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# From pets to heroes: The role of animals in disaster response and recovery



Photo by [William Milliot](#) on [Unsplash](#)

March 14, 2024

CENTER FOR DISASTER PHILANTHROPY





*Photo credit: Ruja Entcheva and Adrian Greer*



## HOW TO PARTICIPATE

### **Submit questions.**

Use Q & A box at the bottom of your screen.

### **Complete the survey.**

The link will open as you exit the webinar.

### **Live captioning is available now via Zoom.**

Click on Closed Caption/Live Transcript to access it. And choose the language.

# Thank you to our co-sponsors



# Land Acknowledgment

“Acknowledgment is a simple, powerful way of showing respect and a step toward correcting the stories and practices that erase Indigenous people’s history and culture and toward inviting and honoring the truth.”

<https://usdac.us/nativeland>

CDP’s Land Acknowledgment is inspired by Dawn Knickerbocker, Native Americans in Philanthropy.



## AT THE END OF THE WEBINAR, DONORS WILL:

- **Understand the many ways that animals are impacted in a disaster.**
- **Learn how to provide support in all phases of a disaster.**
- **Build a domestic and international perspective on animal-specific grantmaking to support long-term equitable recovery.**

*Photo credit: Tom Remp*



Photo credit: Tanya Gulliver-Garcia

## THE ROLES OF ANIMALS IN OUR LIVES

- Pets and companions
- Backyard animals
- Livestock and livelihood
- Search and rescue/recovery
- Disability assistance
- Emotional support/therapy
- Transportation
- Food
- Working
- Textiles and jewelry
- Spiritual
- Medicine
- Recreation/entertainment

# Speakers

Thank you to our guests for joining us today.

#CDP4Recovery



**Josh Cary**

National Director, Rescue  
American Humane



**Hassan Olow**

Program Director, Kenya  
Concern Worldwide



**Louisa McCune**

Executive Director  
Kirkpatrick Foundation





# Learning from Past Disasters



# Pastoralism in Northern Kenya

- Kenya has the 3rd largest livestock population in sub-Saharan Africa
- 80% of the Kenyan Country landmass are Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASAL)
- Over 90% of Kenyan livestock are found in the ASALs
- Livestock contribute about 1/3 of the agriculture sector GDP which is also the largest single contributor to GDP
- 10% of livestock in the highlands of Kenya account for 54% of the livestock sector GDP
- Livestock in ASALs adopts free range production system – drought tolerant species with low productivity
- It is believed that pastoralism in the Kenyan ASALs has been consistent for the past 4,000 years
- ASALs face the biggest brunt of climate change – droughts, floods, violent conflict, population displacements, human and livestock diseases etc.



# Impact of climate shocks on people and livestock



- Pastoralists lost between 30% - 70% livestock between 2021 and early 2023 to the drought emergency
- Population displacement and emergence of pastoralist dropouts



- High levels of acute malnutrition (25% plus)
- Decreased access to water



- Increased levels of violent conflicts – source of restocking
- Increased levels of extreme poverty and high dependency

# Helping under-resourced or underserved communities

- It starts at home, being prepared reduce the burden
- Educate- Be Kind to Animals, Preparedness
- Support initiatives that emphasize coordination and sharing resources
- Foster partnerships and mentoring





**Becoming an animal grantmaker  
or an animals in disasters  
grantmaker!**

# Role of Animal Grantmakers



# What has Concern done to address these impacts?



➤ Provision of animal health services



➤ Supporting alternative sources of food and income



➤ Supporting fodder production



➤ Supporting rehabilitation of productive assets



➤ Improving access to multi-use water systems



➤ Emergency health and nutrition services provisions



➤ Cash assistance to meet immediate food needs



- First off, **THANK YOU** for YOUR SUPPORT
- Preparedness - \$1- \$7 ratio **Be proactive**
- Requested
- Coordination





## **NEXT STEPS FOR FUNDERS**

**Trust in the wisdom and knowledge of local communities.**

**Coordinate services to improve response and recovery.**

**Consider all types of animals.**

# Expert Resources



## Disaster Philanthropy Playbook



## Website

- Blogs, Issue Insights, Disaster Profiles, Weekly Disaster Updates



## Webinars



## Special Reports

- Measuring the State of Disaster Philanthropy
- COVID-19 and Philanthropy
- U.S. Household Disaster Giving Report



## CDP Staff

- Speaking engagements, Analyses, Opinion Pieces, Consulting Services



**[disasterphilanthropy.org](https://disasterphilanthropy.org)**



## UPCOMING WEBINARS

### Co-hosted with FEMA:

**A conversation for funders on reforms for disaster assistance to help survivors recover faster**

April 4, 2024, at 3 p.m. ET / 12 p.m. PT

### CDP webinar:

**Corporate disaster philanthropy**

April 11, 2024, at 1 p.m. ET

[disasterphilanthropy.org/events](https://disasterphilanthropy.org/events)

([FEMA](#) photo by Dominick Del Vecchio/Released)

# Thank You

For additional information, contact:

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