

The
ESTHER HONEY

Foundation ... *Improving the world for animals...One island at a time.*

Support

THE ESTHER HONEY FOUNDATION ANIMAL CLINIC
THE COOK ISLANDS' ONLY VETERINARY & HUMANE EDUCATION SERVICES

"Pacific Countries are desperately short of veterinarians" with "more than half of Pacific Island Countries having no veterinarians at all" reported the Commonwealth Veterinary Association, Pacific countries, at the recent Australasia regional meeting. The Cook Islands was one of the countries without a veterinarian when EHF's founder, Cathy Sue Ragan-Anunsen, first came to Rarotonga in 1993. Learning of the country's need, she established the Esther Honey Foundation to provide life-saving veterinary care for the Cook Islands. **Since 1995, the foundation has recruited 177 veterinarians to travel to Rarotonga to treat more than 23,000 animals, many of whom would have died or been left in agony if not for EHF services. Over 10,000 animals have been sterilized.**



In 2008, with more than half of Pacific Countries still suffering from a lack of veterinarians, EHF sent 34 veterinarians and 32 veterinary support staff to treat 2,532 Cook Islands animals. EHF conducted the country's first island-wide canine census and introduced micro-chipping for each dog sterilized by EHF as a part of the EHF/Police animal management programme. 1,123 animals were sterilized last year including 537 dogs. EHF's teams of veterinary volunteers traveled to three outer islands to conduct EHF VET TREKS®, including **EHF's 100th VET TREK!** In addition to veterinary care, EHF housed, fed and rehomed 100 cats and dogs and treated just under 100 non-companion animals.

In the first three months of 2009, EHF's education team delivered critical spay/neuter and animal health messages to over 600 local school children and teachers. 11 veterinarians and seven support staff have arrived to treat CI animals. EHF's entry in the **International SPAY Day Photo contest, the Cook Islands' lovely Mia, placed in the top 125 out of 45,000 international entries** and **EHF's SPAY DAY** events and spay/neuter message reached more than 7,000 people world-wide.

EHF's global presence continues to increase international awareness of the Cook Islands.



EHF has introduced the Cook Islands to thousands of potential volunteers, tourists, readers and television viewers around the world. Last year alone, an **Animal Planet Canada documentary** featured EHF, the **BBC also traveled to Rarotonga to film EHF volunteers** and a new **National Geographic book listed EHF one of "the 100 Best Volunteer Vacations to enrich your life."** More than 50 international articles about EHF have been published and

over 4,000 internet travelers visit EHF's website monthly to learn about volunteering and living in Rarotonga.

EHF's dedicated management, volunteers and contributors have made a significant, potentially permanent, difference in the number and health of thousands of CI animals. Thank you for your support. In these challenging economic times, your continued assistance is especially important. We rely on the generosity of supporters like you to help keep the country's only veterinary clinic and EHF VET TREKS operating. **We hope that we can count on your ongoing partnership during EHF's 14th year serving the Cook Islands.**

www.estherhoney.org

EHF is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization and a Registered Cook Islands Charitable Foreign Enterprise
96% of last years' EHF expenditures went directly to hands-on Cook Islands animal care programs

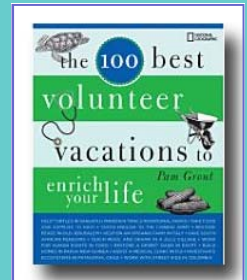


▶ DID YOU KNOW?

In addition to treating cats & dogs, EHF provides emergency care to Pigs, Goats, Chickens, Horses, a Parrot, Sea Birds, Fruit Bats & one Seal.

▶ DID YOU KNOW?

EHF was selected by one of the 100 Best Volunteer Vacations to Enrich Your Life



**National Geographic Publication
May 19 2009**

▶ DID YOU KNOW?

EHF receives no government financial support but EHF contributes significantly to the local economy:
-\$4,500 clinic monthly local expenditures.
- EHF recruits Volunteers, (66 in 08) who would not be in the country if not for EHF. They Buy (66) airline tickets, Shop in Raro stores, Travel to outer islands, Dine in restaurants, Dive, Rent scooters and Purchase souvenirs in addition to treating CI animals.

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