

BECAUSE YOU CARE

Impact Report

Pippa, the kitten, receives comfort during her initial examination from Dr. Broussard after being rescued earlier this year.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK



As we reflect on the accomplishments of the past year, I am filled with gratitude and pride for the unwavering support and dedication of our community. Your generosity and commitment have been instrumental in our ability to make a meaningful impact on the lives of animals in need.

In 2023, the Wildlife Center of Texas saw a record number of animals brought in for care, a testament to the growing need for our services. From orphaned squirrels to injured bald eagles, each life entrusted to our care represents a story of hope and resilience. Your support enabled us to provide vital medical treatment, rehabilitation, and ultimately, release these animals back into their natural habitats where they belong.

We also witnessed an increase in heat-related calls, prompting our Animal Cruelty Investigators to respond swiftly to reports of pets in distress. Your continued advocacy and vigilance in reporting animal cruelty are crucial in safeguarding the welfare of our furry companions.

As we look ahead, our work continues with renewed determination and purpose. This year holds special significance for us as we celebrate the Houston SPCA's 100th anniversary. For a century, we have remained steadfast in our mission to protect and advocate for animals, and we are honored to continue this legacy with your support.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you for your unwavering dedication to our cause. Together, we will continue to make a difference in the lives of animals in our community and beyond.

With appreciation,

Patricia E. Mercer
President & CEO
Houston SPCA



YOUR SUPPORT IN ACTION

Your donations have fueled our impact, allowing us to assist a diverse range of animals in need. Thanks to your support, we successfully rescued thousands of animals last year, spanning from dogs and cats to exotic wildlife. Together, we're transforming lives and providing hope to countless furry and feathered friends.

56,174
Total Animals Helped

7,113
Surgeries Performed

1,827
Pets Fostered

14,287
Wild Animals
Brought in for Care

7,862
Reports of Cruelty
Investigated

169,375
Miles Driven
by Investigators

9,427
Animals Adopted
into New Homes

132,401
Miles Driven
by Animal Ambulances

7,676
Injured Animal
Ambulance Calls

ACHIEVEMENTS BEYOND MEASURE



RECORD-BREAKING HEAT

Last summer, the Houston SPCA received over twice as many heat-related calls as the year before. Animal Cruelty Investigators and Harris County Constable Precinct 1 swiftly responded to reports starting in June. Between June 1 and June 20, there were 243 heat-related reports, compared to 87 in 2022.

This summer, the Houston SPCA will again be keeping a close watch for pets that are outdoors. Exposing animals to such conditions is illegal, with penalties of up to two years in prison and a \$10,000 fine.

Dr. Roberta Westbrook, Chief Animal Welfare and Medical Officer at the Houston SPCA, stressed the urgency: "We're closely monitoring the rising temperatures. Every second counts in rescuing and treating heatstroke, especially for vulnerable animals like seniors, young ones, and brachycephalic breeds such as bulldogs, shih tzus, and pugs."



OPEN FOR BUSINESS!

The Houston SPCA Pet Wellness Clinic opened in August 2023! We believe that prevention is key to a healthy, fulfilling life for our pets. That's why we offer a variety of high-quality, affordable veterinary services — from vaccinations and routine check-ups to parasite control and health strategies. Designed with your pet's well-being in mind, our clinic supports both new and experienced pet owners in ensuring their animal companions thrive. Make your appointments today!



THE MOST ANIMALS EVER

Last year, the Houston SPCA's Wildlife Center of Texas experienced an unprecedented influx of animals, with 14,287 wildlife cases — a significant 22% increase from 2022. This year we expect that the number of injured and orphaned wild animals coming into our care will surpass 15,000! This surge highlights the critical demand for our services and strengthens our dedication to aiding wildlife in distress.

Among numerous cases, the story of a young, orphaned squirrel is particularly memorable. Found with a severe puncture wound, the squirrel was quickly assessed by our team at the Houston SPCA's Wildlife Center. Our veterinarians acted promptly, performing surgery to mend the injury. Following surgery, our wildlife specialists took over, nurturing the squirrel until it fully matured and could be successfully released back into the wild. This success story is a powerful example of our commitment to native wildlife rehabilitation.

As we continue to see a rising number of injured and orphaned wild animals, it's clear that the need for our specialized care is more urgent than ever. The Houston SPCA's Wildlife Center of Texas is ensuring that more animals like the young squirrel not only survive but thrive in their natural habitats, underscoring our ongoing commitment to wildlife conservation and rehabilitation.



STORIES OF RESCUE

CAUGHT ON VIDEO!



Nico, a victim of inexcusable mistreatment, was rescued thanks to a concerned community member's report and accompanying video. The distressing footage revealed Nico enduring being thrown, kicked, and even lifted by his ear. Our team swiftly intervened, transporting him to our campus for urgent care.

Nico's examination revealed he also suffered from a hookworm infestation, adding to his already grievous injuries. Despite the trauma, Nico found solace and recovery in our care. We're delighted to share that Nico has been adopted by a loving family, where he now receives the affection he rightfully deserves. This heartwarming outcome underscores the importance of community vigilance and swift action in combating animal mistreatment.



STARVING CATTLE RESCUED



The Houston SPCA Animal Cruelty Investigation Team, along with the Liberty County Sheriff's Office and the Dayton Police Department's Animal Control, rescued a group of severely emaciated cattle including two bulls and seven heifers (a longhorn among them), and two bull calves. These animals were found living among the remains of five decomposed cattle on a property covered in mud and debris. Officials confirmed they had been abandoned without food or water. All animals were safely evacuated and received medical care from the dedicated veterinary staff at the Houston SPCA, as well as from the equine and farm animal team. Thanks to your support, they have recently been adopted into a new home.

Did you know?

Our mission is carried out
100% by donations.

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.

- Animal Cruelty Investigations
- 24-hour Injured Animal Rescue Ambulance
- Disaster/Emergency Response
- Pet Wellness Clinic
- Adoptions
- Foster Care
- Rehoming
- Veterinary Care
- Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation
- PetSafe (temporary housing for pets belonging to families fleeing domestic abuse)
- Humane Education
- Community Outreach
- Texas A&M University College of Veterinary Medicine partnership

The Houston SPCA William & Evelyn Griffin Campus for All Animals

Adoption Center

7007 Old Katy Road
Houston, Texas 77024

Animal Medical Center

- Pet Wellness Clinic
- Rehoming Center
- Foster Care

900 Portway Drive
Houston, Texas 77024

Houston SPCA's Wildlife Center of Texas

7007 Old Katy Road
Houston, Texas 77024

Adoption Center Hours

7 days a week, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
No appointment is needed.

*Equine & Farm animals by application and appointment only.

Pet Wellness Clinic Hours

Thursday - Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Wildlife Center of Texas

7 days a week, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Call Center Hours

713-869-SPCA (7722)
7 days a week, 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Injured Animal Rescue Ambulance
713-880-HELP (4357)