



# COMMUNITY ANIMAL CARE GUIDE

For volunteers of the Varanasi Federation of Animal Protection's First-Aid Project



# Preface

As a collective voice for the animal protection community in India, FIAPO unites all animal protection organisations nationwide to exchange ideas, build expertise and take action to strengthen the animal rights movement in the country. FIAPO works with over 160 member organisations, 200 supporter organisations and over 1000 activists in more than 70 cities across India. FIAPO is the largest Federation in the country and one of the largest movement-building organisations in the world.

Thank you for joining Varnasi federation of animal protection. FIAPO has started this project with aim to provide prompt medical aid to the animals of Varanasi. You are more than an activist. Being a part of this, you will be contributing to the better health and medical aid to the animals in your area and animals of Varanasi at large. Dogs have proven to be man's best friend, together lets return the compassion and love to them. Here is a step by step guide. This is a step by step guide to start a community first-aid program in your area. Before you start, make sure your anti-rabies pre-exposure vaccination is upto date.

# Comunity Animal Care Guide



We have been able to rescue and treat many animals through local first aid in Varanasi. Moti's story is testimony to this, Moti was found with serious injuries to his hind legs on Assi ghat. Pushprag volunteered to take care of the injured puppy and slowly treated him back to full health with the help of doctor and regular follow up treatments. today moti is joyful dog loved by everyone on Assi ghat.



# Community Animal Care Guide

This is a step by step guide to start a community first-aid program in your area. Before you start, make sure your anti-rabies pre-exposure vaccination is up to date.

## Step 1: Choosing an area for your first-aid project

- Select a geographic area where you are available most of the time or can reach within short notice.
- The area near your residence is a good choice, however ensure that there are potential community caretakers like vendors at roadside stalls like Chaiwalas etc. They are vital for any community first-aid programme, as they help care for animals through basic first-aid & follow-up, like applying medicines regularly on wounds or keeping watch on the condition animals in the area.
- You can also select an area where animals need such aid, like localities with large number of dogs, areas with busy streets with stray animals, market areas where street animals congregate etc.
- Once you have decided on the area, mark out on a map the points of regular visits. If a map is not available then you can simply identify landmarks to decide the boundaries of your service area.
- It is a good practice & extremely important to have specific areas to work in, as this enables you to be more focused and derive better results from the efforts you put in.

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## Step 2: Visit your area and check:

- Observe the condition of animals in the area and try to identify various animal packs.
- Observe the time when animals are most likely to be on the streets and be easy to find (for example, it is hard to locate animals on a hot afternoon, when they are resting in hidden nooks).
- Start talking with the locals. You can start the conversation with questions like 'is there any injured animal here?' or say 'I have come to give some first aid to injured animals'.
- Plan to conduct a survey of street dogs in that area

## Step 3: Conducting a dog survey

- The more information you have about the animals, the better you can help them.
- Start from one end, and move systematically to cover your entire service area within two days recording informations. Request help from the animal friendly people for this, but doing a survey alone is also very easy!

Go early in the morning, around 6:00 AM Dogs are most visible then.

Use the following format to collect data-

Sr. Number	Males/female	Location	Condition	Puppy/ Adult Dog	other animal

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## Step 4: Starting First Aid

- Once you have your service area selected and the dog survey conducted, go over the first-aid steps for common problems included at the end of this document. These will also have been covered in your training. You also need to familiarize yourself thoroughly with the first-aid kit that has been provided to you.
- Decide the days and the frequency with which you will be able to visit the area. Create a timetable to ensure you cover all of the chosen area and ensure that you visit the area at least twice a week. The more regular your visits are, the more animals you will meet and the more number of people you can reach out to.

You need to spend as little as two days a week for the animals and the community to start recognizing you!

### **Conducting first-aid visits to your defined service area:**

- Carry your first-aid kit and lots of biscuits (Parle-G) – these will help you become friends with the dogs!
- Approach all dogs (if they are friendly, else do not approach any dogs that seem aggressive) – even those that don't need first-aid. If the dogs know you and are friendly, then giving first-aid to them when they need it will be much easier.
- You will come across some dogs that need first-aid. Giving them first-aid may seem hard at first, especially since they may not know you! It is important to be patient, it's a skill you will soon develop. Most dogs often only have skin ailments that need treating.

# Community Animal Care Guide

- From the second and third visit onwards, you will need to follow-up your cases. Finding a supportive community caretaker can make this much easier. See the section on working with the community of this manual for more on this.
- Keep a record of how many dogs you treat in a month, what disease, what follow up you are doing. This log will be helpful in first aid treatments. Remember to take photos of animals you treat.





# Community Animal Care Guide

Month	February
Area	Sikraul
Subarea	Sikraul, Cantt

Date	Day	Area	Detail of Animal	Treatment	Status
1st February	Monday	Sikraul(Market)	Brown Dog, Male	injury on leg applied bitadene lotion	new
1st February	Monday	Sikraul(Market)	Black Bullock	injury on head, treated with XYZ medicine	new
3rd February	Wednesday	Sikraul(Market)	Brown puppy with white hind leg, male	injury on leg applied bitadene lotion	follow-up
3rd February	Wednesday	Sikraul(Market)	Black Bullock	injury on head, treated with XYZ medicine	follow-up
5th February	Friday	Sikraul(Market)	Brown Dog, female	applied bitadene	new

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## Steps 5: Working with the Local Community

- People from the community who show interest in helping injured animals, are compassionate towards them and are also keen on the work you are doing can be appointed as **community caretakers**.
- Plan a simple activity like de-worming of puppies and applying a mixture of Sulphur and Camphor, with the local community. Such activities are good opportunities to connect with the local community.

### At the event:

- a. Decide on a day and invite your friends and other activists to join you. Also ask FIAPO representatives and other Varanasi Federation members to join you in your activity.
- b. As you start first-aid, speak to the local community available. Tell them about small initiatives they can take for animal welfare.
- c. You can also use leaflets with your phone number, so they can call you when help needed.
- d. Aim to sensitize them towards welfare of animals and to be more caring towards them
- e. Ask the caretakers to take responsibility of injured animals by giving simple medical care or by keeping watch on them. They can also help you track injured animals when you visit the area.
- f. Share your schedule with these contacts, so that they can know your availability to help, whether on the phone or physically.
- g. You can also give some basic medicines like Betadine ointment or powder to the caretakers and ask them to regularly apply on injuries, for faster healing.

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- h. Consider printing posters in the local language about your availability and how you can help animals, with your contact details. Put them up at the most popular landmarks in your service area.
- I. Add some basic first aid tips in the poster which the caretakers can conduct even if you're not there.
- j. It is always helpful if there is more than one person during the rounds. You can invite your friends to join you on these visits and help you out.

## MORE POWER TO YOU: GETTING OTHERS INVOLVED

- Alone we can do little; but together we can change the way a community treats its animals. Attracting more activists is very important – more people means more animals helped!
- Keep adding more people to your network. This you can do through small events and simple outreach activities in colleges and other places ***near your service area*** where youth meet like collage or mall.
- You can take permission from the college/mall authorities and set up a small stall, organize a presentation, or just do leaflet distribution on campus. A sample letter is included in the appendix.
- You can also ask people to pledge to be compassionate towards animals. This pledge also helps in collecting contact details – to contact them and ask them to join our next event.
- Once you have all contact details, contact them before your next activity and ask them to join in your visits and other activities that you do with the local community of the area. We will also provide assistance with this

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**Join us to help the Animals of Varanasi!**



At this very moment, thousands of dogs, cows and many other animals are out on the streets, with nothing to call their home, and no one to call their own. Scavenging for food in piles of garbage, they are often sick, diseased and starved. Feeding on bags of plastic instead of grass, cows suffer unbearable pain and die a slow death through stomach infections.

From the warmth of a mother's womb, little babies are born in a world with little comfort or care. They have no shelter from the rain, wind, cold or the scorching sun, and only a few survive these terrible conditions.

Diseased, sick and starved, the animals of Varanasi are calling for your help! It may not be our **DUTY** to look after these animals, but it is certainly our **RESPONSIBILITY** to care for and love all beings created by the divine.

**JOIN US** to help animals all around you - we are a group of animal care givers in Varanasi and our activities are varied, including first-aid and public education in schools and colleges. Contact Swati at [9452781980](tel:9452781980) or [mail@fiapo.org](mailto:mail@fiapo.org) today and together we can help turn Varanasi into the same heaven for animals as it is for humans!

**To volunteer, please contact: - Swati at [mail@fiapo.org](mailto:mail@fiapo.org)  
or call her at [9452781980](tel:9452781980)**

*This is a project of the **Federation of Indian Animal Protection Organisations (FIAPO)**, India's apex animal protection organization. As the collective voice of the animal protection movement in India, FIAPO protects the interests of animals on local and national levels - through education, research, lobbying, mobilization, training and direct action. Created for the movement, by the movement, FIAPO is India's only national federation with over-60 members and 200 supporter organizations nationally!*

**Every single day we pass them by.**

*We see them abused and neglected, in pain and suffering. We sit back, waiting for someone else to take action.*

The animals of Varanasi are calling out for **YOUR HELP!**

**Don't let them suffer in a city famous for cleansing people of their sins!**



[www.fiapo.org](http://www.fiapo.org)

## आइये पशुओं की सहायता करें!



### पशुओं पर हो रहे हैं कितने पाप,

### अपना दायित्व कब समझेंगे आप ?

हम अक्सर पशुओं को प्रताड़ित होते तथा पीड़ित अवस्था में देखते हैं। चोट से घायल, भूखे, वर्म रोगों से ग्रस्त पशु बनासस में एक आम दृश्य हो गये हैं।

### इस मौक्ष की नगरी में जानवरों को इस

### तरह कष्ट ना झेलने दें।



[www.fiapo.org](http://www.fiapo.org)

इस क्षण भी लाखों लावारिस तथा उपेक्षित कुत्ते, गाय एवं अन्य पशु सड़कों पर घूम रहे हैं।

मूख से व्रस्त, कूड़ेदान इनका पहला और आखिरी सहारा होता है। आप अक्सर गौवंश को, चारों की जगह प्लास्टिक खाते हुए पायेंगे। इसके कारण वह अक्सर असहनीय पीड़ा और पेट के संक्रमण से धीमी मौत मरती हैं।

नन्हें शिशु कड़कती ठंड में माँ की कोख से एक अत्यन्त पीड़ादायक माहौल में जन्म लेते हैं। ठिठुरती सर्दी, मूसलाधार बारिश, कड़कती धूप इन नन्हें बच्चुबानों की जान ले लेते हैं।

रोगग्रस्त, अस्वस्थ, और लाचार वाराणसी के पशु आपकी ओर उम्मीद भरी नजरों से देख रहे हैं। इन्हें निराशा न होने दें।

आइये वाराणसी पशु रक्षा महासंघ के माध्यम से वाराणसी के अन्य करुणामयी पशु प्रेमीयों से जुड़िये।

वाराणसी में पशुओं के लिए प्राथमिक चिकित्सा, राहत एवं लोगों में जागरूकता हमारी गतिविधियाँ हैं। हमारे साथ जुड़ने के लिए फोन न० ९४२३७८९१८७/९452781980 या [mail@fiapo.org](mailto:mail@fiapo.org) पर सम्पर्क करें।

## स्वयंसेवक बनने के लिए, कृपया स्वाति को

यह अभियान भारतीय पशु सुरक्षा महासंघ (FIAPo) द्वारा

चलाया जा रहा है। जन

जागरूकता, अनुसंधान, संघटन, प्रमश यह अभियान भारतीय

पशु सुरक्षा महासंघ

# Community Animal Care Guide

## FIRST AID TIPS

Here is a list of first aid treatments that will be helpful for you to treat injuries of animals:

### Common Emergencies

#### 1. Burns

These can occur from contact with direct heat, chemical agents, or from chewing electrical wires. Serious burns can lead to shock and death.

Consult a vet immediately after administering the following first-aid measures.

#### Types of burns:

- **Thermal:** This could be dry heat, such as flames; or moist heat, such as hot liquids spilled on the body. First, cool the area by applying cold water or an ice pack for 20-30 minutes. Apply an anti-bacterial ointment. Do not apply greasy home remedies for example, butter, oil etc.; these will trap the heat and delay healing. Homeopathic mother tincture Cantharis Q can also be poured on the burn to soothe the area.
- **Chemical:** For burns with corrosive chemicals, flush the skin with a large quantity of cool water. If the substance contained an alkali, follow with a rinse of equal parts vinegar and water. If the substance contained an acid, follow with a baking-soda and rinse (2-3 tablespoons per 250 ml of warm water)
- **Electrical:** Disconnect the wire from its power source if it is touching the dog's body. If you can't unplug the cord, wrap a heavy towel around your hand or use a ruler or other non-conductor of electricity to push the wire out of the mouth or away from the body. Make sure there is a supply of fresh air in the room. Keep the dog warm and get veterinary help at once.

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## 2. Poisoning

### Signs:

Sudden, violent vomiting and/or diarrhea, fits, foaming at the mouth, staggering gait, collapsing and coma. However, remember these signs may also relate to other conditions not caused by poisoning.

### Action:

Consult a veterinarian immediately.

If a vet is not available at once, and if you know what toxin the dog has swallowed, try the following:

- For most toxins (use one method) 3% Hydrogen Peroxide- 2-3 teaspoon for dogs, 1 teaspoon for cats – give every 10 minutes repeatedly 3 times OR Salt– one-quarter to one-half teaspoonful, placed dry at the back of the tongue, or dissolve one tablespoon in one cup of warm water.
- For corrosive acid or alkali, gasoline or other petroleum distillates, or strychnine – do not attempt to make the animal vomit. Try to delay absorption by giving milk, (whipped egg whites), vegetable oil or water. Also do not try to make the animal vomit if it is severely depressed or comatose, swallows tranquilizers, swallows a sharp object, or if more than 2 hours have passed since the poison was ingested.

## 3. Bleeding

Deep wounds may cause profuse bleeding. If an artery has been severed, bright red blood will spurt from the wound in time with the heartbeat. Blood from a vein will be much darker in colour.

### Action:

- Apply turmeric powder or Tincture Iodine.
- Use a pressure bandage: place a clean cloth or gauze bandage over the wound and apply manual pressure until the bleeding stops.
- GET VETERINARY HELP IMMEDIATELY.
- You can also put a bandage over the wound and bind it tightly.

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## 4. Shock

Can occur due to an accident, acute infection, hemorrhage, heart disease, heatstroke, diabetes, poisoning or an epileptic fit. Quick action on your part could save his life.

### Signs:

Low body temperature, pale gums, difficulty in breathing, body may become stiff.

### Action:

- Place the dog in a warm, quiet place and cover it with a blanket.
- Place a hot water bottle next to it if the body is cold.
- You can also rub the paws and ears to improve the circulation.
- If there is bleeding, take the necessary steps to stop the flow.
- Consult Welfare of Stray Dogs <http://www.wsdindia.org/> for appropriate [homeopathic medication](#).
- GET VETERINARY HELP IMMEDIATELY.

## 5. Injury (spine/ hip)

Give homeopathic remedy Arnica 1M every 2 or 3 hours (one dose is 4 pills/2 drops liquid in ½ teaspoon water) until the dog can be X-rayed. Avoid moving him. If you have to transport him, ask at least 2 people to help you, to support the head, back and pelvis. Avoid bending the spine. Use a flat board or blanket stretched tightly as stretcher.



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## Recognizing major infectious diseases

### **Canine Distemper:**

A disease with a very high mortality rate, especially in pups. It affects the respiratory, digestive and central nervous systems. Principally affects dogs under the age of one. Recovery is possible if diagnosed and treated early. WSD gives a short course of antibiotics followed by homeopathy.

### **Major signs:**

- Cough
- High fever
- Dullness
- Appetite loss
- Eye discharge
- Reddened eyes
- Nasal discharge, starting watery and becoming thick with pus
- Noisy breathing (lung congestion)
- Sometimes diarrhea—may be black and foul-smelling
- Sometimes vomiting
- Later, nervous signs—fits, chorea (nervous twitch), paralysis
- Thickening and hardening of paw pads and nose are typical.

### **Leptospirosis:**

It is a highly contagious infection that primarily attacks the kidneys. It is transmitted by rats and rat urine. It can be passed on to humans.

### **Major signs:**

High fever	Loss of appetite
Severe thirst	Increased frequency of urination
Abdominal pain	Depression
Possible mouth ulcers	Coated tongue
Diarrhea with blood	Dark-coloured urine
Jaundice	Persistent vomiting
Damage to kidneys.	

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## **Canine Parvovirus Infection:**

it is a highly dangerous and contagious disease. If diagnosed and treated early it can be cured.

### **Major signs:**

- Depression
- Severe vomiting
- Abdominal pain
- Refusal of food and water
- Very profuse diarrhea often with high blood content
- Pale gums possible fever of 103F or above in adults' difficult breathing, weakness, below normal temperature in pups
- Possible dehydration.

## **Treating wounds**

### **Wounds without maggots:**

Unless cleaned and dressed regularly, wounds can get infested with maggots, sepsis or gangrene- all highly dangerous conditions.

### **Action:**

- Clean the wound with Hydrogen Peroxide. This will create a lot of froth.
- Wipe it off with a clean cotton pad after a few seconds.
- If there is pus, make sure that it is removed.
- Flush the wound with Wokadine/Betadine solution. Do not wipe this off.
- Sprinkle Nebasulf powder when the Betadine has dried a little.
- Apply Hymax last to prevent flies from sitting on the wound.

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## **Maggot -infested wounds:**

A wound quickly becomes maggot-infested when flies sit on it and lay eggs. These eggs hatch into larvae which are called maggots. Maggots eat the dog's flesh and cause a lot of pain, infection and growing anemia. If the wound is untreated, they will eat their way deeper into the dog's body and damage its vital organs, eventually causing death. Infection from the wound can also be fatal.

## **A maggot wound in general is treated in the following manner:**

- Put Xylocaine lotion on the wound to anaesthetize the area.
- Wait for a couple of minutes for it to take effect.
- Put a few drops of Ivermectin on the wound.
- If required pour it in or use a syringe to access the end of a deep tunnel-like wound Note: If the wound is not too deep you can use Eucalyptus oil or Neem oil instead of Ivermectin. Pour it in, using a syringe if necessary. There is no need to use Xylocaine first if you use either of these herbal oils.
- Plug the wound with cotton and wait for a couple of minutes.
- Most of the maggots would have died. Use clean sterilized forceps and remove them.
- Use Hydrogen Peroxide to bring any impurities and dead maggots up to the surface.
- Repeat the above procedure till all the maggots are removed.
- Flush the wound with Wokadine/Betadine solution. Use a syringe if necessary
- Apply Nebasulf powder after the Wokadine/Betadine solution has flushed out or dried a little.
- Apply Acrilin/Lorexane ointment.
- Finish the dressing by spreading Hymax liberally on the wound.
- Visit the case the next day and repeat the process to ensure that there are no more living maggots in the wound.

## **Wounds on the head:**

Do not apply chloroform; use only Neem or eucalyptus oil. Preferably call a vet or a local NGO.

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## Skin problems (fur loss, itching, redness)

### Use one of the following ointments:

1. Scabneel Oleo mixed with equal amount of Neem oil
2. Sulphur powder & camphor powder (equal amounts) mixed with coconut oil.

### Apply either of these ointments only once every 4 or 5 days or even once a week:

- It is important that you regularly visit the area and follow up the first aid treatment time to time, or else gaps between the treatments can cause critical condition for injured animal and recovery can be delayed.
- Also due to huge gaps between visits or missed visits many time you can't keep track of animal and you may not be able to find him.
- So it is important that you keep your visit regular and at least twice in a week.
- This will also help you in building a relationship with the local community
- Always respond when you get calls from Care Takers and guide them with some simple measures to help an injured animal. Also tell them when you can be there to attend the injured animal, if you can't go immediately.
- Ask them to be available whenever you arrive to give first aid treatment to the animal, so that they will be helpful not only in locating the animal but also assisting you in first aid.
- Further you can ask the community person/ care taker to do a follow up treatment like spraying medicine on the wound, or tracking the animal, whenever you will be at the place the next time for a follow up treatment.

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## SAMPLE LETTER FOR PERMISSION TO CONDUCT OUTREACH



The Principal  
Lady Shri Ram College for Women  
Delhi University

Dear Ma'am

Subject: Spreading awareness on compassion towards animals through the medium of leaflets

Respectfully, I inform that we are a group of animal protection advocates. It is my humble request to you to kindly grant us permission to distribute our animal welfare leaflets in your esteemed college on \_\_\_\_\_. I assure you that this leafleting exercise will not take more than 2 hours.

Through this activity we want to imbibe in the students the feeling of compassion towards animals and thus make conscious choices. I give surety that this will not result in any bothersome action.

Therefore, I would be gracious if you would allow me to do the requested during the given hours.

For any queries/communication in this regard, you can please contact at mobile below.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully  
Priyanka Singh  
9818889629

# Community Animal Care Guide

## Pledge For Compassion

I pledge to help animals and make this earth a better place for them by preserving their rights.



Name	Email	Telephone	I pledge to be compassionate! (leave your signature below)



As a collective voice for the animal protection community in India, FIAPO unites all animal protection organisations nationwide to exchange ideas, build expertise and take action to strengthen the animal rights movement in the country. FIAPO works with over 160 member organisations, 200 supporter organisations and over 1000 activists in more than 70 cities across India. FIAPO is the largest Federation in the country and one of the largest movement-building organisations in the world.

E-18A, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, East of Kailash, New Delhi, 110065

 011-41072945

 [mail@fiapo.org](mailto:mail@fiapo.org)

 [www.fiapo.org](http://www.fiapo.org)