

# COCONUT MUTTS NEWS

The official newsletter of Coconut Mutts - 501(c)3



## Happy New Year!

### WELCOMING 2019

This year marks the third year of Coconut Mutts! Coming on the heels of our successful Healthy Pets, Healthy Island Campaign (see page 2 for details), we are looking to this year with hope and momentum to continue our mission of improving animal welfare in American Samoa.

May your New Year be bright and filled with wonder!

### What's up this month:

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# Healthy Pets, Healthy Island Program

THREE MONTHS, 300 ANIMALS - SUCCESS!

We are proud to share that Coconut Mutts in partnership with the ASC Department of Agriculture Veterinary Clinic in American Samoa successfully met our goal of sponsoring spay/neuter surgeries for 300 animals over the past three months! Spaying and neutering is one of the most productive and helpful things that can be done to prevent a cat and dog overpopulation problem in American Samoa and to promote animal health. From October-December, we coordinated with clinic staff to support the increased procedures and veterinary services.

The first month of our Healthy Pets, Healthy Island campaign was October and 100 dogs were spayed/neutered. Most of the females had had multiple litters and the clinic was able to treat those females suffering from transmissible venereal tumors. During the second month, 101 cats were spay/neutered and vaccinated. December was dedicated to sponsoring 100 female animals - dogs or cats. We surpassed that goal to a grand total of 102 female dogs and cats.

We would like to thank our international community and donors who made this program possible. Through your compassion we were able to provide much needed support and resources for animals in American Samoa and we look forward to future spay/neuter campaigns!



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We have made great strides (with the help of too many people to name) on this island but we have a far way to go.  
- Dr. Kristen



# Veterinarian Needed

MANY THANKS DR. KRISTEN!

It's with genuine sadness that we bid Dr. Kristen a fond farewell as she begins a new job in Santa Fe to continue her work with animals. We wish her the best of luck on her future adventures! In the mean time, the ASG Department of Agriculture Veterinary Clinic is still in need of a replacement veterinarian. We are calling upon our community to please help us spread the word. Please see below for more details:

Beautiful US territory of American Samoa in the south Pacific Ocean seeks mixed animal veterinarian for position of Territorial Veterinarian. Anticipated start date is January 2019. This position is offered through the American Samoa Government Department of Agriculture. The position is multi-faceted and includes: running small government clinic providing service to dogs, cats, and pigs; continuing active spay/neuter program to control dog and cat overpopulation; maintaining and overseeing quarantine requirements for animal importations; assistance in developing programs improving swine management, health, and production on island.

#### Benefits:

- Government housing available
- Generous vacation
- Government employee access to healthcare
- Rich recreational opportunities

#### Qualifications:

- US license required
- DEA license required
- Strong surgical skills
- Ability to adapt and work in remote, tropical location

CONTACT FOR MORE INFO: KRISTEN JENSEN, DVM  
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Dr. Kristen has inspired us with her dedication.

She has sacrificed so much for the animals of American Samoa and we wish her well!  
- Coconut Mutts Board



# Rescue Spotlight

BUSTER AND SOSOSI -  
WHERE DONATIONS GO

"When you're sitting around early Sunday morning watching Dodo rescue dog videos...and you get a message from your friend that this sad face showed up in their yard...this little guy is going to be another serious project 💎💎." Of course Dr. Kristen came to the rescue. She picked up Buster while Vet Tech Tanya found Sosisi on the side of the road a few days later. Both boys were found alone, starving and suffering from a variety of ills, including mange and worms.

They became the best of friends and we hoped they would find a home of their own. And who knows, maybe a forever home together? And then, just in time for the holidays, Buster and Sosisi found their forever home TOGETHER! We're filled with joy and love that these best friends will continue to grow and heal together.



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At least he feels safe now. - Dr. Kristen

