



**Annual Report**  
**for the Financial Year ended**  
**31 December 2022**

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The **Cat Welfare Society (CWS)** is a Singapore-based society registered under the Societies Act (Cap. 311 of Singapore).

It is also a charity and an institute of public character ("**IPC**") pursuant to the Charities Act (Cap. 37 of Singapore).

**UEN Number:** S99SS0144E

**Date of Society Registration:** 23 October 1999

**Date of Charity Registration:** 28 June 2004

**Current Period of IPC:** Renewed from 9 Dec 2022 to 8 Dec 2024

**Website:** <http://www.catwelfare.org>

**Store:** [www.catwelfare.store](http://www.catwelfare.store)

# 1. About the Cat Welfare Society

## 1.1 Our Vision

A humane society where every cat in Singapore has a place to call home.

## 1.2 Our Mission

Engaging the community to achieve sustainable and humane management of cats in Singapore through advocacy, sterilisation, mediation and educational outreach programs.

## 1.3 Principle Source of Funds

CWS is supported primarily through the generous donations from the public.

## 1.4 Reserves Policy

The Society shall set aside and maintain at all times reserves of funds of at least 6 months' value of operating expenses. Such value is to be calculated with reference to the Society's operating expenses for the preceding financial year. The Society shall not draw on these reserves without the approval of the Chief Executive Officer or equivalent staff member, and an 80% approval in number of the currently serving executive Board by a resolution in writing.

## 1.5 Conflicts of Interest Policy

CWS requires all Board Members and employees to submit an annual conflict of interest declaration in the form provided by CWS at the start of their serving period.

Board Members and employees are also required to declare, as soon as they are aware that they have any conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest in relation to any transaction or matter involving CWS.

Board Members are not allowed to vote on any matters in which they have a conflict of interest. They are also not allowed to participate in any discussion on matters in which they are personally interested. A Board Member is required to recuse himself or herself from any meeting where such discussion takes place. The reason for how a final decision is made on the matter is also required to be recorded in the minutes of meeting.

## 1.6 Rewards and Compensation

No Board Member was paid any remuneration for their services as Board Members during the financial year.

There is no employee whose annual remuneration was \$100,000 or more during the financial year.

There is no paid staff, being a close member of the family belonging to the Executive Head or a governing board member of the charity, who has received remuneration exceeding \$50,000 during the financial year.

## 2. President's Message

2022 was one of the most hectic years we have had. We continued with our sterilisation programmes in full force, helping to neuter 4944 cats (an average of 13 cats for every day of the year) and engaged and resolved over 3000 cases islandwide.

In addition to that, we ramped up on our advocacy efforts focusing on the legalisation of cat ownership in HDBs. To that end we commenced a survey across various randomly-selected HDB blocks to understand what the public's views and thoughts were on the legalisation of cat ownership in Singapore.

Our surveys showed that only a small percentage of individuals actually objected to the legalisation, showing us that even ground sentiment was in favour of our position. We were buoyed by the public consultation launched by AVS on the legalisation as well. We published the findings of 4 of those surveys and held 21 public engagement sessions in 2022.

The Cat Mama Store continued to operate successfully with excellent sales as well.

CWS continues to serve our Singapore community and pet cats through the community of caregivers and responsible cat owners. We hope you will continue to support our journey in 2023 and the years to come.



Thenuga Vijakumar  
President

## 3. Board, Auditors, Advisors, and Staff

### 3.1 Board

For the financial year ended 31 December 2022 (“FY2022”), our Board comprised:

Name	Designation	Occupation	Date of election
Thenuga Vijakumar*	President	Manager, CEO Office at Adani Global Pte Ltd	18 June 2022
Deborah Ong	Vice-President	Event Producer at TwentyThreeTwelve	18 June 2022
Matsumoto Emi	Treasurer	Premier Partner Operations Specialist at Meta	18 June 2022
Sylvia Tan	Secretary	Head of Commercial Operations at Merlin Entertainments Singapore Pte Ltd	18 June 2022
Rifdi Rafiuddin Bin Mohd Ridwan	Member	APAC Policy & Advocacy Manager for YouTube at Maker Lab@Google APAC	18 June 2022
Ng Lin Zhi Shayna	Member	National Athlete at Singapore Sports Institute	18 June 2022
Jasmine Lim	Member	Senior Technical Specialist at Grab Holdings Inc	18 June 2022
Kee Qiuling Julianne	Member	Ecologist at Mott MacDonald Singapore	18 June 2022
Theresa Goh Rui Si	Member	Pathway and Performance Executive at Singapore Disability Sports Council	18 June 2022
Wang Yinuo	Member	Accountant, APJ at Acronis	18 June 2022

\*Thenuga Vijakumar was appointed as the President of CWS on 14 June 2014, serving her 10th year as a governing board member in 2022/2023. The executive board has not been able to find a successor for the role. Ms Vijakumar has expressed willingness to continue to serve in the role until a successor steps forward to take over her role in the Executive Board.

#### 3.1.2 Board Meetings Attendance

Since the Annual General Meeting on 18 June 2022, there have been a total of 6 Board meetings,

before 17 June 2023.

Name	Attendance
Thenuga Vijakumar	6/6
Deborah Ong	6/6
Matsumoto Emi	6/6
Sylvia Tan	6/6
Rifdi Rafiuddin Bin Mohd Ridwan	5/6
Ng Lin Zhi Shayna	4/6
Jasmine Lim	5/6
Kee Qiuling Julianne	2/6
Theresa Goh Rui Si	5/6
Wang Yinuo	3/6

### 3.2 Our Bankers

DBS Bank Ltd

### 3.3 Our Accountant

Pikai Pte Ltd

### 3.4 Our Auditors

Tan, Chan & Partners

### 3.5 Employees

Senior Community Engagement Manager: Jiehui Li

Senior Community Engagement Manager: Michelle Siau

Community Engagement Manager: Safiah Mohamed

Community Engagement Manager: Stephanie DeWitt

## 4. The Year in Review

### 4.1 An Overview of numbers

**4944**

Cats  
Sterilised

**>3000**

Cases  
Mediated

**21**

Public  
Engagement  
Sessions

**4**

HDB engagement  
surveys published

### 4.2 Mediation

CWS continues to push for the right of community cats to live peacefully and co-exist harmoniously with human beings by promoting the humane handling of cat issues especially through its work in community engagement. With each case, we engage with all stakeholders including the feedback providers to educate them on humane resolution methods to create a more tolerant, harmonious and humane Singapore.

In 2022, the team of four Community Engagement Managers continued to engage and resolve over 3000 cases of cat-related feedback stemming largely from irresponsible cat ownership and irresponsible cat caregiving. As with the past years, the lack of regulation in respect of cat ownership, especially in HDBs, has resulted in many errant owners refusing to change their ways which is why we undertook a data-driven approach to call for the legalisation of cat ownership in HDBs.

### 4.3 Sterilisation

CWS has two sterilisation programmes - for community cats and for pet cats belonging to financially disadvantaged families.

#### *Community cats*

In 2022 we helped sterilise 3005 community cats island-wide. The principle behind the community cat sterilisation programme is humane management and ultimately the reduction of population across the island. With reduced numbers, community cats will have more resources and be better managed. Further, the burden on community caregivers to care for these cats will also be alleviated. Responsible caregiving education is provided via our mediation model (i.e population control, responsible feeding practices, reporting of abandoned cats to agencies). The sterilisation of community cats will continue into 2023 with CWS budgeting to pay for the sterilisation and microchipping of 250 community cats per month.

#### *Pet cats*

In 2022 we also helped sterilise 1939 pet cats island-wide. We commenced this programme formally in November 2020 to tackle abandonment that was occurring because families in financial distress exacerbated by COVID-19 could not afford to sterilise their cats leading to overpopulation within the house. When the family is unable to feed or care for the population or maintain cleanliness and become the subject of complaints, they then chose to abandon their cats as a quick fix.

We intend to continue to help sterilise and microchip 200 cats a month from financially distressed families in 2023.



#### 4.4 Education and Outreach

Cat Welfare Society holds outreach events to promote responsible pet ownership and increase mind & heart share to create an empathetic nation towards our community cats. We do this by raising awareness on the journey of cats in Singapore from rescue through sterilisation and rehoming at our public adoption events.

Physical events started to pick up slowly at the beginning of 2022 and boomed towards the last quarter of 2022. We held a total of 17 public events, 2 corporate & 2 school events. These events mostly encompass educational outreach, merchandise sales for fundraising, and adoption drives.

In terms of social media, our Facebook page's content reached 392,535 users, while our Instagram account's content reached 202,435 users during the year. We gained 2,127 followers on Facebook and 1,123 followers on Instagram. As social media platforms continue to be a significant method of outreach, we will continue to invest in producing quality content for our platforms.

We will be working towards creating more school engagements and outreach events for 2023 such as CWS's signature series, and more collaborations with venues to further promote adoption & education.

#### 4.5 Advocacy

The Cat Welfare Society advocates for responsible caregiving and responsible cat ownership in Singapore. In 2022, we intensified our advocacy efforts with the government authorities to focus on the legalisation of the ownership of pet cats in HDBs through responsible cat ownership.

As part of our Cats in Flats initiative, we carried our door-to-door engagements at 5 HDB constituencies around Singapore to collect data about responsible cat ownership and understand current sentiments towards the legalisation of cats in HDBs. Knocking on the doors of over 3,500 homes across 30 HDB flats, we collected close to 700 responses consisting of both cat owners and non-cat owners.

Our data from the Cats in Flats initiative are published in the form of infographics on our website and social media accounts.

1. Nee Soon East: <https://www.catwelfare.org/11-july-2022-nee-soon-east-love-cats-survey/>
2. Chai Chee/Bedok: <https://www.catwelfare.org/8-august-2022-chai-chee-bedok-love-cats-survey/>
3. Boon Lay: <https://www.catwelfare.org/21-aug-2022-boon-lay-love-cats-survey-findings/>
4. Telok Blangah: <https://www.catwelfare.org/2-sep-2022-telok-blangah-love-cats-survey-findings/>

We found that the majority of respondents (>90%) regardless whether they are cat owners or non-cat owners, do not object to the legalisation of cat ownership in HDBs. We also found that among HDB cat owners, the majority of them are already practising responsible cat ownership practices such as sterilising all their pet cats (>90%), keeping their pet cats indoors at all times (>90%) and cat-proofing their homes by meshing their gates, windows etc (>70%). These responsible cat ownership practices, which the Cat Welfare Society entrenched and continues to advocate for, help ensure that pet cats are kept safe and well provided for in their homes without causing any inconvenience to their neighbours.

Our views on the legalisation of HDB cat ownership can be found in the following blog post: <https://www.catwelfare.org/3-september-2022-cats-in-flats-the-case-for-legalising-hdb-cat-ownership/>

With the public consultation Public Consultation On Managing Pet and Community Cats in Singapore launched by the Animal and Veterinary Service (AVS) in September 2022, we continue to engage with the government authorities closely on this topic to promote responsible cat ownership and lift the ban on the keeping on cats in HDBs.

#### 4.6 Fundraising

	FY 2022 (\$)	FY2021 (\$)	FY2020 (\$)
<b>Tax Deductible Donations</b>	545,450	548,663	448,194
<b>Non-Tax Deductible Donations</b>	151,647	163,998	161,035
<b>Total Donations</b>	697,097	712,661	609,230

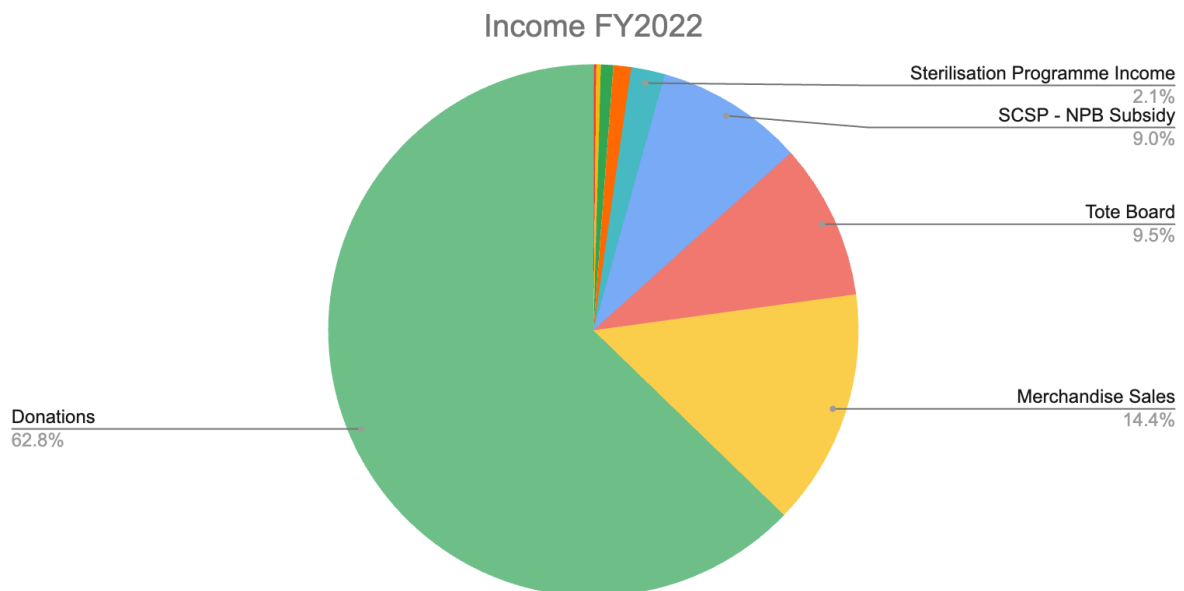
In 2022, the society received a total of \$697,097 in donations, a 2.2% decrease compared to 2021. The society held the 'SnipSnip22 - CWS' Sterilisation Fundraiser to close off 2022' Fundraiser from October to December 2022 which raised \$121,235.

As Covid-19 restriction eased during the 2022, we held more events which involved merchandise sales, while continuing to support sales via our online store. Our total profit from the sale of merchandise was \$24,448.

## 5. Review of Financial Statement for FY2022

	FY 2022 (\$)	FY2021 (\$)	FY2020 (\$)
<b>Income</b>	1,110,506	1,113,847	959,989
<b>Expenditure</b>	1,178,258	831,802	730,327
<b>(Deficit)/Surplus</b>	(67,752)	282,045	229,662

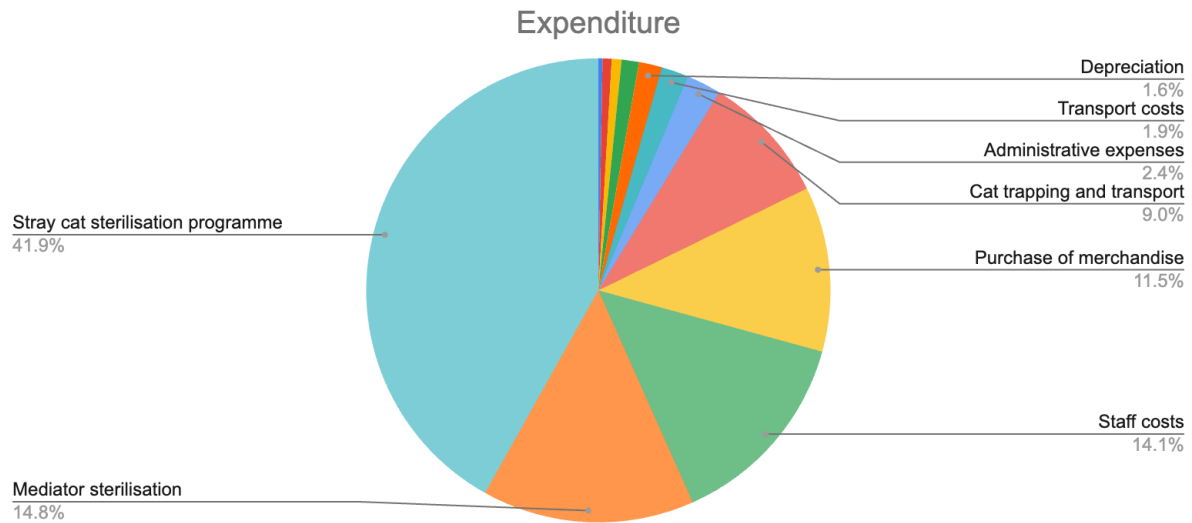
### 5.1 Income



CWS's total income for FY2022 was \$1,110,506. This is a 0.3% decrease from FY2021.

Our income for FY2022 consisted largely of public donations (62.8%), revenue from merchandise sales (14.4%), and government grants (NParks SCSP Subsidy, Tote Board Donation Matching) (14.5%).

## 5.2 Expenditure



Expenditure for FY2022 was \$1,178,258, which is an increase of 41% as compared to FY2021. Most of CWS's expenditure for FY2022 continues to be for sterilisation programs and related costs (SCSP: 41.9%, Non-SCSP Sterilisation: 14.8%, Cat trapping and transport: 9.0%). Staff costs (14.1%) was the second largest expenditure, followed by Purchase of Merchandise (11.5%)

The increase in expenditure was due to the Stray cat sterilisation programme (58.6% increase due to costs being carried over from FY2021, and increase in vet fees) and Purchase of merchandise (132.5% increase due to subsidized cat food programme for community caregivers).

## 5.3 Deficit/surplus for FY2022

Overall, we saw a net deficit of \$67,752 for FY2022.

While the deficit poses a temporary setback, CWS remains dedicated to its mission, exploring avenues to further financial stability and ensuring that every dollar is utilized effectively for the welfare of community cats.

## 6. Our Volunteers and Partners

At the heart of CWS's operations are the goodwill and hard work of our volunteers and partner organisations.

We'd like to take this chance to give our heartfelt thanks to the following volunteers and partners -

Alyssa Lim  
Amy Woo Ceramics  
Angelina Foo  
Ann Yew & Kitty Keat  
Bleak Illustration  
BrioPets  
CAHO Pharma Ltd  
Carlyn Law  
Cat Socrates  
Catopia Pte Ltd  
Cats of the World  
Clare Teo  
ClubPets  
Crane Robertson  
DHKS  
Eat to Draw

Furiends  
Godma Story  
Hakeem Mubarak  
Hope for Animals  
Kim  
Kitties in Need  
Lifestyle@Sing See Soon  
Magicten Art Studio  
Manja Mao  
Mochi Gardens  
Momshoo  
My Little Shop  
Nuwegems  
Oatsie's  
Pets Lovers Foundation  
Pets Magazine

Pink Dot Pasar Pink  
Polypet  
Purrballs  
Ryan Koh & Joyce Wong  
Steak & Eggs  
The Cat Cafe  
The Pet's Couture  
The Projector  
The Veterinary Clinic  
(Tampines/Holland)  
Tiny Rabbit Hole  
Troops in Print  
Whimsy & Magic  
Woofalicious  
Yappy Pets  
ZumShop

Our ever-supportive partner vet clinics:

Animal World Clinic  
Care Veterinary Clinic  
Clinic for Pets  
Furiends Vet Clinic  
Furrytails Veterinary Clinic

Island Veterinary Clinic (Bedok)  
Island Veterinary Clinic (Jurong)  
James Tan Veterinary Clinic  
Monster Pet Vet  
The Cat Vet

Vet for Pets (Jurong West)  
Vet for Pets (Lengkok Bahru)  
West Coast Vetcare  
Woodgrove Veterinary Services

For and on behalf of the Executive Board,



Thenuga Vijakumar  
President