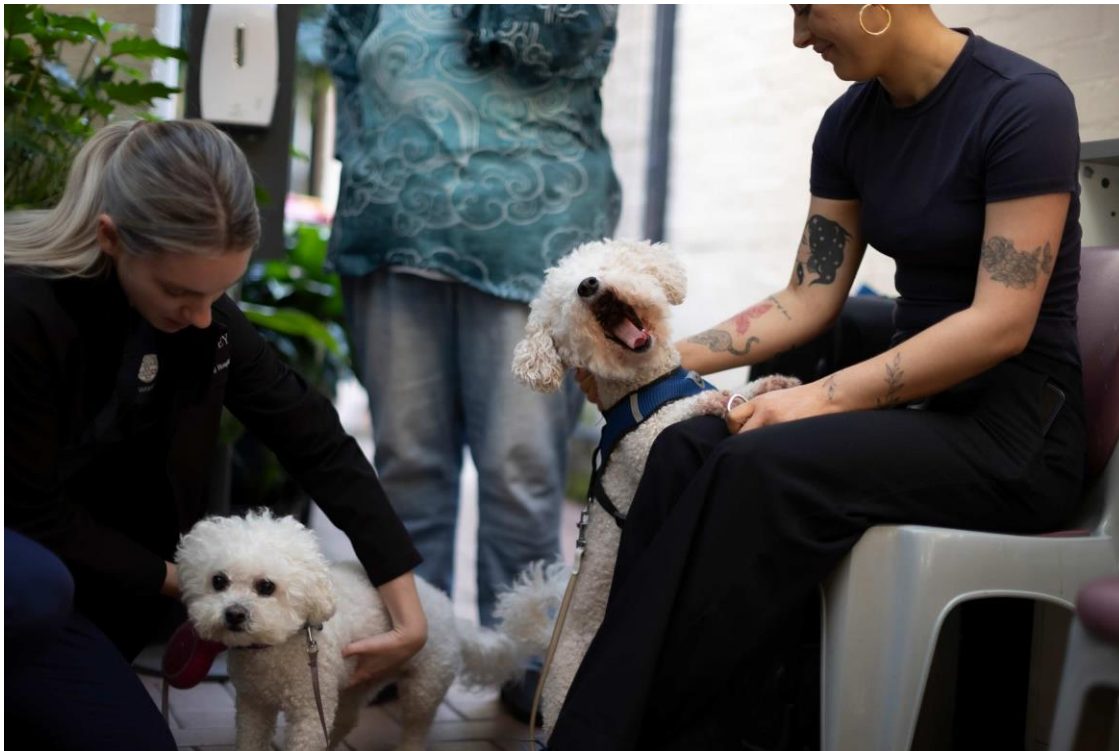




Equity in Access: Inclusive Solutions for Companion Animal Challenges

10th National G2Z Summit & Workshops
16-18 September 2025 Online



Hope Street Pet Clinic

A grassroots initiative supported by the University of Sydney and Petstock Foundation.

By India Rose Newton



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As part of the Community Development team at Hope Street, we support marginalised people in the Woolloomooloo/Darlinghurst area, access social connections and services tailored to their needs. This includes free services and programs supported by external stakeholders, including the Pet Clinic, alongside the University of Sydney Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

Once a month, Hope Street Woolloomooloo and University of Sydney Veterinary Teaching Hospital collaborate for a non-clinical veterinary program for cats and dogs, hosted on site at Hope Street community center in Woolloomooloo. Alongside the program, the vets bring with them donations such as dog food, collars, leashes, worming medication and puppy milk, which creates a safety net for those experiencing money insecurity.

The program runs monthly on Fridays and supports marginalized Woolloomooloo residents, including those living in social housing, living with disabilities, the elderly, and rough sleepers residing in the area with non-clinical veterinary treatments. The treatments cover vaccinations, nail clipping and health checks.

The clinic, overseen by a senior vet with the practical component done by students at the university, exposes students to the concept of a “spectrum of care”—providing solutions tailored to the needs and resources of each client. This experience broadens their understanding of what veterinary care can look like and the role they can play in supporting both animal and human welfare.

If there is clinical treatment to be considered, they are referred to the University of Sydney veterinary teaching hospital, where they kindly partially cover clinical treatments done on site. We have supported multiple community members in getting their animals desexed, including rough sleepers, whose animals are very much their companions in a life of unsafety and uncertainty.

Through the Hope Street Pet Clinic, we have supported dozens of families and community members with accessible vet care, donations and animal food. Accessibility for veterinary support in marginalized areas creates a safety net and a lifeline for those experiencing marginalization and lack of accessibility to vet care.