

# Friends of Megan Animal Rescue (FOMAR)



**2019 Annual Report**  
Board of Directors

# From the President

What a difference a year can make!

<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
80 sterilizations	111 sterilizations
8 rescues	83 rescues
20 adoptions	69 adoptions

These numbers alone should make it plain that our Executive Director Rebecca Raab—who needed to spend much of 2018 in the U.S.— was back in Oaxaca at the helm of FOMAR in 2019. Under her guidance, FOMAR’s activities were expanded significantly over the previous year, and we were able to directly assist more than one hundred animals in Oaxaca.

In addition to the above numbers, which represent FOMAR’s direct activity, 2019 was also a growth year for collaborative efforts. FOMAR developed and enhanced contacts with other rescue initiatives, and made a concerted effort to refer people to local efforts where appropriate.

Rescues and adoptions are our passion at FOMAR, but our dream is no unwanted animals. Unwanted animals turn into abused and neglected pets or are left vulnerable, sick, and starving.

In 2020, FOMAR will launch an initiative to address this problem. In a first, FOMAR wants to expand its focus to include sterilization clinics serving local communities. Sterilized animals lead healthier lives for a variety of reasons. For example, females benefit from not being constantly pregnant, giving birth, and trying to care for often-unwanted babies. Males no longer constantly fight over females, suffering bites and other wounds in the process. Long term benefits of sterilization for dogs, in particular, include a reduced risk of mammary cancer in females and a reduction in prostate problems in males.

Rebecca is already scouting out clinic locations, and FOMAR is seeking ways to publicize the clinics and searching for volunteers to help with the effort.

Looking back at last year’s accomplishments and ahead to this year’s goals, you, as a friend and donor to FOMAR must know how important you are. We couldn’t achieve what we have without your financial support. We cannot thank you enough for your generous financial gifts in the past, and we hope you will join with us in supporting this year’s expanded and improved efforts to care for and defend animals in Oaxaca.

Judy Anderson  
*President*  
**FOMAR Board of Directors**

## From the Executive Director

As you can see from our President's report, we were busy last year playing catch up. So far, 2020 has started out strong and we are on a roll. We have already sterilized more than 20 cats and dogs, and provided aid and assistance to a lot more. We've taken on some more serious cases that have required major surgeries, which we were only able to do because of your generous donations.

2019 had some interesting highlights. Along with the many dogs and cats we are used to, we rescued a local turkey vulture (Mr. Spock) who had been struck down with illness and was unable to fly. As usual, superstar vet Luciano Carrasco came to the rescue, and after the appropriate medication and a few days' rest we were able to release him back into the wild. It was such a great sight to see him healthy again as he soared into the sky.



We also launched an Instagram account to complement our Facebook page, and we make sure to post a wide range of original content on both platforms. You can now follow us on both of these social media sites (with the username 'friendsofmegan'), as well as on our website ([www.fomanimalrescue.org](http://www.fomanimalrescue.org)).

This 2019 report is a little different from those of previous years, as we have outlined our vision for 2020 and invite you along for the ride as we realize it. We are closely monitoring the outbreak of COVID-19 in Mexico, and remain aware that it could negatively impact our plans for 2020. We are taking the appropriate precautions, and will keep working to protect animals in Oaxaca throughout this pandemic. As always, we are forever grateful for all of you and for your support. None of this could happen without your donations. Thank you! Here's looking forward to a busy, successful year for FOMAR and all of its furry friends.

Rebecca Durden Raab  
*Executive Director*

## Our Vision for 2020

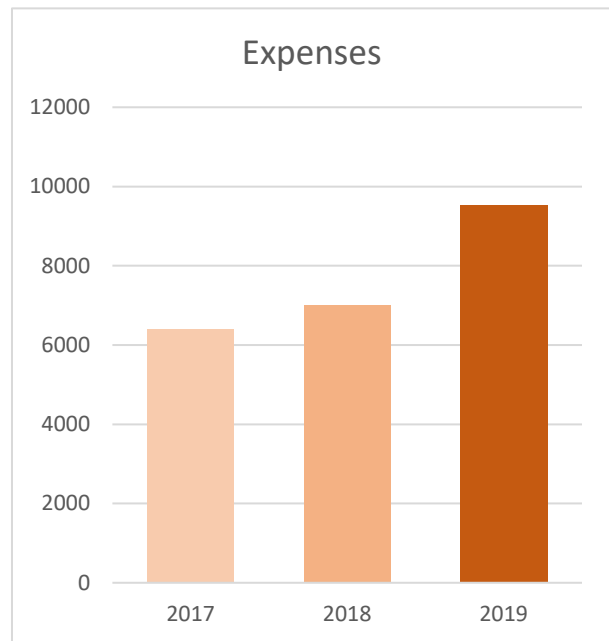
For 2020, FOMAR intends to build upon our existing rescue, emergency medical, sterilization, and vaccination programs.

- This year, in addition to our vet's clinic, we are seeking an **outreach sterilization clinic location**. This will provide convenient access to the local community, increasing the number of animals we can sterilize. This also affords another opportunity to interact with local animal owners and educate them on the importance of vaccinations, parasite control, and nutrition.
- We intend to **expand our vaccination programs** to increase local and regional coverage. Too many animals are afflicted with preventable diseases such as parvovirus, distemper, rabies, and other illnesses which could have been prevented with a simple vaccination.
- With a view to **building critical networks** within the animal rescue community in Mexico, FOMAR will continue to develop relationships with local, regional, and national efforts with whom we share common goals.



# FOMAR Donations and Expenditures by the Numbers

In 2019, FOMAR received a total of \$10,139 USD in donations. Our donations have been trending up over the previous years, which is great news. However, as we expand our efforts in 2020 to include mobile sterilization clinics and other new initiatives, it is the Board's hope that the application of both traditional and novel fundraising initiatives will increase this growth rate.



Most of our donations continue to come from those who have visited Casa Raab in Oaxaca and seen the good work being done. Other sources include people who have contacted Rebecca for help with a rescue while in Mexico, or have adopted a dog from FOMAR. Within the past year, several of these people have initiated grassroots fundraising campaigns via social media, for which we are very grateful. In 2019, our expenses were up in line with donations and our accomplishments. We spent a total of \$9,527.83 USD, leaving a surplus of \$611.87 USD.

We hope to explore additional methods of fundraising in 2020, including social media and crowdfunding campaigns. In order to support our 2020 vision—particularly in running an outreach clinic—and to offset the possible impacts of COVID-19, it is critical that we maintain a realistic but enthusiastic approach to fundraising.



# Support FOMAR Today!

***Your generous support is critical in enabling FOMAR to assist animals in Oaxaca.***

For our U.S. supporters, all donations to Friends of Megan Animal Rescue are fully tax-deductible under Internal Revenue Service guidelines in every state. Donations are designated directly for the food, care, and treatment of rescued animals.



Our preferred method of receiving donations is via PayPal. You can donate securely through **PayPal**, by visiting: [http://www.fomanimalrescue.org/?page\\_id=17](http://www.fomanimalrescue.org/?page_id=17)

Alternatively, checks can be mailed to:

Jane Vaught, Secretary  
Friends of Megan Animal Rescue  
501 North Hamilton Street, Unit G  
Richmond, VA 23221  
United States of America

## Amazon Smile

Do you use Amazon to purchase goods? FOMAR is part of a program under which Amazon will donate a small amount of money to us when you purchase certain items from Amazon. Simply visit [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) next time you shop, login with your Amazon account, and follow the instructions to set FOMAR as your selected charity. Every cent helps!

*“Amazon Smile [has] the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice.”*



## Social Media

We understand that not everyone is able to contribute to FOMAR financially. Another fantastic way you can support our ongoing work is by following our pages on social media, and sharing our posts with your friends and family. You will also get to see behind-the-scenes, and of course you will be treated to all sorts of cute puppy pictures! You can find us on:



**Facebook**

[facebook.com/friendsofmegan](https://facebook.com/friendsofmegan)



**Instagram**

[instagram.com/friendsofmegan](https://instagram.com/friendsofmegan)

## About FOMAR

Friends of Megan operates from the grounds of [Casa Raab](#) in the community of San Pablo Etna, just outside of Oaxaca City. The 40+ acres offer plenty of space for a range of rescues, including dogs, cats, horses, burros, birds, and other animals. Long dog walks are taken every morning, and rescued animals are able to socialize and intermingle with people, dogs, cats, burros, horses, and birds. Dedicated puppy kennels, areas for supervised play, elevated cat feeding areas, and varied terrain make for animal heaven. A generous pasture accommodates the larger rescues, such as horses and burros.

