR'S VISION FOR 2026



**Expansion. Innovation. Training. Improved Welfare.**

## **Humane Education & Community Engagement**

- Complete KAP survey in Rakkar Village
- Expand Street Awareness & college programs
- Launch staff training to improve children's curriculum
- Develop, test, and implement AI-based education tools

## **Animal Birth Control (ABC)**

- Identify leased land for new shelter & clinic
- Develop plans to increase surgeries beyond 1,500/year
- Continue surgical and post-op care training for staff by Humane World

## **Street Animal Rescue**

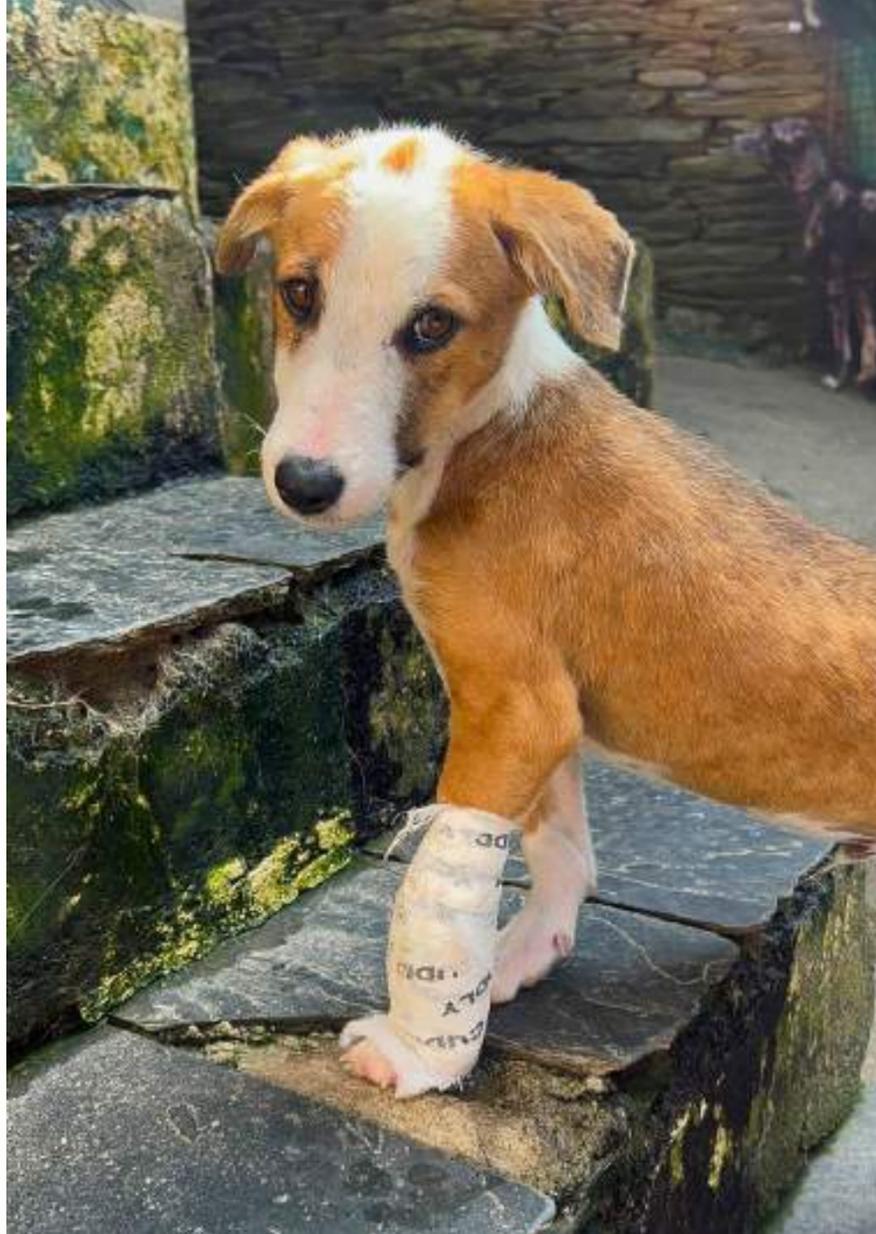
- Expand outdoor pen & add 8 kennels
- Upgrade OT flooring, lighting, and equipment

## **End Rabies**

- Double vaccine reach with 4,000 doses from Mission Rabies for our annual rabies camp in September

In 2026, we invest in our people and our programs—to create lasting change for animals and the communities who care for them.

# OUR 2026 WISH LIST



**As always, none of this is possible without your support.**

Your gifts and generosity made miracles happen in 2025.

The following items will help us create more miracles in 2026.

**March Sterilization Camp \$10,600 or ₹9,65,000**

**November Sterilization Camp \$10,600 or ₹9,65,000**

**Ventilator & Monitor \$10,450 or ₹9,50,000**

**Pen Expansion and 8 Additional Kennels \$8,800 or ₹8,00,000**

**20 Spay Kits for sterilizations \$1540 or ₹1,40,000**

**2 New Desks & 3 Office Chairs & 12 Staff/Visitor Chairs. \$1050 or ₹95,600**

**New Washer & Dryer \$880 or ₹80,000**

**2 New Treatment Tables \$660 or ₹60,000**

**New Lighting for Operation Theater \$605 or ₹55,000**

**Patient Plate for General Surgeries \$550 or ₹50,000**

**60 large sized surgical clothes and window drapes \$550 or ₹50,000**

**Medicine and Supplies for 1 month of Rescues \$550 or ₹50,000**

**2 New Water Heaters \$440 or ₹40,000**

**1 month supply of suture \$290 or ₹26,400**

If you are interested in helping with any of these items,

Email [deb@darescue.org](mailto:deb@darescue.org)

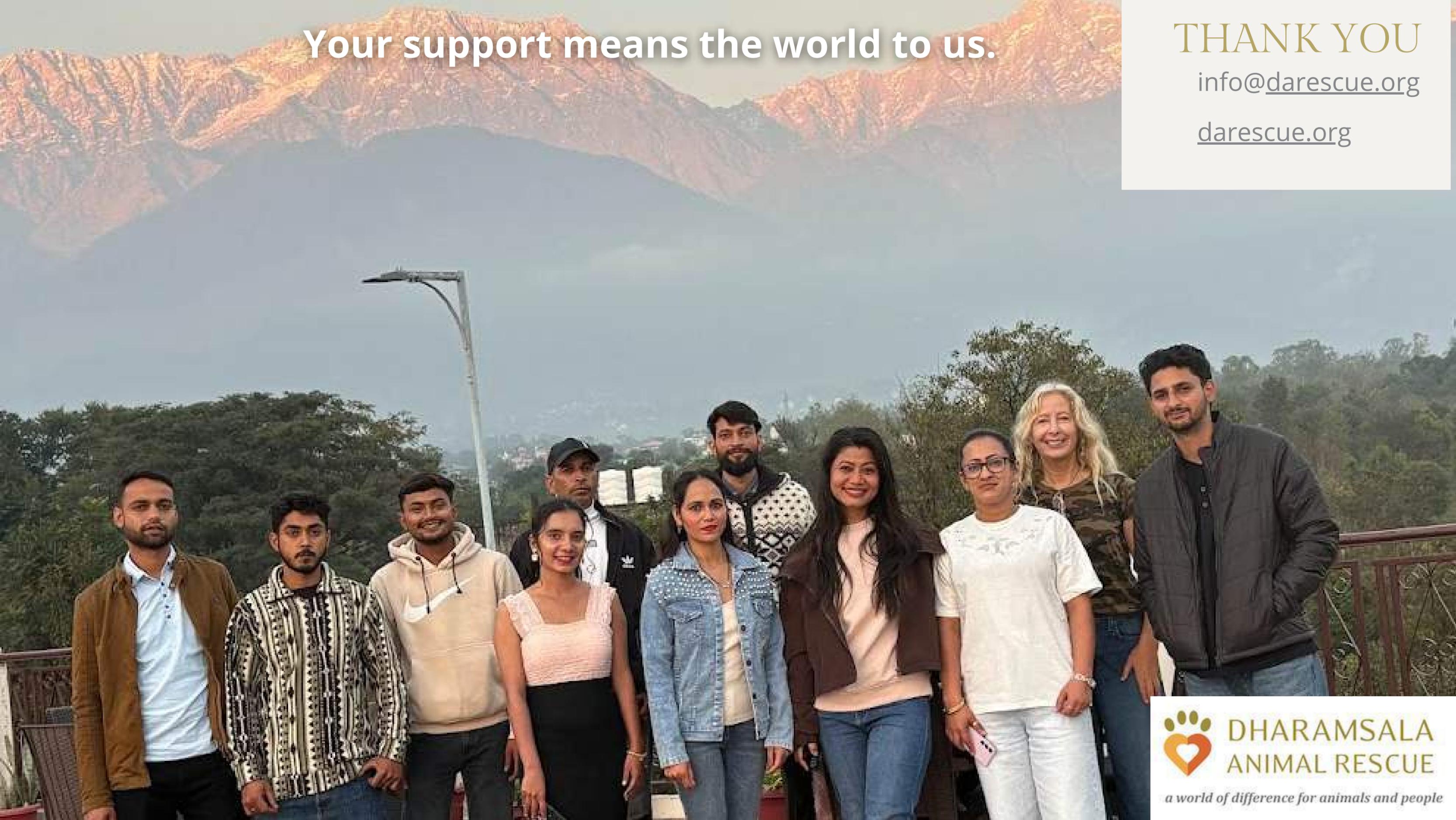
or WhatsApp +1720-480-6235.

Your support means the world to us.

THANK YOU

[info@darecue.org](mailto:info@darecue.org)

[darecue.org](http://darecue.org)



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