Our cruelty investigators checked on a pregnant cat, and when they came back a day later to bring her to the Houston SPCA, they found these seven little ones waiting!
The Road Ahead

FROM THE PRESIDENT’S DESK

In this 2021 Impact Report, naturally we’ll take a look back at what your support has accomplished over the last year.

It was a busy one! And it took all of us working together to get through it. Our staff and volunteers continued to impress me every day with their dedication and positive spirit in the face of so many challenges. And we’re all deeply grateful for the support of caring community members like you—ensuring that we could continue to rescue, rehabilitate, and rehome thousands of animals. Every life saved really is a direct result of donor support.

But I also want to take a moment to look ahead. The pandemic continues to challenge us, but knowing that we have you behind us, the Houston SPCA will keep expanding our services to meet the changing needs of our community.

One of the plans I’m most excited about is a wellness clinic to help families keep their pets healthy. The clinic will join our other prevention programs, such as providing pet meals to families going through a tough time, so that more pets never need to be rehomed.

As you read this Impact Report, I hope you feel proud of the lives you’ve saved. For thousands of dogs, cats, horses, farm animals, and wildlife, 2021 was a year of new hope because you care. And watch for more news about expanded services in 2022!

Patricia E. Mercer
President and CEO
Meet Some of the Lives You’ve Saved

A RESCUED PEARL

The traffic cam footage was horrific. The tan dog was dragged behind a motor vehicle by a rope around her neck. Witnesses called it in, and our cruelty investigators raced to find Pearl, left to die in the street, and gather the traffic cam film to show what happened to her. As you can imagine, Pearl’s body was covered in abrasions, and she was frightened. Your support allowed our team to treat her medical needs and shower her with love. She soon regained her happy, playful spirit and was quickly adopted.

A DEVOTED MOM

Our cruelty investigators followed up on a call about two mares and a stallion, emaciated and living in filth. The report was painfully true — but there was also a surprise! Prada the Quarter Horse mare was trying desperately to nurse her one-day-old colt, Pascal. Quickly realizing that Prada didn’t have the protective colostrum Pascal would need to build his immune system, our team rushed him to an equine hospital for a transfusion. The plucky little guy pulled through, and our equine team spent months carefully bringing mother and colt up to a healthy weight.

A CRY FOR HELP

Freeway, the little orange tabby kitten, has a strong voice — and good thing, because her cries for help were the only way to find her! We have no idea how she ended up on a freeway beam 30 feet in the air, and getting her down took some thought. Finally our team spotted a bucket truck run by Third Coast Services, and they were glad to perform the daring rescue. Soon, Freeway was in safe hands. She spent a few days recovering with us, but it didn’t take long for her to charm her way into a new family.
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 2021, your support meant:

- **58,893** total animals helped
- **12,181** wildlife animals brought in for care
- **8,273** animals adopted into new homes
- **8,082** reports of animal cruelty investigated

**IN ADDITION, YOU HELPED:**
- Deliver more than 179,000 pet meals to pet parents affected by the pandemic
- Provide a safe haven for pets involved in domestic violence through PetSafe
- Get 154 adoptable pets out of harm’s way in advance of Hurricane Ida, making space in local shelters for storm victims

**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
- 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

**How Far Your Support Goes**

**Finding Fulfillment and Purpose**

**Alexsey Dobberstine, ACO, Care Team Manager — Adoptions**

Every day, staff at the Houston SPCA put your generous gifts to work helping animals. Alexsey has worked here for nearly three years and has been a pet foster parent as well. Get to know her through this quick Q&A!

Q: What motivates you to work at the Houston SPCA?
A: I feel that I make a difference in our community, in animals’ lives, and in our country with my work.

Q: What’s a typical day like for you?
A: Currently I’m managing our adoptions team. It’s my job to make sure we provide the best adoption experience to everyone who walks in our doors, because these animals deserve it. I rally the staff, and we do our best to make the adoption process wonderful. We learn the animals’ needs and temperaments and match them to the perfect adopter.

Q: What’s one of your favorite stories?
A: I fostered Machu, the Doberman Pinscher who was brought in so malnourished that we didn’t understand how he was still alive. Our vet team got him mobile, and our foster department made fostering Machu the easiest thing. The adoption process was seamless. Machu is the living embodiment of what we do here. He came to us in dire need, and all our departments worked together to get him to a wonderful family. I get updates on him regularly!

Q: What would you like to say to the donors who support the Houston SPCA?
A: Thank you, if that doesn’t sound cheesy. I found my passion for helping animals here. I found fulfillment and purpose. We would not be able to save lives if it weren’t for the donors.

**The Houston SPCA**

- **Adoption Center**
  7007 Old Katy Road
  Houston, TX 77024

- **Rehoming Center**
  900 Portway Drive
  Houston, TX 77024

- **Injured Animal Rescue Ambulance**
  Call 713-869-SPCA (7722) seven days a week between 8 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. After hours and holidays, please call 713-880-HELP (4357).

**Hours of Operation**

ADOPTION HOURS
Monday through Friday from noon to 6 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. No appointment needed. Schedule may change due to COVID-19; please visit houstonspca.org for the most up-to-date hours.

REHOMING CENTER
The Rehoming Center is open by appointment only from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., seven days a week.