



Regional Community
Vet Clinic

Offering Regional Communities

Affordable Animal Care

Compassion regardless of circumstance



Our Vision

For Regional Victorians to face no barriers in caring for a companion animal due to age, health or financial disadvantage.

Our Mission is to provide affordable, quality veterinary care for companion animals and their owners who are experiencing social and financial hardship.

RCVC will establish a safety net of support and social connection to community members who want, but are unable, to care for and stay connected with their animals.



Planned Services

Community Outreach

Helping pet owners who need support taking care of their companion animal in their home due to financial and/or health issues.

Proactive Pet Health Pop-Ups

Pop-up clinics focusing on de-sexing, vaccinations & dental care for low socioeconomic regions.

Purpose Built Clinic

Establishing a purpose-built facility to provide subsidised proactive vet care to those who are struggling in the community.

Veterinary Emergency Fund

Establishing a fund and partnerships to help local veterinarians cover the costs of complex procedures for clients in financial hardship.

Distribution of Pet Health Supplies & Food

Working with local community and neighborhood groups to help ease the burden on low-income pet owners with donated medication and food.





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Who Benefits?

PETS

Our research shows that over 15% of pet owners in our key demographic are currently not taking their companion animal to a veterinary clinic at all due to financial or physical hardship.

Animals that are not getting regular preventative veterinary care are at high risk for abandonment, surrender, euthanasia, or a life of unnecessary suffering.





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Who Benefits?

Elderly & Vulnerable Community Members

There are numerous studies available showing a direct correlation to pet-ownership and improved physical and mental health in owners.

RCVC have identified a portion of the population in our key demographic who are socially isolated due to age, ill-health, disability, or financial hardship that are disconnected from the larger community and require assistance with the care of their companion animal.



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Native Wildlife

Who Benefits?

By providing desexing and veterinary facilities we hope to significantly reduce the feral cat population in regional Victoria.

According to a recent CSIRO Study a single feral cat can be responsible for 576 native bird, reptile and mammal deaths each year (This doesn't account for native amphibians and insects which has significant ecological impact on native plants).

Feral cats can also spread toxoplasmosis to native animals which has led to an increase in native animal deaths including kangaroos, wallabies, koalas, wombats and small marsupials.





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Who Benefits?

Local Vets

Several studies have identified veterinarians to be at a significantly higher risk of suicide than the general population it is estimated veterinarians are four times more likely to fall victim to suicide.

The attrition on the profession and increase in suicide rates can be attributed to the high emotional investment veterinarians have in their profession and the pressure they feel to treat patients even to their own financial detriment.

*At RCVC our goal is to provide services to take the pressure;
not business, off local vets*





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Who Benefits?

Community

An engaged community is a healthy community.

By providing opportunities for volunteers to give back and learn valuable new skills we can help to strengthen regional communities and provide social equality.

By offering volunteer outreach programs we can help generations of older regional residents continue to feel connected to a changing community.



Who are we targeting?

Census Data

	Mt Alexander	Central Goldfields	Macedon Ranges	Hepburn Shire	Greater Bendigo
Total Population based on 2021 Census	20196	13154	51743	16281	121382
Median Population Age	50 Years	51 Years	42 Years	51 Years	40 Years
Population % over 60	33.19%	36.71%	23.60%	34.32%	23.88%
Estimated Concession Card Holders (Factored at 31%)	6261	4078	16040	5047	37628
Estimated Pet Owners (Factored at 61%)	3819	2487	9785	3079	22953
Estimated Dog Owners (Factored at 40%)	1528	995	3914	1231	9181
Estimated Cat Owners (Factored at 27%)	1031	672	2642	831	6197

Vet utilisation

	Mt Alexander	Central Goldfields	Macedon Ranges	Hepburn Shire	Greater Bendigo
Dog vet utilisation (Factored at 84%)	1192	826	2929	974	7019
Cat vet utilisation (Factored at 68%)	651	451	1601	532	3836
Dog owning Households not visiting vets	227	157	558	186	1337
Cat owning Households not visiting vets	307	212	753	250	1805
Total Dogs not visiting vets (1:3)	295	204	725	241	1738
Total Cats not visiting vets (1:4)	429	297	1054	351	2527

Microchipping

	Mt Alexander	Central Goldfields	Macedon Ranges	Hepburn Shire	Greater Bendigo
Estimated Total Dogs (1:3)	1845	1278	4533	1507	10863
Estimated Total Cats (1:4)	1341	929	3295	1096	7897
Total Dogs not chipped (Factored at 24%)	443	307	1088	362	2607
Total Cats not chipped (Factored at 36%)	483	334	1186	394	2843

BUILDING A CLINIC FOR THE COMMUNITY

A brief overview of our plans
and goal to build the regions
first Community Veterinary
Clinic.



Where are we today?

Victorian State Government Grant Awarded

In April 2022 RCVC secured a grant from Animal Welfare Victoria and the VIC State Government for capital costs associated with establishing a clinic.

\$200,000
Awarded

**Congratulations to
all recipients of the
Round 10 Animal
Welfare Fund
Grants!**

**ANIMAL
WELFARE VICTORIA**



Preliminary Council Approval

Mt Alexander Shire Council and the Campbells Creek Community Centre management committee have given RCVC conditional approval to locate the clinic on the community centre grounds (subject to planning approval)

What comes next?

Building a sustainable & transportable clinic

RCVC have spoken with a variety of local builders with the specification of somewhere that will be fit for purpose, transportable, cost-effective to maintain and meet the shire and community's goals around sustainability.



\$200,000

In additional capital costs estimated

Raising additional funds

While we have a plan B (and C & D) for the grant funding our ultimate goal is to get the physical clinic completed – We are working with suppliers and builders to reduce the costs, but we expect to need to double our current capital funds.

Planned Veterinary Clinic Services



01 De-Sexing
Improve overall pet health and reduce unwanted births in the community.

02 Dental Care
70% of cats & 80% of dogs over the the age of 3 dental diseases that could be avoided with treatment.

03 Vaccinations
Prevent against known conditions and the spread of communicable disease.

04 Healthy Pet Care
Proactive pet health like worming, flea & tick treatment and more...

05 Removal of Lumps
Minor surgery to treat small lumps and bumps before they become an issue.

06 Euthanasia
Stopping the surrender or abandonment of critically ill pets through compassionate end of life treatment.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Creating opportunities for
community members to give
back and learn valuable skills.



01

Community Outreach Volunteers

Working in the community and alongside council, health services & local veterinarians to provide:

- Home visits to assist with basic pet care and medication (*drops & tablets only*)
- Assistance with pet grooming & exercise
- Transportation for owner and pets or just pets to and from veterinary appointments
- Distribution of medication & food

NOTE: A Current police check and working with children check will be required





Veterinary and Animal Handling Volunteers

Working in the clinic and assisting on community pet health pop-up days with the following:

- Veterinary Care (*Veterinary Qualification and AVA Registration Required*)
- Vet nursing
- Animal Handling and Processing
- Animal Transportation
- Clean-up & Preparation of spaces
- Management of in and outpatient procedures with pet owners.

02

03

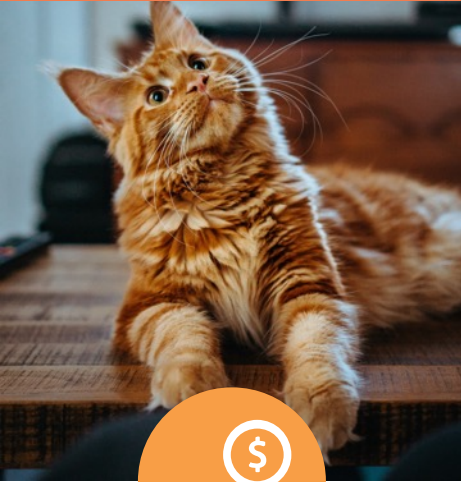
Administration & Fundraising

Working with the RCVC management team to help keep things running operationally and financially:

- Data Entry
- Participating or co-ordinating fundraising events
- Social Media outreach
- Community spokespeople
- Helping find members of the community in need
- Corporate or philanthropic fundraising
- Partnerships with other organisations



How can we make this a reality?



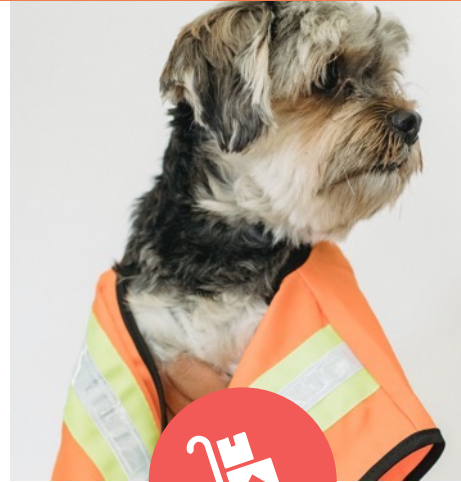
CAPITAL FUNDING

We need donations from the public, government, business and philanthropic organisations to cover the capital costs associated with completing the clinic and fitting it out with equipment.



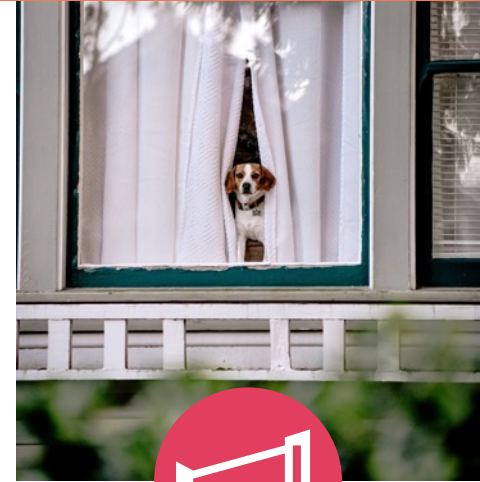
OPERATIONAL FUNDING

Operationally the clinic and our outreach programs can run on volunteer contributions. However operational funds will be required to cover consumables, outgoings, volunteer fuel and utilities.



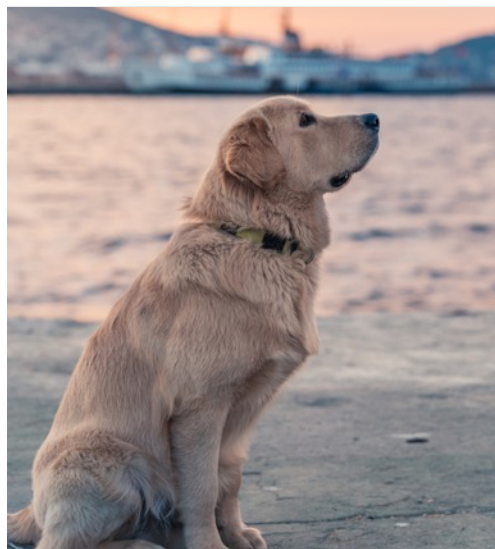
DONATIONS OF GOODS

For the clinic we could reduce costs substantially via the donation of: Construction Materials, Cabinetry & Joinery, Furniture, Technology, Veterinary Equipment and Trade Services.



COMMUNITY AWARENESS

This clinic is designed to help the poorest and most vulnerable members of our community. We need the help of volunteers, local businesses and community services to get the word out!



BRINGING PETS & THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER



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Follow us on social media – Search for Regional Community Vet Clinic