



Defenders Circle
Humane Society of Louisiana

August 2022

Dear Friend of Animals,

Thank you for your very kind support this month. As we head into the heart of hurricane season, we're particularly grateful for your help. While we always prepare for the worst, we're hoping to avoid a third consecutive year of disastrous storms, at such an already difficult time for Louisiana's animals.

WILD ANIMALS NEED LOVE, TOO!

Did you know that the Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries offers virtually no programs to aid injured and orphaned wildlife? Although the department's mission is described as "managing and protecting Louisiana's abundant natural resources," there are just a few wildlife rehabilitation programs operated in Louisiana. The LDWF does issue licenses for wildlife rehabilitators, but it does not employ, fund or support wildlife rehab professionals in any way. Unlike programs to support fishing and hunting, which are heavily promoted and funded by LDWF, rehabbers must do their lifesaving work out of their own pockets. Because it is strictly a volunteer endeavor, there is a critical shortage of these dedicated workers statewide. We are committed to expanding statewide programs for native wildlife, just as we are committed to expanding animal protection services for cats, dogs and companion animals. Every year, we already help scores of animals by providing courier services for injured animals. Our kind volunteers often pick up hurt and orphaned animals and transport them to appropriate wildlife rehabilitators for the species. Our goal is to recruit more volunteers for this 'Wildlife Taxi' program. Thanks to a generous donor, we also kicked off our first series of micro-grants for wildlife workers this month. Licensed rehabbers were delighted to be able to apply for funding, which could be used to purchase critically needed supplies and equipment. We were particularly pleased to help one rehab group rebuild an aviary, which was lost in Hurricane Ida. In addition to these types of hands-on activities to directly help wild animals, HSLA be working and meeting with elected officials and policy makers, in an effort to make LDWF as responsive to wildlife protection concerns as they currently are to hunting and fishing interests. One group of our volunteers is working to bring a much needed wildlife rehab center to City Park in New Orleans. From our habitat clean up days, to our work to create pro-wildlife policy, the HSLA is making a difference for these precious but often forgotten animals!



We were so happy to be able to save the life of sweet Holden (left) who was viciously abused by his owner. The poor dog was severely beaten. His hip and back legs were broken - in three places. He also lost sight in one of his eyes, as a result of abuse. This sweet little survivor is looking for a very special adoptive family. If you know of anyone wanting to give him a forever home, contact us at info@humanela.org.



*Thanks to a generous donor, we were pleased to be a key sponsor of the **Vegan 2 The Soul Food and Lifestyle Festival**, held in Lemann Park in New Orleans. We are happy to get back to promoting cruelty-free lifestyles and compassion for farm animals.*