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- Feline Club of India
- 2. Dog Grooming Workshop
- 3. Indian Pet Industry Award
- 4. Indian Pet Industry Dialogue

## RESQ CHARITABLE TRUST: A HAVEN THAT SPRUNG FROM AN INITIATIVE

By Neha Panchamiya\*

## Initiative

noun

An act or strategy intended to resolve a difficulty or improve a situation; a fresh approach to something.

On a cold night 12 years ago, my friend Tanya and I struggled to get help for a stray dog who was vomiting and shivering and was clearly in need of emergency medical attention. The hours flew by in a haze as we frantically contacted pet clinics in the hope that someone, somewhere, would help a stray animal. By the time a veterinarian finally agreed to help -- 18 hours since we first found the poor animal -- the dog's condition had worsened considerably, and he passed away. His death was one of the most harrowing experiences of my life, yet it also led to my most life-altering decision: one that solidified my mission to ensure that no one else would feel as helpless as we had that night. This was how the seeds to RESQ Charitable Trust were sown: through the distressing and needless suffering of one dog, and the realisation that if we wanted to help animals, we would have to stop pointing fingers and fuel our frustration and passion into taking the initiative to finding a solution ourselves.

That was 2007. Today, RESQ is one of Indical most active citywide rescue service. What started as a small onsite operation on the back of a mall, is now a full-fledged organisation that has grown in leaps and bounds over the years: from raising street animal healthcare standards to embarking on ground-breaking scientific endeavours. Every single decision and action at RESQ is spurred by our singular and overriding desire to help animals. Since the very



beginning, RESQ has provided 100 percent free medical treatment and care to street animals, and it will continue to do so. Through our efforts, we provide aid to over 250+ animals every day and rescue animals, both large and small, domestic and wild. We firmly believe that direct action tempered with a practical and informed approach is the best way to promote both human and animal welfare through peaceful coexistence, which is why we also focus a considerable portion of our efforts towards functioning as Pune's only Canine Rabies Quarantine and Testing Facility, as Rabies is both an animal and human health issue. Through our Charitable Animal Hospital, RESQ Ambulance and Onsite Response Team, Small Animal Sanctuary and Rehoming Centre, Large Animal Sanctuary, Wildlife Transit Unit, and Awareness and Education efforts, we endeavour to help injured, sick, abandoned and homeless animals of all kinds whilst doing our utmost to spread the word about the work we do.



With every stride we make towards a brighter future for animals, however, I am discerningly aware of the obstacles that lie in our path. RESQ is currently functioning as emergency veterinary and trauma hospital for unowned animals, rehabilitation and rehoming centre, and wildlife transit unit for the majority of Pune's animals. That is,

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Creature Companion | July 2019 • Vol. XII • Issue 7 • Noida