

SOCIEDAD PROTECTORA DE ANIMALES  
DE SAN MIGUEL DE ALLENDE, A.C.



May 2019



# Paws & Claws

HOPE, HEALTH, HOMES FOR CATS AND DOGS IN NEED

## From the Director

**THE S.P.A.'S PET FOOD MONEY BANK FUNDRAISER STARTS NOW!** The S.P.A., San Miguel's only no-kill shelter for dogs and cats, houses a combined average of 100 animals and often has more in foster homes. Last year, almost 100 cats and dogs were adopted from us. As our cats and dogs become a part of families, we take in more animals. We provide shelter, care, and food for all of them until they become family companions—no matter how long it takes.

Many factors impact our food cost. Some animals are so malnourished when they arrive that we must give them special supplemental food until they become stronger. We have a number of animals who, due to age and a variety of health conditions, require food designed to meet their unique needs.

**Our goal is to raise \$250,000 pesos (about \$13,500 USD), 100% of which will be applied to our annual cost of feeding our animals.** Look at some of our [Hungry Dogs](#) and [Hungry Cats](#)! Please help us feed them by making a monetary deposit to our Pet Food Money Bank. We rely solely on financial donations to survive and receive no government support.

See the next page for how to make a donation or click on the PayPal Donate button below for an instant donation. Contributing to the cost of food for our animals is easy to do from the comfort of your own home. Please don't delay, deposit funds today! Please share this issue with friends and family. No amount is too little (or too big). Thank you for your help and support!

-Megan Gabel, General Director

## Adoptions

	Dogs	Cats
April	3	1
YTD	14	14

### Clinic/Office Hours:

Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri: 9am - 3pm  
Tue, Sat (**Discount Days**): 9am - 4pm

### Adoptions, Visits, Volunteers:

Mon - Sat: 11am - 2pm

Los Pinos 7, Col. Lindavista  
San Miguel de Allende,  
GTO 37736 Mexico  
Ph: 415.152.6124

### U.S. Mailing Address:

S.P.A., PMB No. 18  
220 N. Zapata Hwy. #11,  
Laredo, Texas 78043-4464 U.S.A.

## Easy Links

Website: [www.spasanmiguel.org](http://www.spasanmiguel.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/spasanmiguel](https://www.facebook.com/spasanmiguel)

Donate-Sponsor a Casita-Become a Member-Remembrance Tree Leaf:

[www.spasanmiguel.org/how-you-can-help/support-fundraising/](http://www.spasanmiguel.org/how-you-can-help/support-fundraising/)

Volunteer Info: [www.spasanmiguel.org/how-you-can-help/volunteer/](http://www.spasanmiguel.org/how-you-can-help/volunteer/)

Dogs available for adoption: [www.spasanmiguel.org/adopt-me-dogs/](http://www.spasanmiguel.org/adopt-me-dogs/)

Cats available for adoption: [www.spasanmiguel.org/adopt-me-cats/](http://www.spasanmiguel.org/adopt-me-cats/)

Membership questions: [MembershipSPA@gmail.com](mailto:MembershipSPA@gmail.com)

Casita questions: [SPACasita@gmail.com](mailto:SPACasita@gmail.com) Foster questions: [SPAFosters@gmail.com](mailto:SPAFosters@gmail.com)

See what your donation dollars and pesos support: [youtu.be/6grULRH6Sk](https://youtu.be/6grULRH6Sk)

**Donate**



# PET FOOD MONEY BANK

Don't Delay—Deposit Pesos and Dollars Today



**The S.P.A. has an average of 100 mouths to feed!**

- We are the only no-kill shelter for cats and dogs in San Miguel.
- We provide food, care, and shelter for our resident animals until they are adopted.
- Last year, we placed almost 100 animals with families.
- Dogs and cats are on waiting lists to get in the S.P.A.

***Please help us feed our animals while they wait for their forever homes!***

***GOAL: \$250,000 PESOS / \$13,500 USD***

## How to Contribute to the Pet Food Money Bank

- online at [www.spasanmiguel.org](http://www.spasanmiguel.org) (PayPal "donate" button on any page);
- by U.S. or Mexican check to "Sociedad Protectora de Animales de San Miguel de Allende, A.C." (full name required for banks to accept check);
- by U.S. check to "San Miguel Community Foundation" (for a U.S. tax receipt) (mark for S.P.A.).
- Checks may be dropped off at any Conexion location, mark S.P.A., PMB 18 or mailed to S.P.A., PMB No. 18, 220 N. Zapata Hwy. #11, Laredo, TX 78043-4464, U.S.A.
- Checks and cash may also be left at the S.P.A., Los Pinos 7.

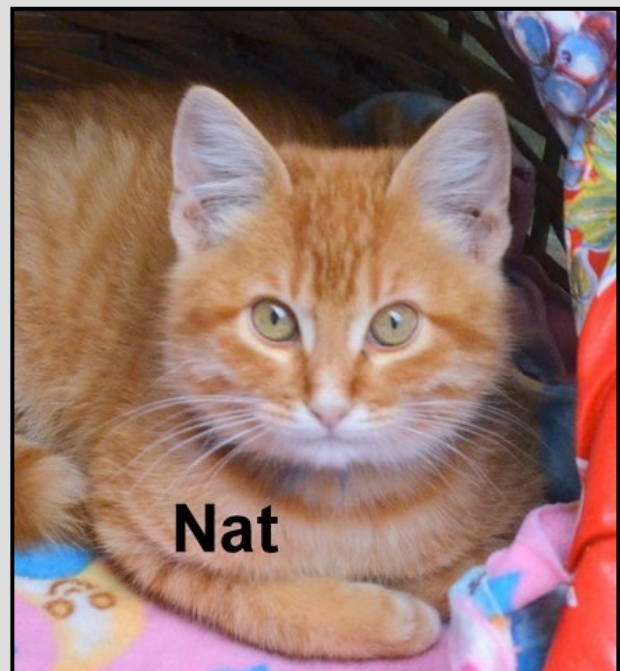
**\*\*Please call 152-6124 or write [info@spasanmiguel.org](mailto:info@spasanmiguel.org) for more info\*\***



## April Adoptions

April dog adoptions: Pixie, Kira, Sansa

April cat adoptions: Nat



[2019 Dog Adoptions](#)

[2019 Cat Adoptions](#)

“Like” our [Facebook page](#) to get the latest news!

## May Pets of the Month

By Jayn Corral and Megan Gabel

After taking a ride in the engine of a truck from Centro to the Campo, Tina was rescued in August 2016 at 4 months old. An affectionate tabby sweetheart, she enjoys lounging in the sun and having her fur brushed. She is independent and would prefer to have the family all to herself.

Having arrived with her mother and littermates at two days old in late July 2018, Chili is mostly white with tabby markings. She enjoys playing with other kittens, getting treats, and spending special times with S.P.A. visitors.

Lani, about 3 years old, is a medium/large, mixed breed female dog, exuberant and playful. Full of energy, she'd be the perfect running partner. Apollo, almost 4 years old, is a handsome, gentle, calm boy. Somewhat shy with strangers at first, he gradually barks a greeting to encourage attention and slips you a little kiss.

Adopt any of these Pets of the Month during May and receive a free adoption kit. Our adoption fee (500 pesos) includes all current vaccinations, deworming, and sterilization (and more). Preview all our animals at [www.spasanmiguel.org](http://www.spasanmiguel.org) (Adopt Me! pages) and meet them at the S.P.A., Los Pinos #7, Monday-Saturday between 11 and 2.







# DiscoverSMA.com

Everything you need to know about

San Miguel de Allende

on one Online Website

**www.DiscoverSMA.com**

Visit us today!

⇒ Community Event Calendar

⇒ Things to do/Places to See

⇒ Tours/Transportation

⇒ Local Business Listings

⇒ Community Organizations

⇒ Classes and Workshops

⇒ Real Estate Rentals and Sales

For more information please send an email: [ron@discoversma.com](mailto:ron@discoversma.com)

## THANK YOU, ROSS MACDONALD FOR HELPING THE S.P.A.!

Waiving the normal fee for delivery service available through Extending Lives ([www.extendinglivesmexico.com/](http://www.extendinglivesmexico.com/)) is a HUGE benefit to the S.P.A.!

We appreciate Ross's help and support!

## Did you know that:

-the S.P.A. has been around since 1980 and is the only no-kill shelter for cats and dogs in San Miguel?

-we house an average of 100 animals (cats and dogs), providing food, vet care (including vaccinations and sterilization), and shelter for them until they are adopted?

-the S.P.A.'s clinic is a community clinic, open to the public?

-the S.P.A. relies SOLELY on donations to survive—we receive no government support?

Please consider helping us by becoming a member of the S.P.A., sponsoring a casita, and supporting other S.P.A. fundraisers. Our website details our fundraisers here: [www.spasanmiguel.org/how-you-can-help/support-fundraising/](http://www.spasanmiguel.org/how-you-can-help/support-fundraising/) and itemizes how to donate by PayPal, check, or cash. Call us if you have questions: 152-6124. Thank you!

**Every dollar and peso you donate helps the S.P.A. survive.**

## Kairo's Cancer Scare: A Lesson About the Sun's Potential Effects on Pets

By Jayn Corral

They were screams, not cries, that caused the staff to run to see what was happening. There on the roof was a cat screaming. One of the men approached it and gently put it in a bag to take to the clinic for examination. The cat was a long-haired, white cat, almost double in size due to all the burrs and thistles.

He did not put up any resistance during his exam or when the vet shaved him to get rid of the debris in his fur. Fortunately, he didn't appear to have any internal injuries, but his ears and nose were another story. They were crusted with scabs, dried blood and raw and the tips of his ears curled down.

The vet said there is a cancer that starts in the ears and nose. Squamous cell carcinoma is generally caused by long-term exposure to sunlight and white cats are most susceptible. As cancers go, squamous is painful and invasive. A biopsy of both the nose and ears would be necessary. It would be 7 to 10 days before the biopsy results would be known. What a cruel twist of fate that this beautiful creature found his way to us and then may not survive his cancer.

Each day Kairo greeted his visitors by snuggling on their lap, kneading their arms to soak up all the love he could. We feared his days were numbered and we wanted to give him all the time and love we could for the few days he had with us.

It was a Sunday morning, when the S.P.A. is closed, that the vet called with the news. Unbelievably, the biopsies were negative! We don't know how many of his 9 lives he had used up, but everyone celebrated the news, relieved to know that this loving, brave boy had at least one more chance at life.

Kairo's fur is growing back and his ears and nose are healing. The wonderful news is that he has already been adopted! An important lesson from this experience is to be aware of the damage that can be done by the sun. Make sure your animals have shade as well as food, water and love.

Unfortunately, within a few days after Kairo was adopted, he escaped from his new home, but we are hopeful he will turn up. Please keep your eyes open for him and let us know if you have any information about his whereabouts. Thank you!



## The Continuing Saga of Nellie and Her "Forever Home"

By B. Lewis

It takes a while for relationships to grow. Nellie and I continue to work on ours as I gradually learn her likes and dislikes.

Except for water in her drinking bowl, the elixir of life is to be avoided at all costs. Thanks to the internet, I found a water-less bath: an overall brushing with baking soda, and now she smells oh so sweet.

Now I can add olive oil to the list. Presented with a little oil on her kibbles, she daintily lifted one paw and nudged each kibble out of the bowl, eating them one by one. Those "contaminated" with olive oil she left in the bowl. Perhaps tuna oil will be more agreeable to her discerning palate.

Her great love is fetching (and fetching, and fetching) a thrown ball. Occasionally, balls go AWOL perhaps buried doggie treasures in case of lean times. Recently, a friend brought her a new one that made a curious sound when touched. Nellie went gaga, gently nosing the ball back and forth, holding it between her paws, taking it to bed every night. Two weeks later, she still treats it tenderly. It makes me wonder if, long ago, she had a litter of puppies that the soft cooing ball recalls. It may be another of her secrets that I'll never know.

Come January when the weather turned chilly, she didn't mind, but I did and made plans to go to the beach. This meant another life adventure for Nellie – boarding. My departed dog, Lucky, loved his time in Atotonilco with Dr. Cristina and new dog acquaintances. But how would Nellie react? In the car, she stuck her head out the window and my guilt went down a notch.

Hard-hearted Hannah, I left her in Dr. Cristina's capable hands and took off without a backward glance. I later learned she had spent the first few days inside a room. Day 3 she ventured out, and by day 4 she was making new friends. As I pulled up in the car a couple of weeks later, she and her new-found pack barked and wagged their tails furiously in greeting. It was a wonderful sight: my timid Nellie exuberantly enjoying herself.

Having a pet in your life is special. Yes, sometimes vexing (who doesn't like olive oil?), but so rewarding when the love you give comes back so greatly magnified. Nellie had been at the S.P.A. for 6 years when I took her home. I urge you to go to the S.P.A. website ([www.spasanmiguel.org](http://www.spasanmiguel.org)) and find your very own "forever" dog or cat. Then it will be your turn to share stories of your treasured companion.



## Photography Class Visits the S.P.A.

By Scott Umstattd

Photography students from the Victoria Robbins School visited the S.P.A. recently to photograph newly-welcomed puppies. The visit was a field trip for the students and served to meet the photography assignment: “take pictures of moving objects in low light and in bad light.”

The students chose to go to the S.P.A., in part, to learn how to photograph fast-moving puppies under challenging light situations. They chose the S.P.A. specifically because they wanted to do something that could have a positive impact. Sharing their experience (and their photos) is part of how the students want their class assignment to have more meaning.

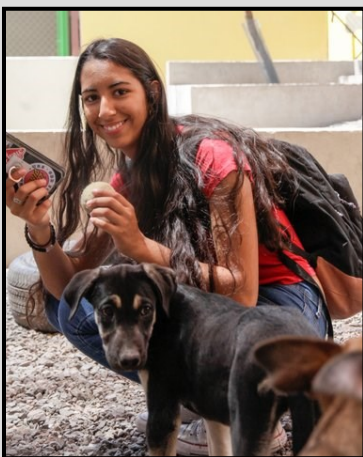
“I am very grateful for this experience. I hope all of the puppies will find a home,” said photography student Francesca Trischitta of her time spent taking pictures of the puppies. “If you’re trying to take a picture of a puppy, it’s hard because they won’t stop moving,” observed Alayna Awad on the difficulty of the photography assignment. “Despite the puppies being so energetic and playful, I managed to get a few good shots,” explained Alya MacDonald.

Photography student Owen Holland described his impressions of the S.P.A. like this: “My experience at the S.P.A. was amazing. They have a well-run organization with lots of very cute dogs, big and small. I would definitely suggest going to visit.”

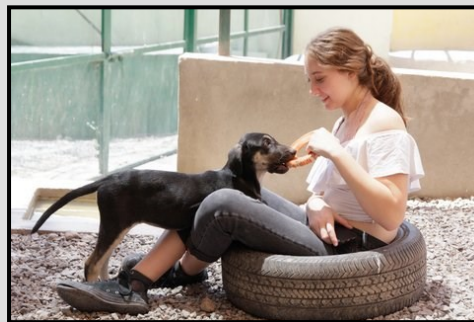
“At first, it was a bit of a challenge to photograph the puppies because they were constantly moving, but I eventually adapted,” said Piper Davidson about the assignment. “I’m sure the puppies didn’t really mind a bunch of humans invading their privacy and taking pictures with them,” Patricio Tassinari noted with a smile.

“They spent most of their time chewing on my shoelaces,” Vianna Rodgers laughed when asked about her experience with the puppies. “I wish I could keep them all but as I can’t. I really hope they find a home.”

That final sentiment was held by all of the student photographers who want to encourage you to visit the S.P.A. any day, Monday-Saturday, Los Pinos 7, 11-2 and meet the puppies and all the cats and dogs available for adoption.



Alyana with puppy Fresa



Piper with puppy Stella



Patricio with puppy Latte



## The Poetry of Protecting Siblings



**The Remembrance Tree** exists in a prominent position, right at the inside entrance to the S.P.A. It is a permanent, beautiful, and impressive eight-foot copper-colored structure with branches containing leaves for honoring a departed pet.

Volunteer **Jane Dill** of Jane Dill Design ([www.janedill.com](http://www.janedill.com)) (thank you, Jane!) inscribes on a leaf the pet's name, the owner's name, and a personal message, if desired. The one-time cost of each permanent leaf is \$100 US (or peso equivalent).

To purchase a leaf or learn more, please email: [SPARemembranceTree@gmail.com](mailto:SPARemembranceTree@gmail.com)



## Sponsor a Kitty or Doggy Casita.

Your generous support will help with the enormous cost of care, food and shelter for our approximately 100 resident cats and dogs waiting for their forever homes.

*Only \$30 a month\* for one year, or about \$1 a day.*

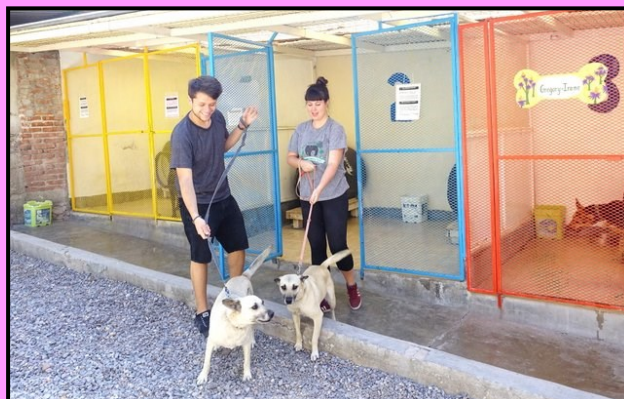


For information on monthly or annual payment options, send us an email at [SPACasita@gmail.com](mailto:SPACasita@gmail.com)  
Questions? Call the S.P.A. office: 415-152-6124

\* or peso equivalent

## The S.P.A. Needs YOU! Volunteer NOW!!

If you love cats and dogs and can spare some time, we would love to have you come and volunteer! Volunteer hours are Monday-Saturday from 11-2. If you are interested, please come to the S.P.A. during that time and Christina will show you the ropes. The cats and dogs eagerly look forward to your visit!



## Preferred Providers

Our Preferred Providers offer a range of goods and services at a discount to S.P.A. members. Just show your current S.P.A. membership card at the time of purchase to receive the discounts specified below. Please patronize our Preferred Providers as a way of thanking them for their support of the S.P.A.

### VETERINARIANS

**MVZ RICARDO LOPEZ LANDEROS** - Rio Grijalva No. 10 - Nuevo Mexiquito - Ph. 152 6977

Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-2pm; 4pm-7pm Saturday 9am-2pm

Consultations - 10%, X-Rays - 10%, Regular Teeth Cleaning - 10%, Vaccinations - 10%

**MVZ EDGARDO R. VAZQUEZ OLMOS** - Plaza Primavera #16 on Salida a Queretaro - Ph. 152 6273

Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-2pm; Saturday 9am-12 noon.

Consultations - 10%

**MVZ MICHAEL KRONISH** - Salida a Celaya #57 - Ph. 415 185 8185 - 415 109 9957

Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-6.30pm; Saturday 9am-2pm.

Consultations - 10%, Routine Vaccinations - 5%, Spaying/Neutering - 5%

**MVZ ALMA RUTH MIRANDA** - Stirling Dickinson #27 - Ph. 152-2341

Hours: Monday-Saturday 9am-6pm

General Surgery - 10%, X-Rays & Ultrasounds 10%, Hospitalization - 10%, Medications - 10%, Vaccinations - 10%

### RETAILERS AND GROOMERS

**EL DESPACHO** - Las Moras #13 - Colonia Guadiana - Ph. 154-7195

Hours: Monday-Saturday 9am-3pm; 5pm-8pm

Food - 5-10%

**DUSTY PUPPIES** - Guadiana #17A - Colonia Guadiana - Ph. 154- 4555.

Hours: Monday-Friday 10am-6pm

Diamond Naturals - Dog/Cat Food - 10%, Regular Teeth Cleaning - 20%, SPA Bath Only - No Clipping - By Appointment - 10%, Pet Supplies - 10%

Being able to take advantage of our Preferred Providers program is just one benefit of becoming a member of the S.P.A. Members receive a 10% discount off the S.P.A. vet consultation fee every day.

If you are a member or join at the time you adopt, you will receive 10% off of the adoption fee (400 pesos for cats and 450 pesos for dogs). Please JOIN US! Individual memberships are \$40 US/500 pesos and family memberships (2 person limit) are \$50/600 pesos.

## **HIGH QUALITY PET CARE AT THE S.P.A. CLINIC!**

The S.P.A. can meet your pet's needs, from routine preventative care to diagnosis and treatment of problems to surgical procedures and more. We have a well-equipped clinic and offer packages to help you save on vaccinations and sterilization.

*Please call 152-6124 for an appointment  
with our vet, Dra. Adriana Rivera.*

### **Clinic Hours**

**Mon., Wed., Thu., Fri.**

**9 AM—3 PM**

**Tuesday & Saturday (discount  
days)**

**9 AM—4 PM**

***By appointment is best.***



*At the Organic Market Saturday, May 11*

In addition to the S.P.A. T-shirts and caps pictured below:



**Check out our range of T-shirts & caps for both cat and dog lovers.**

**Unisex T-shirts** come in white or black (youth, S, M, L, and XL).

This is a brand new style, perfect for both cat and dog lovers and a meaningful souvenir of San Miguel de Allende!

All T-shirts are 200 pesos each.



(Front)



(Back)



**Women's T-shirts** are available in red, white, or black (S, M., L. and XL).

**Men's T-shirts** come in white or black (M, L, XL, and XXL).

**Caps** are available in red, black or khaki for a donation of 150 pesos each.

**Pick up one for yourself, a family member, and as a terrific present:** Available at the S.P.A. and at the S.P.A.'s Organic Market's table — **Saturday, May 11.**



## Rewarding Memberships

The streets of San Miguel are a little less crowded; Semana Santa is crossed off the calendar until next year and the days are heating up. Enjoy the more leisurely pace. I suggest giving a little extra consideration to indulging in summer traditions...like a good midafternoon siesta. A little afternoon respite in a cool unlit corner of the house on any day in May is something to be grateful for. At least that's what the dogs and cats believe and live by, so why not us?

Speaking of gratitude, we would like to thank **Kathy Snodgrass** for renewing her membership. We would also like to welcome our newest members, **Michael** and **Denise Thies**. Thanks Michael and Denise, and welcome to the family!

Join or renew online at [www.spasanmiguel.org/how-you-can-help/become-a-member/](http://www.spasanmiguel.org/how-you-can-help/become-a-member/) (via PayPal) or in our office (by cash or check). See our website for other options or email [MembershipSPA@gmail.com](mailto:MembershipSPA@gmail.com) if you have questions. We accept checks for membership dues as follows: (1) by check (U.S. or Mexican) to **Sociedad Protectora de Animales de San Miguel de Allende, A.C.** (full name required for banks); or (2) by U.S. check to San Miguel Community Foundation (*for a U.S. tax receipt*) (mark for S.P.A.). Your membership dues (\$40/500 pesos-individual, \$50/600 pesos-family [2 members]) will help the S.P.A. continue its wonderful work caring for many of the unwanted cats and dogs of San Miguel while they wait for their forever homes.

—Randy

## Learn About Us and Our Cats and Dogs

**\*Visit the S.P.A.** Look around, sign up to volunteer, walk a dog and get fit at the same time, and cuddle with puppies, cats, and kittens. Monday-Saturday, 11am-2pm, at Los Pinos #7, Colonia Lindavista, 152-6124.

**\*Come to the S.P.A.'s table at the Organic Market – Saturday, May 11, at Ancha de San Antonio 123, from 9 to 3:30** (lower level, turn right). We have beautiful and unique hand-crafted items, perfect for cat and dog lovers, and S.P.A. T-shirts and caps. We welcome donations to the S.P.A. at our table and we're happy to answer your questions about our shelter.

**\*Check** our website: [www.spasanmiguel.org](http://www.spasanmiguel.org) for our available cats and dogs (photos, biographies, and videos) ("Adopt Me" pages) and to learn about us and how you can help. Please remember that adopting a shelter animal saves two lives—the one that is adopted and the one we now have room to take in.

## EDITOR: Harry Burrus

If you need or want to contact me for any reason regarding Paws & Claws — to submit a story, send a photo, just to make a comment — please email me at [SPAPawsandClaws@gmail.com](mailto:SPAPawsandClaws@gmail.com)  
**It would be great to hear from you!**

**Advertise in Paws & Claws and reach a large audience of animal lovers and consumers.  
 Our rates are reasonable and our readership is large.  
 Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have questions.**

Number of Issues	Full Page	Half Page	Quarter Page
1 monthly issue	200 MXN	180 MXN	150 MXN
3 monthly issues	500 MXN	450 MXN	375 MXN
12 monthly issues	1800 MXN	1500 MXN	1300 MXN

**Preferred Providers: ask about our 15% discount.  
 To convert to dollars, use current conversion rate.**

