

— SPRING 2025 —



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# Impact Report Edition

STORIES OF LIVES SAVED THROUGH YOUR HEARTFELT SUPPORT



## THE HEALING POWER OF COMPASSION:

### You Gave Tina a Second Chance

The world can be a harsh place for those without a voice, like many of the animals that arrive at the Houston SPCA campus. Yet some animals shine brightest in their darkest moments. Tina's story is a testament to her resilience, and the transformative power of compassion from friends like you.

On a sweltering July day, Tina was discovered in conditions no animal should ever endure. Her neck showed the neglect she had suffered — a collar so deeply embedded it had fused to her skin.

When our cruelty investigators first found her, Tina was a broken dog. Her eyes held a mixture of fear and fragile hope.

At the Houston SPCA, every animal is more than just a rescue. They're a life waiting to be restored. Our staff carefully washed away the dirt and grime, revealing a beautiful dog and gentle soul who just wanted kindness. Our veterinary team worked diligently with her, each stitch and bandage a promise of healing, each moment of care a reminder that she was no longer alone. Tina's

**Your support is the difference between despair and hope for animals in need.**

transformation was astonishing. From a timid, broken pup, she blossomed into a playful, loving dog. Her journey represents thousands of others like her — animals rescued from unimaginable circumstances, given a second chance at life and love.



*Your donations helped fund Tina's rescue, veterinary care, and transformation.*

Every day, countless animals suffer from neglect, abuse, and abandonment. We need vital resources like medical care, supplies, and dedicated staff who refuse to give up.

Your past support has been a lifeline for animals like Tina who have been abused and neglected. Your donations have been the difference between suffering and healing, between despair and hope. Every contribution helps another pet find their way home, heals another broken spirit, and transforms another life.

Tina now runs around, plays, and loves her new family and home. She's proof of the power of your compassion and the incredible resilience of animals.

**Will you help us write more stories of hope? 🐾**

**Also Inside!**

**Over 900 Animals Saved:** Your support fueled a massive rescue at a pet store.  
**Hurricane Aftermath:** Here's how your generosity helped save wildlife.

Looking Back, Looking Ahead:

## With Your Support, No Challenge Is Too Great

Dear Friends of the Houston SPCA,

As I reflect on the past year, I'm filled with gratitude. In 2024, the Houston SPCA marked 100 years of improving and protecting the lives of animals. This milestone was a testament to the generations of compassionate individuals who joined us in our mission.

The year was not without its challenges. Houston experienced a major storm and then a hurricane, devastating events that tested the resilience of our community and our organization. Yet, when animals and people needed us most, we stood ready. With your support, we were able to rescue, shelter, and care for a record number of animals.

A significant highlight was the 1-year anniversary of our Veterinary Clinic, which has provided affordable care to thousands of owned pets. This vital service helps keep pets healthy and with their families, preventing suffering and ensuring animals receive the care they deserve. We are proud of the positive impact this clinic has made in its first year, and we are excited to expand our reach.

Another major milestone was the merger of The Wildlife Center of Texas under the Houston SPCA umbrella. This allows us to enhance efficiency, so we can provide the highest level of care to both domestic animals and native wildlife. Now known as the Houston SPCA's Wildlife Center of Texas, this program unites our resources to make an even greater impact.

As we look to the future, we do so with hope and determination. The next century for the Houston SPCA will bring growth, innovation, and continued service. We remain committed to ensuring that every animal — whether they walk, crawl, or fly — is given the chance to live a life free from suffering and filled with compassion.

Thank you for being part of this incredible journey. Your generosity makes all the difference. With you by our side, there is no challenge too great, no rescue beyond reach, and no future that is not bright with promise.

With gratitude,



Patricia E. Mercer  
President & CEO

# 2024 BY THE NUMBERS

## 57,468

Total Animals

# Helped



6,112 Surgeries Performed

16,237 Wild Animals  
Brought in for Care



## 8,404

Animals Adopted into New Homes

7,088 Reports  
of Cruelty Investigated

131,018 Miles Driven  
by Investigators



## 1,764 Pets Fostered

183,228 Miles Driven  
by Animal Ambulance

10,266 Injured Animal  
Ambulance Calls



Volunteer Hours **51,102**

Calls Answered by our Call Center **74,177**

## Your Support Saves Lives

Behind each of these numbers is a story of hope, healing, and second chances — and YOU make it all possible. From rescuing pets to wildlife in distress, to providing critical surgeries and finding loving homes, your generosity transforms lives in ways that numbers alone can't capture.

Each dollar you give becomes a moment of comfort, a chance at survival, and a path to healing for animals who have nowhere else to turn. These are more than statistics — they're living, breathing testimonies to the power of compassion, with your generosity behind every new beginning.

**Together, we make a profound difference — one animal at a time! 🐾**

## MASSIVE RESCUE EFFORT:

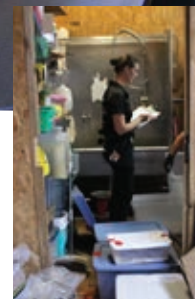
# How You Helped More Than 900 Animals

Recently, the Houston SPCA partnered with the Galveston County Sheriff's Office to conduct a rescue that would save hundreds of lives. A local pet store had become a nightmare for more than 900 animals.

Upon arriving, our cruelty investigators discovered that the property had been hastily cleaned in an attempt to hide the unhealthy conditions these animals were living in. Lifeless bodies of mice and a bird told a heartbreaking story of neglect. Our ambulance, veterinarian, and investigator team jumped into action, saving every life they could.

They worked tirelessly, saving kittens, puppies, rabbits, hedgehogs, ducks, chickens, birds, exotic peacocks, and massive tortoises. They removed hundreds of fish and an assortment of reptiles and arachnids, all to be taken to our campus for assessment.

Our veterinary team worked through the night to provide individual care to each animal. In total, your donations made the rescue possible for 928 animals in need. **These animals all received proper medical care from our veterinary staff while awaiting a court date to determine custody of the animals.** 🐾



*Thanks to your support, our dedicated staff could provide immediate comfort to each rescued animal.*

## Nearly 50 Animals Rescued From Neglect



*Our Animal Cruelty Investigators discovered animals in urgent need, including this dog with a tumor. Thank you for coming to the rescue!*

You came to the rescue again when our Animal Cruelty Investigators partnered with Harris County Precinct 1 to rescue nearly 50 animals from neglect.

Our cruelty investigators found a horrific scene: garbage piled throughout a filthy home, covered in urine and feces. The odor was overwhelming, making it nearly impossible to breathe.

Animals were confined in cramped cages, some buried under piles of junk or stacked on top of each other. In the backyard, larger dogs were kept in wire kennels. Cats suffered in cages matted with fur, cobwebs, and filth. Trash and stacked boxes blocked our paths, making the rescue effort even more challenging.

Finally, every animal was safe. In total, your donations fueled the rescue of 13 dogs, ten cats, one rabbit, along with 25 chickens and roosters. One dog had a large tumor on his side and needed immediate care.

"It's critical that we work closely with law enforcement in nine surrounding counties to monitor properties that hoard animals. The horrific living conditions do nothing but create a world of neglect and suffering for the animals," said Josh Sailor, our Chief of Animal Cruelty.

**Thanks to you, all the animals from the scene received individualized treatment from our veterinary team. They are now safe and cared for!** 🐾

We rely on our community to report abuse and neglect and keep communities and businesses responsible and safe. The Houston SPCA receives more than 8,000 reports of animal cruelty every year. Report animal cruelty at **713.869.7722** or online at **HoustonSPCA.org**.





## Hope Takes Flight For Hundreds of Egrets and More

When Hurricane Beryl struck Houston, your support was there for wild animals in peril, providing medical supplies, specialized equipment, and dedicated staff to save vulnerable lives. Thanks to you, the Houston SPCA's Wildlife Center got to work, rescuing and taking in more than 1,800 native wildlife!

Many animals were left orphaned and injured. Birds are particularly vulnerable during hurricane season, as they can be knocked out of their nests by the high winds and driving rain, and many drown due to flooding. Our staff prepared for an influx of birds including herons, egrets, Mississippi kites, blue jays, Mourning doves, and White-winged doves — as well as opossums.

The timing of our rescue was especially urgent as summertime is baby season for egrets. You helped our Wildlife Center respond to a rescue involving egrets nesting in trees in a northeast Houston neighborhood off Kiowa River Lane. Hundreds of juvenile and baby egrets were blown out of their nests and drowned, and approximately 300 more were found waterlogged and shivering in the grass below their destroyed homes.

All rescued egrets and received wildlife were triaged at the Houston SPCA's Wildlife Center, receiving individualized treatment from staff veterinarians. Most of these egrets arrived at our campus cold and weak, and our staff immediately assessed their general condition, prioritizing warmth and security.

Thanks to you, they were safe.

**So many animals survived because of your commitment. Thank you!**



If you have found injured wildlife, please bring them to the **Houston SPCA's Wildlife Center of Texas**, open daily from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call us at 713-861-WILD (9453) for assistance, and visit our website to learn how you can help protect and support wildlife in need.

*Thanks to donors like you, young egrets get a second chance at life!*

