

## SPAY-LA: PREVENTION IN FOCUS FOR 2026

In the coming year, the *Humane Society of Louisiana* will put spay/neuter and pet overpopulation prevention in even greater focus, alongside our other programs. While our primary mission is cruelty investigation and prevention, the current pet overpopulation crisis is contributing to cruelty more than any other factor. Over the past several years, inflation and the affordable housing crisis have led to a spike in pet overpopulation with no end to the problems in sight. Not surprisingly, we are seeing a rise in pet abandonments and cruel animal killings in response to more unwanted animals on the streets. How do we plan to act? We're looking at many approaches: from organizing mass sterilization clinics in areas of great need to offering our own grassroots clinics at our *Enoch J. Donaldson Animal Sanctuary*. Funding is also key: Louisiana's overworked small organizations and rescues simply can't raise the level of funding to meet the moment; this is especially true in our state, where high rates of poverty and lack of education create even greater challenges. This year, we'll create new marketing strategies for the *Louisiana Pet Overpopulation Council*, to bring in more revenue for spay/neuter grants. We'll also work to pass community spay-neuter initiatives that focus on raising needed funds for prevention. We can only take these positive steps forward with the continued, committed support of caring folks like you, so we appreciate anything you can do to help during this holiday season and in the new year.

**Your Signature Needed to Support Spay-Neuter.** Please help! We need to collect 1000 signatures for the state to produce a *Humane Society of Louisiana* vanity license plate. Funds from the sale of the new plate will be used to fund spay/neuter in rural communities without any animal protection groups. It will be a great complement to the 'Animal Friendly' license plate, which we previously created to raise funds for spay neuter grants. Whether you help us by collecting additional signatures on the enclosed form, or simply return it with your signature, every signed name helps. Your name doesn't commit you to purchasing a plate - you don't even need to be a Louisiana resident to sign. The Department of Motor Vehicles simply requires the signatures to gauge interest in a plate before they will produce it for sale.

## GUNSHOT VICTIM SAVED IN ST. LANDRY PARISH

A kind-hearted couple in Opelousas was distraught when a friendly dog showed up at a family member's home recently. With all the shelters closed on a Saturday night, they reached out to HSLA founder, Jeff Dorson. With no other options on a weekend evening, Jeff asked the couple to drive the dog - now named **Addison** - to an emergency vet clinic, which was about an hour away. The plan was to stabilize the poor dog, while the *HSLA* attempted to find an owner and/or a foster home. The emergency vet clinic determined that a small caliber bullet had entered her chest cavity and fractured her right front leg. They're considering amputation for the poor pup or inserting a plate. Sadly, cruelty is often the fate of animals who are abandoned or lost on the streets.



Spayed for the holidays! Ivy and Butter (left) were fixed this month. Fighting pet overpopulation will be a major focus of HSLA in 2026.



Friends and supporters gathered at our annual **Vegan Holiday Potluck** at our headquarters in historic old Gretna. We hope to get a chance to meet you at one of our many fundraisers and activities in the new year.

ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE TO THE FULLEST EXTENT ALLOWED BY LAW.

[www.HumaneLA.org](http://www.HumaneLA.org)   [info@humanela.org](mailto:info@humanela.org)   1.888.6.HUMANE