



**Founder
Laura's original
Coco - RIP**



JUNE 2013

NEWSLETTER #34

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Coco's in the Riviera Maya

First we must mention the new van bought with a grant from International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) has enabled us to reach out to more areas in the Riviera Maya. It has truly been a boon to our work. The generosity and support from IFAW has enabled us to travel to poorer communities where spay and neuter clinics are so needed!



Cancun Clinic

On July 2nd and 3rd, the Coco's team travelled to Cancun, to an area called Corrales, for a very successful spay and neuter clinic. Including our own super vets Drs. Lety and Edgar, and Erika from IFAW, there were a total of 10 vets helping with this clinic. A total of 281 animals were sterilized, 165 dogs and 116 cats!



Reception at the Cancun clinic

To give you an idea of the resources needed, the cost of the two day clinic was about US\$5,000 broken down as follows:

- vet salaries, as we paid seven local vets to participate;
- medical supplies including anesthesia;
- cleaners, who cleaned the school the day before as well as the day after the clinic, and helped during the clinic to ensure a sanitary site;
- a security guard for overnight (due to the equipment left on site);
- transportation;
- food and drinks, including water;
- laundry costs for materials such as towels used in recovery;
- all necessary paperwork and copies.





The operating room

Special thanks go to Coco's vets Dr. Lety, who served as medical director, and Dr. Edgar, responsible for much of the surgical organization. Thanks also to Rossy and Ale C. in reception, and Ale G., who took charge of the cat recovery area. Many thanks to the vets who supported the clinic: Erika (IFAW), Luis, Arturo, Sandra, Sandy, Rene, Edith and Irina! Thanks to Amorita and Isabel who helped prep animals for surgery.

Heartfelt thanks to Partido Verde, which provided a big donation to help pay costs of the clinic.

As well, special thanks go out to Jesika, Isaura and Sarai from Animalistas Cancun for the amazing organization as always, and to Mariana and Andrea from Petopia. Finally, a clinic of this magnitude would not be possible without all the volunteers and helpers, thank you all so much!



Left, resting after a hard day's work! Vets Sandy, Sandra, Rene and Edith, Edgar, Luis and vet tech Isabel.

People in Cancun were very happy for the chance to bring their animals for spaying and neutering!





Cristo Rey Clinic

Cristo Rey is a residential area of 450 families about 30 minutes from Playa del Carmen, in the jungle seven kilometers from Highway 307. They have no paved roads or public transportation and electricity only for a few hours each night. Cristo Rey has the same

problem as most remote communities in the RM: household pets aren't sterilized, so reproduction is unchecked. Our new full-time cleaner, Vicky, was concerned about this issue in her community. The people of Cristo Rey lack the resources to bring their animals in, so Coco's went to them!

Thanks to a generous grant from the International Fund for Animal Rescue (IFAW), we had Coco's new van and were able to pick up 13 dogs in Cristo Rey and bring them to Coco's for spay and neuter. The families had provided IDs with weights and contact information. Later the same day, after 13 successful surgeries, we then returned the dogs to their families, who greeted us with smiles and excitement, and listened carefully to the post-op information.

As well as the medical care, Vicky and a Cristo Rey volunteer Jenny, were able to provide the local families with education regarding the benefits of sterilization for the community and the animals involved. Our mission to Cristo Rey was so successful, it was repeated the following week for another set of families and 20 more dogs!



Did you like these stories? Could you help us write more?

Coco's would LOVE to do more outreach clinics in the Riviera Maya. If you could sponsor a clinic, or gather a group of friends or family to sponsor a clinic, it would be WONDERFUL! A big clinic like Cancun costs up to US\$5,000 but any amount would help us to assist families in remote villages. Contact us at info@cocoscatrescue.org and let us know you're interested in sponsoring. No donation is too small and no donation, however large, will ever go to waste!

Source: excerpted from an article by

Katia Andreassi

[National Geographic News](#)

This is Venus

"In mythology, a chimera is a mishmash monster made up of parts of different animals. A feline chimera is a cat whose cells contain two types of DNA, caused when two embryos fuse together.



Among cats, "chimeras are really not all that rare," Lyons said. In fact, most male tortoiseshell cats are chimeras. The distinctively mottled orange and black coat is a sign that the cat has an extra X chromosome.

But female cats, said Lyons, already have two X chromosomes so they can sport that coat without the extra X. That means Venus is not necessarily a chimera.

To find out would require genetic testing, said Lyons. With samples of skin from each side of the cat, "we can do a DNA fingerprint—just like on CS!—and the DNA from one side of the body should be different than the other."

- Many thanks to Katia Andreassi and National Geographic!

Take a look at our adult female, Emma, on page 7.

She's available for adoption, and maybe she and Venus have similar DNA!

ViDAS

ViDAS is coming to Playa del Carmen for their annual spay and neuter clinic, August 9th to 14th. Volunteers are needed for the six day event, as well as donations of drinks and lunches. Please send an email to info@cocoscatrescue.org if you will be here and want to help out! Location to be announced shortly!

Coco's kittens available for adoption!

Our mission

We are a non-profit organization with a no kill policy, dedicated to reducing and controlling the cat population in Playa del Carmen, Mexico. We achieve this via our TNR (trap, spay/neuter and return) program for feral cats, and our rescue, treat, spay/neuter, and tame program for kittens under three months. We aim to find a permanent loving home for all the rescued kittens in our care.

We are also committed to education which encourages responsible pet ownership and challenges negative associations with feral cats and consequent cruelty. We provide free or low cost spay/neuter surgeries and basic pet care to those on a low income. Our long term mission is to greatly increase the number of animals that we are able to assist and expand our model to embrace other local areas in need of our services.

Whether you are living or vacationing in the Riviera Maya, Coco's beautiful kittens can be yours! They are healthy, vaccinated, de-parasited and sterilized. They are also socialized to cats, other kittens and people. Kittens have been adopted to the U.S., Canada and even to Europe!

As you know, Coco's is not a shelter and we need room to rescue and heal more kittens! We hope you can help us place some of these sweet and healthy kittens and cats.

Matias, below, is a special needs adult cat who is still looking for that special home. He had stones that blocked his bladder and needed surgery to construct a hole in his abdomen to allow him to urinate. He still uses a litter box, but has a minor leakage issue. Matias also needs Royal Canine urinary food too. If you have a separate space to house him and don't mind a bit of extra laundry, you could give sweet Matias a home. Are you able to help this special needs boy?



Matias, adult male

**WEEKLY KITTEN
CUDDLE DAY
EVERY FRIDAY
FROM 2 – 4 P.M.!**

**Please send an
email to**

**info@
cocoscatrescue.org**

**and we will send
you a map and
directions on how
to get here. Taxis
from town cost 30
pesos and it's easy
to find. Then taxis
pass by all the
time so it's easy to
get back to town.**

**THE KITTENS
WOULD ADORE
YOUR LOVE AND
ATTENTION!**

**EVERYONE IS
WELCOME!**



Emma, adult female



Jonny, male two months



Kevin, male two months

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES!

FOSTER PARENTS to provide a temporary home for young kittens, from a few days to as much as a few months.

Also **WEEKLY** to Sam's, Mundo Animal or the hospital shop to pick up food and supplies (money provided).

WEEKLY to deliver litter, medicines and other supplies to foster parents.



Cami, female two months



Ashley, female three months

Donations

Your donations are so important and a little goes a long way! Here are just a few options if you are considering donating to CCR every month:

Fluffy Kitty (\$10)

This will provide a parasite treatment for one kitten every month.

Meowing Kitty (\$25)

This will feed and de-parasite one kitten every month.

Purring Kitty (\$50)

This will pay for cat milk for a newborn kitten for one month or spay/neuter two kittens every month.

Fat Kitty (\$100)

This will feed and de-parasite, including coccidiosis and flea treatment, PLUS spay or neuter a kitten every month.

(figures in U.S.\$)



Rapunzel, female two months



Africa has spent a year at Coco's and she needs a chaperone to her new home in Zurich Switzerland!

If you can help get this sweet girl to Switzerland, please contact us.

She will be joining her new family there, along with Pippa, another Coco's rescue.

RESCUES - CACHITO FUND DOGS

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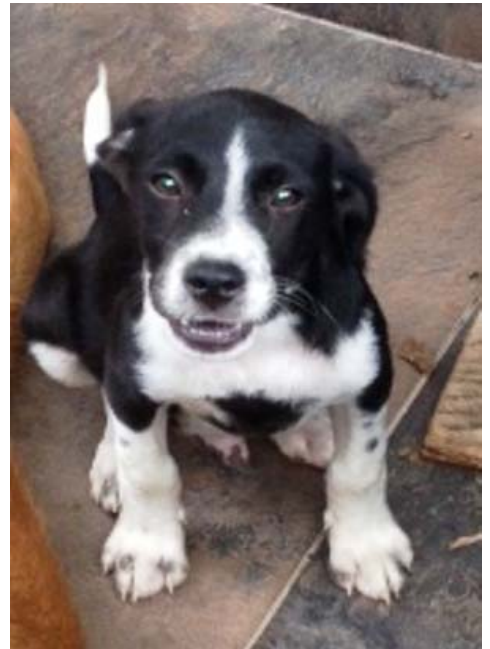
Hina, female



Kaipo, male

These young puppies, 3-1/2 months old, are siblings from a single litter. They are all looking for forever homes.

Pet Project Rescue in Minneapolis will take and place these three, IF we can find chaperones to accompany them there. They are small enough now to fit under an airplane seat. However, they cannot go in baggage at this time of year, due to heat restrictions. Please get in touch if you can help them get to Minneapolis SOON, or if you'd like to adopt one or two!



Hinai, male

Coco's Stats

April & May 2013

| APRIL 2013 SPAY AND NEUTER | # |
|----------------------------|-----|
| Feral cats | 75 |
| Pet cats | 261 |
| Coco's kittens | 2 |
| Dogs | 303 |
| Total sterilizations | 641 |

| APRIL 2013 KITTENS | # |
|--------------------|---|
| Rescued | 4 |
| Re-homed | 8 |

| MAY 2013 SPAY AND NEUTER | # |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Feral cats | 39 |
| Pet cats | 76 |
| Coco's kittens | 2 |
| Dogs | 167 |
| Total sterilizations | 284 |

| MAY 2013 KITTENS | # |
|------------------|---|
| Rescued | 9 |
| Re-homed | 5 |

Treated, non-intake kittens

| APRIL 2013 NON-INTAKE PROGRAM KITTENS | # |
|---|----|
| Free milk, bottles, consults, de-parasiting, 3 vaccines and spay/neuter | 34 |

| MAY 2013 NON-INTAKE PROGRAM KITTENS | # |
|---|----|
| Free milk, bottles, consults, de-parasiting, 3 vaccines and spay/neuter | 53 |



Contact info for Coco's Cat Rescue:

Cell phone: 984 120 0572

(From N. America, dial: 011 52 1 984 120 0572)

E-mail: info@cocoscatrescue.org

Information regarding our financials, municipal and tax status is available upon request.



NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Your newsletter stories, photos and art are always welcome!
Please send to Caroline Page: caroline.b.page@gmail.com



**“We are high priest
Vatican assassin warlocks.
Boom! Print that, people!”**