



HUMANE
Society of Louisiana



August 2025

Dear Animal Defender,

Thank you so much for your generosity during these dog days of summer, when donations are harder to come by. We're nervously watching the Gulf, hoping that hurricane season will soon be over without sending any storms our way. Thank you so much for making our work possible.

20th KATRINA ANNIVERSARY: DISASTER RELIEF FUND ESTABLISHED

Twenty years ago, Hurricane Katrina changed our lives — and our city — forever. We will never forget the heartbreak of those times - the lives lost or the animals left behind. **We remain forever grateful to our courageous team and the compassionate volunteers from across the country and Canada who came to the aid of animals in need.** Our new friends and supporters may not know that we once had a private animal shelter in New Orleans, which was destroyed in Katrina - along with our thrift store in Gretna. **We evacuated every one of our 157 shelter animals before the storm — then helped rescue, foster, reunite, and rehome nearly 1800 animals in the weeks and months that followed.** At the center of it all was our beloved former Vice President, Johnna Harris. Her leadership and determination played a critical role in making our response possible. Johnna passed away in 2019, and to honor her legacy and the anniversary of the Katrina animal rescue effort, we created the *Johnna Harris Disaster Relief & Readiness Fund*. This permanent fund will support animal disaster preparedness and relief in lasting tribute. **The first projects we'll take on are those which Johnna wanted to complete at the disaster staging ground at our *Enoch J. Donaldson Animal Sanctuary*, including:**

- Building a pole barn for large animal disaster response
- Completing a dog exercise yard and security fencing
- Installing tornado shelters at both of our rural properties
- Creating a veterinary exam and treatment room for emergency use and low cost spay/neuter clinics.



We will also create a Katrina Memorial Garden where lives lost and saved can be remembered. Our initial goal for the Fund is to raise 200,000.00 this year, in honor of the 20th Katrina anniversary. **We look forward to creating a safer future for Louisiana's animals in the name of Johnna Harris, our beloved friend and colleague who never left an animal behind.**

NEGLECTED DOGS SAVED IN CONCORDIA PARISH - OWNER ARRESTED



When Concordia parish sheriff's deputies responded to a tip last week, they found two starving dogs and the carcass of a third dog at a local property. Deputies on the scene contacted us and asked for help, since the parish does not operate a shelter. We immediately agreed to assist their efforts and made arrangements for the dogs to be cared for and boarded at the local veterinary clinic; they're recuperating and resting comfortably. Deputies informed us that they arrested the dogs' owner, Ricky E. Normand, on August 8th. He was charged with one count of aggravated cruelty and two counts of simple cruelty. We're proud to be the trusted partner law enforcement officers turn to, when they need assistance or advice on cruelty investigations.