

BECAUSE YOU CARE



2020 IMPACT REPORT

Samoa's original family couldn't provide the right care for him and his littermates. Thanks to you they'll spend a few weeks in foster care before finding great new homes!



3 REASONS TO BE GRATEFUL

from the President's Desk



MEET SOME OF THE LIVES YOU'VE SAVED

Safe at Last

The video of the brown-and-white dog being beaten and abused quickly went viral. Our investigators located the area where the video was taken and headed out to find Max, handing out fliers with his photo. They were about to leave for the day when a local pet mom recognized the photo. She'd never seen the video, but she did pick up Max and care for him after the attack. She was glad to hand him over to the Houston SPCA to find a new home. Thanks to caring people like you, Max is now surrounded by love.



The Cure for Loneliness

Isolation has been one of the hardest parts of the pandemic, especially for seniors. We partnered with BakerRipley to match adult pets with seniors and set them up for success. Thomas O'Malley came to the Houston SPCA from Louisiana as part of our hurricane relief efforts, and soon he went home with a loving new owner and three months of Hill's pet food. We're sure his purrs have been a big comfort!



Make Way for Ducklings

Mother ducks never stray far from their little ones, so when a local animal lover saw these ducklings on their own, it was clear something was wrong. Our 24/7 Injured Animal Rescue Ambulance picked up the fluffy orphans and brought them back for a full veterinary checkup and a safe start in life. Your kindness gives animals of many species a second chance.



No Horse Is an Island

Aruba the senior Thoroughbred was found loose on the side of the road and covered in motor oil, which some people mistakenly believe is a cure for rain rot and other ailments. She was also severely underweight. When no owner came forward, the good Samaritan who found her turned her over to the Houston SPCA. Thanks to donors like you, Aruba had months of expert care to bring her back to health. As we write, she's ready to find a new home.



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donorsupport@houstonsPCA.org
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In our nearly 100 years of saving lives at the Houston SPCA, we've had a lot of practice adapting to changes and crises. That practice certainly came in handy in 2020! The pandemic has presented us with some challenges, but with the unwavering support of animal lovers like you, we've been able to rise to the challenge, change as necessary and continue to save animals every single day, with unwavering commitment.

You'll find the stories of a few of those animals in this Impact Report, and I hope you'll be encouraged by the difference you've made in each of those lives. They represent thousands more!

I can't look back on 2020 without being tremendously grateful to three groups of people:

- 1. Our staff impressed me with their creativity in the face of every obstacle.** Even while social distancing, they worked together to find solutions, collaborated across teams to find the best ways to care for every animal under tough conditions, and kept themselves safe so that they could continue to keep our animals safe.
- 2. Our volunteers humbled me with their desire to serve.** Even in ordinary times they're the backbone of getting rescued animals ready for a new home. During the pandemic, our foster families stepped up in an even bigger way, adjusting to all the changes so this most critical program could keep going strong.
- 3. Donors like you inspired me with your selfless generosity.** In the midst of all the things you had to worry about, all the drains on your attention and emotions, you still found a place in your heart for homeless cats and dogs, neglected horses and orphaned squirrels. How can we possibly thank you enough?

There's still a long way to go in this pandemic. The effects will be with us for a while—including the increase in abandoned and neglected animals as people are losing homes and jobs. But because of the strength of our caring community in 2020, we are hopeful that 2021 will be a better year for both people and animals. **Thank you for walking beside us as we help animals of all kinds, all across the Gulf Coast! You are the reason we are able to do what we do, and we are forever grateful.**



Patricia E. Mercer
President and CEO

How Far Your Support Goes

The Houston SPCA is the only animal protection and rescue organization in the country that cares for such a vast array of animals—companion animals, small pets, horses and farm animals, native wildlife, and exotics—all on one campus. In 2020, your support meant:

44,933

total animals helped.

12,744

wildlife animals brought in for care.

6,248

animals adopted into new homes (adoption numbers were impacted by the temporary suspension of adoptions under the lockdown and by-appointment adoptions later in the year).

6,220

reports of animal cruelty investigated.

IN ADDITION, YOU HELPED:

- Deliver more than 228,000 pet meals to pet parents affected by the pandemic.
- Provide a safe haven for pets involved in domestic violence through PetSafe.
- Rescue 443 pets in the wake of hurricanes in Louisiana and Texas.

OUR PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Our activities go far beyond animal adoption. We're the Gulf Coast region's go-to resource for animal rescue, relief, educational programs, and so much more.

- Adoptions
- Sheltering and Rehoming Center
- 24/7 Injured Animal Rescue Ambulance
- Animal cruelty investigations
- Found animals
- Volunteering
- Programs for kids
- Community outreach
- Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine partnership
- The Wildlife Center of Texas
- Disaster rescue, relief, and recovery
- Providing pet meals to those in need through mission-based partners

THANK-YOU NOTES



"I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your kind and generous donations to the Houston SPCA. The hard work of our investigators, rescue technicians, and equine and farm animal team members could not be accomplished without your continued support.

"2020 was difficult to say the least. In addition to developing procedures to keep staff members safe, we were faced with a 20% increase in abandonments and a 40% increase in the number of calls received by our rescue technicians. These are animals in distress that no other agency in the county would respond to. Our investigations team covered nearly 195,000 miles responding to daily calls and also transported animals from Louisiana to safety during multiple hurricanes. It makes me proud that we find ways to support animals and our fellow humans even when it is not a danger directly affecting us.

"With 2020 well into our rearview mirror, our team is eagerly looking forward to doing our part to save and assist the animals of our communities who are in the most need and are the most vulnerable. Again, thank you for all that you do to support this effort."

—Chief Investigator Adam Reynolds



In our July 2020 newsletter we introduced you to Angus, the tiny ginger kitten with a deformed leg. Now named Sebastian, he's grown into a handsome young adult. Nancy H., his new mom, wants you to know:

"I adopted him during COVID and renamed him because Saint Sebastian saved his people from a

plague. He has brought me great joy and is 'saving' me every day. Thanks to all your staff for your efforts and also his special foster mom, Lisa."

"I just wanted to let you know that Lobo is doing great and just graduated from his Level 1 Puppy Training! Lobo has really made our family happier! He started off with some insecurity issues (like growling and barking at people), but the training helped him abundantly, and we now see him more confident and calm. My goal for him is to go back to Level 2 Puppy Training and that he hopefully later becomes a certified canine good citizen! We love him very much!"



—Carolina B.

The Houston SPCA Adoption Center

7007 Old Katy Road
Houston, TX 77024

The Houston SPCA Rehoming Center

900 Portway Drive
Houston, TX 77024

Hours of Operation:

Adoptions: 10:30 a.m.–7 p.m.
(currently by appointment only)
Rehoming Center: 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
(currently by appointment only)

*Check houstonspca.org for the latest hours and information

24/7 Injured Animal Rescue Ambulance

Call 713-869-SPCA (7722)
seven days a week between
8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

After hours and holidays, please
call 713-880-HELP (4357).

