

STEPPE AND HOOF NGO

REPORT 2023





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About Us

Steppe and Hoof is a non-governmental organization (NGO), founded in 2018 by initiation of founder Mrs. Shatarchuluun Galbadrakh, with the inspiration of preserving nomadic life style and help herders in the remote area of Mongolia with contemporary medical and veterinary service and aids.

The organization currently conducts two main programs; veterinary service and medical assistance, both free of charge thanks to its donors and sponsorship organizations.

In the breadth of medical service, we organize onsite medical checkups by professional doctors and physicians, with sophisticated medical equipment such as sonography and electrocardiograms. Therefore, we conduct First Aid and trauma training for herders with hands-on applications and deliver first aid kits to herder families.

Regarding veterinary service and aid, we organize outreach programs involving international and Mongolian veterinarians and run livestock checkups while treating animals in need, at herders' pastures. We also educate herders with modern veterinary knowledge and training, in addition to distributing necessary veterinary medicine packages.



Mission

Steppe and Hoof NGO provides veterinary care and medical assistance to support and ease the lives of Mongolian herders in rural areas in order to preserve the distinctive customs and culture of the nomads.

As a result, we offer advanced training, veterinary care and examinations in addition to providing the required medical and first aid supplies along with education.



2023 REVIEW

Thanks to the recurring contribution and invaluable support from our donors and the Mongol Derby Rider Fundraising campaign, we were able to reach out herders in the remote area of 28 bags (villages) from 23 soums (towns) of five different provinces: Bulgan, Arkhangai, Khentii, Tuv and Uvurkhangai, in the year of 2023, predominantly on monthly basis.

Overall, there were 559 total herder families, including 1180 herders, that took part in our veterinary and medical programs.

Our program was divided into two main programs in 2023; veterinary service and medical assistance, both were free of charge, thanks our Steppe and Hoof NGO donors and sponsorship organizations.

In the scope of medical services, we organized onsite medical checkups by professional doctors and physicians with sophisticated medical equipment, such as sonography and electrocardiograms. Then we conducted First Aid and trauma training for herders with hands-on applications and delivered first aid kits to herder families alongside with guidance handbook in Mongolian.

Regarding veterinary service and aid, we ran outreach programs involving international and Mongolian veterinarians, organized livestock checkups, and treated animals in need, in herders' pastures. We also educated herders with modern veterinary knowledge and training, and distributed necessary veterinary medicine packages, with vet supervision.



Winter Medical Outreach Program & First Aid and Trauma Training January, 2023

The winter has brought lots of snow and challenges for herders; many herders went on winter trips, with their livestock, looking for better pastures and better weather conditions for their herds due to the natural disaster called Dzud.

Steppe and Hoof NGO collaborated with the medic team from the Civil-Military Support Element of the USA Embassy (CMSE) in Mongolia. We successfully organized Medical Checkups and First Aid & Trauma Training in Bat-Ulzii Soum, Uvurkhangai Province, Mongolia. We worked in the Soum, traveling from one Bag (smallest territorial unit in Mongolia) to another or herders' pastures to gather the maximum number of herders, and reached 99 herder families.

We conducted First Aid & Trauma training for herders, and distributed first aid kits to 99 herder families. The training covered a comprehensive range of topics such as wound treatments including how to distinguish the veins and ways to stop the bleeding of open cuts or wounds, and the usage of appropriate bandages.

In terms of preliminary medical checkups, herders had full medical screening and received advice from the doctors for further treatment and care. There were 138 herders involved in the medical checkup; the age range was from 3-80.



Winter Medical Outreach Program & First Aid and Trauma Training January, 2023





Medical First Respond Course: First Aid and Trauma Training for Internship Students March, 2023

Medical First Responder Course was successfully organized for vet internship students who were volunteering with the "Spring Veterinary Outreach Program" in April. The training was conducted by paramedics from the Civil-Military Support Element of the USA Embassy (CMSE) in Mongolia. The medical responder course covered inquiring medical information and the skills our veterinarian senior year students need to help themselves and others during emergency situations. Practicum and advice on spot was a highlight of the course. At the end of the training, every student was provided with a full set of first aid kits and fingertip pulse oximeters, by the CMSE.







Veterinary Training on "Parasites and Zoonotic Diseases" in the Community Resiliency Seminar April, 2023

Community Resiliency Seminar, was organized, in order to empower locals and government officials, in case of disaster response, was organized by the United States Embassy in Mongolian in Bulgan province. Steppe and Hoof NGO participated in the seminar by offering Veterniary Training for the participants. The training was conducted by our veterinarian, Kh.Tumennasan, covering a wide range of parasites and zoonic disease related topics, such as sheep and goat plague, diphtheria disease, cattle frothy floating and equine influenza. The audience consisted of officials and employees from the National Emergency Department of the Province and Veterinary Service of the Province and local representative herders, all residents of Bulgan province.





Spring Outreach Veterinary Program April, 2023

Calving season was such a challenge to herders this spring after winter with Dzud (harsh weather and severe cold with lack of pasture). With one night snow storm and harsh but untamed weather change, newborns are at a high risk to lose lives.

Our team, led by veterinarian D.Ochirbat, delivered veterinary service and animal checkup to those livestock in need of treatment and professional care, and helped herders to facilitate their lives with better veterinary medicine knowledge and proper usage besides providing them with calving manpower by our vet internship students.

The project was conducted in calving season, the busiest season. During the project, senior veterinary students stayed with herders families, and helped them with husbandry and receiving newborns. Meanwhile, vet D.Ochirbat conducted essential veterinary service and treatment in the Bag area. Over all, we worked in Gichgen and Chuluut bags of Jargaltkhaan Soum, Khentii Province. The destination was up to 130 km each day to reach a herder's spring pasture. Some families were at their winter pastures as they followed the water source and warmth during strong dust storms.

During the calving period, we treated approximately 80 livestock including cattle, horses, sheep and goats for 38 families in nine days. Therefore, Selenium and vitamin E shots were given to 1000 new born lambs and kids to prevent from the white muscle disease, known as Tocopherol Deficiency, in the herders' pastures.



Spring Outreach Veterinary Program April, 2023



Animal checkup and treatment by vet D.Ochirbat







Spring Outreach Veterinary Program April, 2023



Veterinary medicine delivery with instruction by vet D.Ochirbat



Animal treatments by vet D.Ochirbat



Internship students helped herder families with daily husbandry and calving care.



Spring Veterinary Program May & June, 2023

Not only veterinary checkup was conducted among over 100 livestock in need, but also necessary veterinary medicine packages were delivered alongside professional's advice and instruction for 39 herder families in the Soums of Khentii and Bulgan Provinces.

The veterinary medicine package included terramycin and oxytetracycline wound spray, Penbex Solution, Multi vitamin 100 ml, Vitamin E-Se, 100 ml, Ainil 100 ml, Ivermectin 100 ml, Amoxvit 100 mg, Mobi Dust 100 ml ad Cypermethrin 10 EC 1 liter for ticks and eliminate ectoparasite spread and its damage in herds, 7.5% lodine 300 ml for disinfection, Intramammary ointment 10 ml tubes, Opticure named eye ointments 5g, Amilyte C 500ml, Albendizol 10%, Cal-Plus injection, Bimodine bolus and subsidiary needles and syringes.

These veterinary medicines are commonly used to prevent and treat the topical infections, such as lacerations and abrasions, wound dehiscence, dermatitis and foot-rot, antibiotic supplementation, immunization, treat infections and equine and cattle flu, a big issue among herds in spring. All medications delivered with sophisticated instruction on how to administer to animals, treat them and introduce the proper usage of veterinary medications. For instance, when calves are newborns they are prone to infections, which can be mitigated using an lodine solution on their navels by recommendation and instructed by our veterinarian.



Spring Veterinary Program May & June, 2023



Veterinary medicine delivery with instruction and animal checkup by vet D.Ochirbat





Summer Veterinary Checkup & Veterinarian Training for Vets July, 2023

An Australian Veterinarian with 37 years of work experience, Mr. Don Crosby conducted classroom and field based training in the scope of the "Equine colic and lameness" for local Mongolian vets in Jargaltkhaan Soum, Khentii Province.

The training covered how to diagnose, examine, and treat the equine gastrointestinal colic and horse lameness at an advance level, and relevant treatments in addition to providing full understanding of equine nerve blocks. It was filled with curiosity, questions and amazement from the Mongolian vet participants. Jargaltkhaan Soum's veterinarians actively took part in the training.











Summer Veterinary Checkup & Veterinarian Training for Vets July, 2023

Australian Veterinarian, Mr. Don Crosby run animal checkup in Jargaltkhaan Khentii province with a team of 5, Mongolian vet P.Jambaldorj, volunteer photographer Shari Thompson, volunteer interpreter D.Sumiya and driver Ch.Baatarkhuu. They worked in 5 different bags and traveled from dawn to dusk with sincerity and great dedication.



Herder D.Khatanbaatar was very grateful for having his horse carefully treated by vet Don Crosby as it was experiencing symptoms due to acute infection; the wound was cleaned then antibiotic ointment was applied. Oral antibiotics were administered to the horse. D.Ganzorig said "The horse's condition could have been worsened because he was not aware that the infection was so serious, I am so happy to have my beloved horse saved and in good health."



Summer Veterinary Checkup & Veterinarian Training for Vets July, 2023



Vet Don Crosby drawing antibiotics into a syringe to inject into the cow of herder M.Mashbat to help stop infection in the hoof.



A calf of herder D.Ganzorig that has had a chronic diarrhea since birth. It was possible it did not get colostrum at birth. After a full clinical examination, the calf was treated with antibiotics.



Flushing the infected hoof with iodine.



Bandage on infected hoof.

STEPPE AND HOOF NGO

In the scope of the "Summer medical outreach program", we aimed to educate herders with first aid and trauma knowledge and practicum alongside with First Aid Kits delivery to herder families, and enhance the primary health care access through conducting preliminary medical checkup by professional physicians and provide necessary advice.

Steppe and Hoof NGO with the support of the AustCham Mongolia implemented Medical Outreach Program for herders in 7 bags from Erdenesant, Buren and Undur-Unjuul Soums, in Tuv Province, Mongolia.

During the medical checkup, we provided preliminary service and sonography diagnosis with ultrasound equipment and electrocardiogram (EKG) herewith medical advice on further treatments by professionals. Total number of 321 herders at the age of 6-87, from 190 herder families, took part in the medical checkup. Our team traveled 80-194km a day to reach herders' bags (smallest administrative territorial unit) and closest pasture where more herders could gather.





Throughout the program, we administrated the medical checkup at Bag centers and herders' pastures, where it was the most convenient for the herders. Some herders rode their motorbikes and/or horses to the medical check venue despite of the heavy rain. We used generators, for power, to charge our ultrasound and electrocardiogram equipment. This petrol fuel, for the generators, was carried in by our team.

Our team worked from 10am to 7pm everyday and treated approximately 20-30 herders a day, with full checkup service, despite the weather conditions.

Sonography doctor, E. Khishigjargal, acquired and analyzed the sonographic images, and gave relevant advice on further treatments depending on herders' health condition. During the sonography, some herders discovered that their animals had certain levels of prostate inflammation that needed to have special treatments and seek further advanced examination and medication. Pancreatitis was also a common disease among herders, as they needed serious medication and attention. Essential steps were advised to the herders respectively on their conditions.

Due to living in remote areas, some herders could not go to the center to have their wound stitches removed; our doctor E. Khishigjargal gave full effort to remove the herders' wound stitches, disinfect and provide some necessary medicine.



Sonographer doctor E.Khishigjargal conducted ultrasound checkups, scanned and analyzed the images, and then gave advice to herders. Ultrasound scan result were written on an official medical form.



We built a ger clinic for the medical checkup, using clean bedsheets and allocated checkup areas. There was always a First Aid Kit nearby the checkup area for antiseptics and common bandages. Our sonographer, of course, used medical disposable gloves during the checkup.



Our psychiatrist, E. Uchral, who is specialized in cardiology, conducted the preliminary checkup and run electrocardiogram for herders. In some cases, she taught herders relieve exercises for back and muscle cramps to reduce their back pain and tightened muscles.

During the checkup, many herders discovered that they had high blood pressure (above 140 and more) and were advised to take this condition serious, start taking blood pressure medication and cut back on certain food.



Physician and cardiologist E. Uchral conducted EKG checkup among herders. She gave advice, depending on their medical condition, also conducted vitals checkup including blood pressure and consulted accordingly.









Herders with back pain and muscle cramps got advice on exercising, common and effective home treatments and the intake of necessary vitamins and minerals. Many herders had high blood pressure and were prone to experience strokes. Our physician advised to pay attention and prescribed medicine and taught exercises.



A representative member of a family signed on the medical checkup attendance form, giving details such as the total number of family member attending in the checkup, a contact number, and a consent form approval signatures.





Steppe and Hoof NGO, with the support of AustCham Mongolia, conducted First Aid and Trauma training, and delivered First Aid Kits to 100 herder families from 5 bags of Jargaltkhaan Soum, Khentii Province, Mongolia. There were a total of 173 herders in attendance for the training.

Throughout the program, we aimed to educate herders on first aid and how to react in such traumatic situation in the remote area, afar from the center.

First aid and trauma training was led by professional paramedic N.Tuvshinbayar, with practical exercises involving herders' participation.

The training covered the full range of first aid topics, such as cardiopulmonary resuscitation, CPR, different types of wound and wound bandages, including adhesive bandages and elastic bandages, burn dressing gel and bandages, sterile pads, and trauma pads, the proper usage of tourniquets, and how to use sam splints appropriately on bone fractures etc.

The training was effective and practical; the examples were close to life scenarios and home-related accidents. For instance, the training sessions covered the topics of how to help a choking person, how to administer care for bleeding, dislocation of bones, hypothermia, frostbite, burn and lightning strike.







We distributed two types of First Aid Kits; the inclusive items were identical. Each kit included variety of wound bandages, surgical scissors, antiseptics, a tourniquet, adhesive tapes, a tweezer, gauze rolls and pads, safety pins, a triangular bandage, emergency banket, an elastic bandage, disposable gloves, CPR mask and a face shield.









During the training, doctor N. Tuvshinbayar covered a wide range of first aid topics such as cardiopulmonary resuscitation, CPR, different types of wound and wound bandages including adhesive bandages and elastic bandages, burn dressing gel and bandages, sterile pads, and trauma pads, and the proper usage of tourniquets, and how to do the sam splints appropriately on bone fractures and so on.







Registration process and attendance check-in



During the registration, families signed on the First Aid Kit delivery sheet and provided signatures and ID photos. They also signed on the photo consent form.







Practical training was conducted under the supervision of doctor E. Tuvshinbayar.





Warmup exercise were conducted, to refresh the herders during long hours of training.

Autumn Veterinary Outreach Program November-December 2023

This winter in Mongolia is extremely cold (-15 to -38 °C) and challenging to herders, especially in western areas of Mongolia, including Erdenemandal, Khairkhan, and Ulziit soums of Arkhangai Province. Steppe and Hoof team with head veterinarian Ts. Batzorig worked in 10 different Bags, of these Soums, in Arkhangai Province, crossing approximately 2100 km, from dawn to dusk everyday.

In the framework of the Autumn project for herders, we reached out to herder families in their pastures. We visited 72 herder families and delivered veterinary medicine packages, respectively with professional veterinarian advice and instruction on proper usage. The veterinary medicine package included *Orondo* wound spray for superficial wounds and anti-infection/anti-parasite drops and medicine including ivermectin and deltamethrin, Albendazole liquid for treating gastrointestinal worms and worm infections, Vitamin E- Selenium for preventing from Tocopherol Deficiency, anti-inflammatories such as AINIL, eye ointments, 18G needles and 10ml syringes.



Autumn Veterinary Outreach Program November-December 2023

Ruminants have been suffering from open wounds and lacerations as the ground was covered with icy snow with a 15-80 cm thick layers, in some areas. Unfortunately, herders did not have gained knowledge of treating such wounds and lacerations, which forced the animals to cope with the condition naturally. Our veterinarian Ts. Batzorig treated sheep and goats in their fences, by disinfecting the wounds, opening abscessed lacerations, and then applying antibiotic ointments and putting sprays on top while instructing herders about the appropriate treatments and further steps to take. Therefore, feeding animals in autumn was quite unfamiliar to herders, especially this time of the year (early November). We have discovered that baby animals including kids, lambs, and calves have been suffering from diarrhea because of their newly harvested grass and diet in the feedlots; our veterinarian advised herders on how to feed animals with proper amounts and mix of herbs, grain, and grass in feedlots.



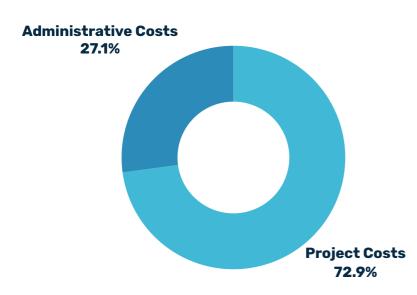
Autumn Veterinary Outreach Program November-December 2023



Veterinary medicine delivery and their proper usage instruction by vet Ts. Batzorig.



Financial Review



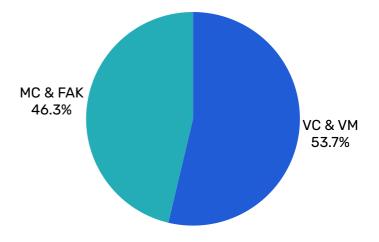
Given here are the two figures of indicate the administrative and project costs, respectively.

In 2023, the administrative costs, 22,29,794MNT, were 27,1% of the total expenses. This covered financial audit costs, global giving due intelligence and other administrative related expenses and taxes.

Whilst the total cost of the projects was 72,9% of the total expense which were 59,875,003MNT.

The total of 46,3% of the project costs, which was 27,719,900MNT, spent for medical checkups; it covered medical diagnostic equipment rental, doctors' payroll, first aid kits, paramedic training fee and transportation related costs.

Veterinary services costs were majority, 53,7%, of the project costs, as 32,162,103MNT was spent this year. This covered veterinarian payroll, veterinarian medicine and transportation costs.



- MC & FAK Medical Checkup, First Aid Kits, Training
 - VC & VM Veterinary Service, Veterinary Medicine

PROJECTS' OUTCOME

Throughout the year 2023, veterinary training was conducted in order to educate herders on how to distinguish common animal diseases, prevent parasite infections and wash their herds properly, in the right time frame. Our team advised on animal medications, and appropriate usage for herders, which they found very crucial and useful in their daily husbandry. With the necessary medicine and supplies which we distributed, herders were trained on how to treat their animals immediately after identifying any diseases or injuries, without waiting for vets or private consultation companies.

Medical services for herders was upgraded, with additional medical diagnostic equipment, electrocardiogram equipment, EKGs, this year. Our medical checkups involved both, sonography and EKGs, as we were able to provide herders with more firm details on their medical condition. All medical records were documented and printed on a proper medical form, which herders can use as an evidence for the further steps and treatments. Thus, it saved time and made herders' further checkup more efficient; some herders had discovered that they had certain level of prostate inflammation and pancreatitis which needed to have special treatments, seek further advanced examination and medication.

Our doctors not only conducted the checkups, but also taught necessary nerve developing or back pain relieving exercises to herders.

In the scope of first aid and trauma training, we started delivering first aid booklets, in Mongolian, with first aid kits. One day training lasted for approximately 4-5 hours, covered all range of medical response. By educating the herders with the first aid and trauma complex training and providing them with relevant First Aid Kits and utilities, it enabled herders to save not only themselves, but also those nearby, in such critical situations until the ambulance comes for further medical assistance. Most importantly, herders learned how to act in such emergency situations, and how to use First Aid kits properly, efficiently, and effectively, after the on-spot physical training with Steppe and Hoof NGO.

THANK YOU, DONORS!

Steppe and Hoof NGO would like to extend our sincere gratitude to our donors, who made our projects possible and helped us to reach out to those herders in the remote areas, with medical and veterinary services, first aid kits and veterinary medicine packages.

Special thanks to the "Equestrianists" for being our sponsor organization and encouraging Mongol Derby riders to start a fundraising campaign for us.

Therefore, many thanks to Mongol Derby Riders for the special fundraising campaign and sparing your time to help Mongol herders in the countryside. Every single fundraising initiative was unique and meaningful that we at Steppe and Hoof were honored to deliver the donations to herders with great obligation and determination.

Also, special gratitude to the US Embassy and AustCham Mongolia for sponsoring our medical programs. Your participation and support was tremendous and has motivated us to continue to collaborate with international organizations and entities in the future.

Many thanks to GlobalGiving and GivenGain, crowdsourcing fundraising websites. for supporting us by connecting with more donors, people with great hearts and respect for our organization, Steppe and Hoof, as a reliable charity NGO.

Last but not least, millions of thanks to local supporters, Mon-chig Leather Factory, Emonos Pharmacy, and all volunteers, veterinarians, doctors and paramedics who worked with us and made the programs successful and effective.

By educating the herders and their local community, we hope to carryon improving animal welfare and herders' veterinary and medical knowledge and delivering constant medical and veterinary services across the vast Steppe of Mongolia, and beyond.

Your donation and support to our cause contributes to Taliin Tuurai (Steppe and Hoof) to ensure that we can continue helping our community effectively and sustainably.













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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

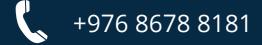
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