

Students Raise 35,000 QAR to Rescue Qatari Animal Shelter

On Sunday 22nd May, the students at QAD received the best news ever: The donations for PAWS Rescue Center reached an incredible 35,000 QAR! Thank you so much to everyone involved!

Over the last few months, students have taken action to raise awareness of the difficulties that PAWS were facing to pay their bill at Qatar Royal Vets - the team who provides medical care to the dogs and cats that PAWS rescue.

In February, students spoke to Her Excellency Mariam bint Ali bin Nasser Al-Misnad, Minister of Social Development and Family, to solve the situation that PAWS was facing. It was an effective meeting to solve an important problem.

In April, students joined the Eid Prayer in Education City, gave a speech about the situation at PAWS and achieved donations.

In May, passionate students decided to speak to parents and visitors about Animal Welfare as part of their Grade 5 PYP Exhibition. It was a successful event that changed many mindsets.

Students have also made snuffle mats to sell at the Qatar Foundation Gifted Shop, shared messages and articles in social media... We tried our hardest, and we did it! Can you believe it? We accomplished our goal! Our efforts and dedication finally paid off!

Alison Caldwell, co-founder of PAWS Rescue Center, explained: "This generous donation has paid off our long outstanding veterinary bills. This allows us to start using the vet's resources again to rescue new cases from the streets."



Students celebrating the fantastic news: 35,000 QAR raised for PAWS Rescue Center

"When I was volunteering at PAWS, I heard it was closing. I convinced many QAD students and teachers to help them. Eight months later, we have supported them to find a new villa, and assisted with 35,000 QAR to pay off their bills. We are so proud!" - Shaha, Grade 5 student.

"We have always strived to not turn away from an animal that needs help, but when the veterinary care is limited, we have to rely on the goodwill of the amazing vets we work with. This donation means that we can continue our much-needed work."

Alison feels most grateful for what the students have done to help: "The support of QAD has not only been from a financial perspective. There is also a motivational aspect. Seeing how determined a group of children can be to drive for change and not stop until they achieve their goals is extra motivation for us to continue, and to not want to stop helping even when it becomes very hard. These QAD students have become role models in the Qatari community - we are very proud!"



Alison sharing the great news with QAD students

Alison also shared her ambitious objectives for the future: "From now on, PAWS will continue to rescue and rehabilitate the sick and vulnerable animals on the streets, to spread awareness, to drive for change in national animal policies, to acquire a new facility, and to become recognized as an official charity in Qatar."

Alison also had words of advice for our QAD students: "Keep being role models. Raise your voices and be heard. Don't give up. Keep being animal advocates in whatever way you can, and people will listen. Continue to develop the relationships with Ministries and influential people who can drive change in Qatar. Keep thinking of great ideas to raise those funds!"

QAD's drive to support PAWS Rescue Center does not end here. Students are now organizing other activities, including school dress-up days and events to raise awareness around Doha - Read future editions of 'The Inquirer' to find out more about upcoming updates!

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