— SPRING 2024 —

# Tails of Hope

STORIES OF LIVES SAVED THROUGH YOUR HEARTFELT SUPPORT



# **Your Compassion Helped Save Terry**

erry's injury told a heartbreaking story of neglect.

A witness reported seeing a dog with a collar deeply embedded in his neck, cutting his skin. Every movement must have caused the dog searing pain. Yet even in his suffering, sweet Terry craved love.

#### You made sure he found it.

Your donations put our Cruelty Investigators in the field, responding to reports like the one that led them to Terry. Our team learned that Terry's owners had attempted to remove the collar themselves, using non-veterinary tools and likely causing Terry even more pain.

But Terry's suffering ended that day. Our Investigators brought him to the Houston SPCA, where our veterinary team saw that poor Terry's wound had been stitched at home with sewing thread. It was badly infected. Our team had to treat Terry's infection before proceeding with surgery to close the large, open wound.

But Terry basked in our care, sweetly wagging his tail through it all. Our team changed his bandages to keep his wound clean and, week by week, Terry healed both



Terry was suffering from neglect, a deep wound, and infection. You helped us rescue him.

physically and emotionally. Once a nervous, wounded dog, he transformed into a happy, affectionate friend. He seemed to appreciate the extra attention he received at his regular check-ups.

After a month, he was ready to undergo surgery to close his wound, and with a few more weeks of recovery, Terry was ready for adoption. We could see he couldn't wait to bond with a new, loving family. Thanks to friends like you, his past did not dictate his future.

Today, Terry receives love, playtime, plenty of nourishing food, and belly rubs — things he likely never experienced before. Because you gave when he needed it most, Terry will spend his days sharing unconditional love. Your compassion sets beautiful stories in motion.





#### Here's to the Next Hundred Years!

Dear Houston SPCA Community,

As we step into spring, I reflect on the profound impact of your generosity.

Spring is a season of renewal and growth: a time when life emerges in its most delicate and promising forms. In the animal welfare world, we affectionately refer to this as "Baby Season," when countless kittens, puppies, and native wildlife come into the world seeking care and compassion. Your support during this time is especially crucial to provide the necessary resources for the hundreds of little lives that will depend on us.

Your donations are the heartbeat of our organization. Behind the scenes, your dollars transform into warm blankets for shivering kittens, nourishing formula for hungry puppies, and the critical care needed to rehabilitate native wildlife. Your contributions breathe life into our mission, allowing us to be a beacon of hope for the most vulnerable members of our community.

I am delighted to share that this year marks a century of the Houston SPCA serving our community. One hundred years of dedication, compassion, and positive change — a legacy that you have been an integral part of. This milestone is a testament to the enduring impact we can achieve together.

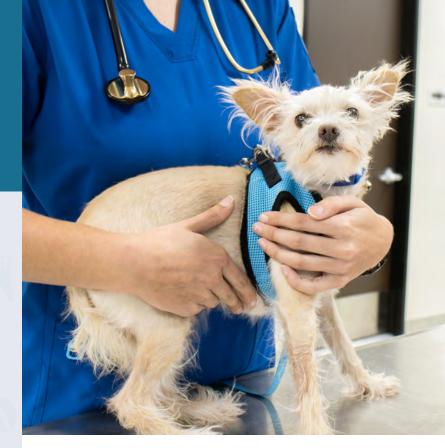
As we celebrate these achievements, I invite you to join us again to make a difference. Your continued support will allow us to create more happy stories, rescue and care for countless animals, and be a guiding light for those who need it most.

In this season of growth and renewal, let's sow the seeds of compassion and kindness together. Join us in making the next chapter of our journey even more impactful. Your support empowers us to create a world where every animal is valued, loved, and given the chance to thrive.

Thank you for standing with us. Here's to the next hundred years of making things happen!

With heartfelt gratitude,

Patricia E. Mercer President & CEO



Think of how many pets are healthier and happier, thanks to you!

### You Remove Barriers to Responsible Pet Care

We have an exciting announcement. Thanks to you and your unwavering support, we've officially opened the doors of our Pet Wellness Clinic!

We firmly believe in the power of prevention for ensuring pets' long and joyful lives. That's why we are committed to delivering high-quality preventive care services that are not only comprehensive but also affordable to every member of our community.

Our Pet Wellness Clinic is tailored to cater to all aspects of your pet's well-being, with services ranging from vaccinations and routine check-ups to parasite control and general health management.

In line with our dedication to the community, we collaborated with Precinct 1 to host a Free Pet Vaccine Clinic. Through this event, in partnership with generous donors like you, we gave back to the community by providing free vaccinations and distributing food to each client.

These vital and life-changing efforts are a monument to the tangible impact of your generosity, providing affordable veterinary care to beloved pets and ensuring that responsible pet ownership is accessible to all. This accomplishment is a milestone made possible by your belief in our vision and mission. Thank you!



## You Lit Adira's Path From Pain to Joy



A dira's emaciated body bore the scars of profound cruelty and neglect. Kept in filthy conditions and deprived of food and water, it seemed as though the horse had lost the strength to stand. Yet as our Cruelty Investigators rushed to her

rescue, Adira summoned the spirit to rise up on wobbly legs. Even hungry and hurting, she had hope.

Thanks to you and your generosity, her life was about to change forever.

Adira was transported to the Houston SPCA Equine Care Center, where our teams rallied around her to provide emergency care to stabilize her frail frame. As she began the long process of rehabilitation, your donations fueled her gradual return to health. Step by step, determined Adira grew stronger in body and heart.

The road was long, but Adira never gave up. And thanks to your support, neither did we. Today, this once sick and starving girl is thriving! Filled out and energized, Adira is now strong and magnificent.

Your gifts don't just rescue animals from cruelty. They transform survivors like Adira into healthier, happier versions of themselves. As Adira flourishes in her new life, your compassion will continue uplifting animals when they need it most.

## **OUR NURSERY IS OPEN!**Babies need constant care

The spring surge is here! Every year during Baby Season, litters upon litters of orphaned kittens and puppies come to the Houston SPCA for round-the-clock care.

Our nursery plays a vital role in saving these fragile lives. But we can't do it alone. Baby Season is an enormous undertaking, requiring more foster caregivers, specialized care, dedicated space, and 24/7 attention to give each newborn every chance to survive and thrive.

Your support is critical to provide these especially vulnerable animals with the care and love they desperately need. Thank you for giving babies the chance to grow up and become members of loving families!

#### **Helping Wildlife in Need**

## You Fuel Lifesaving Care for 14,287 WildAnimals



Your donations help power one of the largest wildlife rehabilitation centers in the nation!

n the past year, the Houston SPCA's Wildlife Center of Texas recorded a record-breaking intake of 14,287 injured, ill, and orphaned wild animals, ranging from baby squirrels to majestic great horned owls. Your generous support has been instrumental in enabling us to meet the escalating demand for our services.

As we approach Baby Season, we anticipate a continued rise in numbers as our Wildlife Center receives orphaned wildlife from concerned citizens and through the Houston SPCA's Animal Cruelty Investigations

and Rescue Ambulance. Throughout the year, our dedicated staff and volunteers tirelessly engage in both short-term and long-term rehabilitation efforts, with the ultimate aim of releasing these patients back into their natural habitats.

Given the ongoing threats to wildlife habitat due to constant development, many species face population declines. We are committed to ensuring that the animals entrusted to our care leave our campus in optimal health, contributing to the preservation of their respective populations.

The Wildlife Center is also home to a group of wildlife ambassadors whose health conditions render them unable to survive in the wild. Our devoted staff and volunteers care for these animals, who play a vital role in our Environmental Educational Series sponsored by Chevron. Through this program, we educate the public about the importance of local wildlife and peaceful coexistence with them.

Your support makes it possible for us to deliver exceptional care to animals, promoting empathy and understanding in future generations. On behalf of the 14,287 animals and counting, we extend our heartfelt gratitude.

#### PLEASE CUT AND DETACH THE REPLY FORM BELOW, AND RETURN IT WITH YOUR GIFT.

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