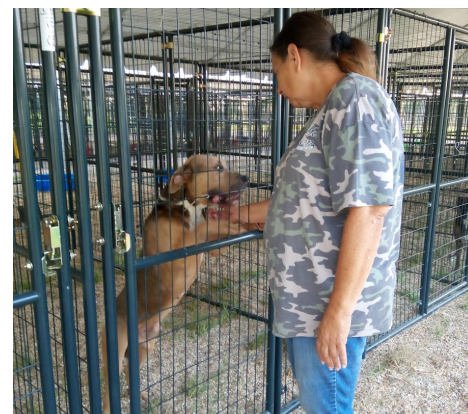


(123 Animal Rescue - Continued from reverse)

Over the course of several days, in the sweltering summer heat, HSLA workers and a few volunteers planned, constructed and opened the massive emergency shelter, with kennels and tents loaned by ACA. It took dozens of crew members and volunteers days to carry out the back breaking work. The animals began moving into the shelter very quickly. We installed fans and pools and everything we could to make the animals comfortable during their stay. Stacey Alleman also secured climate controlled indoor housing for the cats.

As with every emergency rescue effort, not everything went perfectly according to schedule or plan. Instead of being moved along quickly to adoption partners, the animals required weeks of temporary housing and care. Star volunteer, Mandy Rice, stepped up to the challenge of running the shelter under extraordinarily difficult circumstances; she worked around the clock for weeks, managing workers and keeping the animals happy and healthy. To meet the critical and ongoing need for labor, we hired and housed scores of workers at a nearby motel, which was the only way to keep the operation running in the rural town of Ethel. Still more hard work and sleepless nights were required, as animals were loaded onto transit vehicles and transported to the local airport.

In the end, thanks in large part to the tenacity of our workers and volunteers, the project was a success. All of the animals were moved on to adoption agencies around the country, where they will finally get a new start on life. Of course, a lifesaving project of this scope came with an incredible price tag. We couldn't even consider taking on extraordinarily difficult projects like this one, if we didn't have our dedicated *Defenders Circle* members to support our efforts, month after month.



We're so proud of our crew for building a massive emergency shelter in an empty field in just matter of days - because the animals urgently needed it.

We've been involved in scores of disaster deployments through the years, and we've never seen anything on this scale come together so quickly to house animals. Great job, team!