## FRANKLINTON SHELTER PROJECT FACING CHALLENGES THIS SPRING



Did you know that HSLA has worked tirelessly to keep the small Franklinton animal shelter no-kill for close to 8 years? (The facility is near our *Enoch J. Donaldson Animal Sanctuary* in Washington parish.) Now that spring is here, we're getting more and more calls for help from shelter staff. We were able to help one frightened and pregnant Mama dog, thanks to foster Mom, Elise Emerson. The dog gave birth to puppies just a few hours after leaving the shelter; she also had to have an emergency spay less than two weeks after her delivery. Aside from that temporary setback, she and all of her little ones did great. With the help of our friend, Michelle Brown, the entire little family headed to Michigan to start new lives up north. The vetting and the emergency surgery alone totalled more than \$1200 for this one precious family!

And the very next day? Another call for help. Another frightened dog, Mama June, was trapped in the same tiny animal control facility, hours from giving birth in a dark, noisy and frightening environment. We were able to arrange for her rescue, and less than 24 hrs later, she had 8 beautiful puppies! Sweet June is heartworm positive and her babies will soon need care and transport. While we were grateful to be able to spring into action and help these puppies and their moms, the costs of these rescues are staggering. Spay and neuter is truly the only solution. With your support, we'll keep pushing to provide more services across Louisiana.





An animal lover named lan was walking his dog recently at a Shreveport park, when a starving dog walked timidly out of the woods and approached as if to say, "Please rescue me!" Being the kind hearted person he is, lan picked up the helpless dog, but he didn't have the resources for vetting and care - and Breaux was coughing. We agreed to help, and the vet exam revealed that Breaux had advanced heartworms, like far too many homeless dogs in our state. We raised funds for the needed but expensive care, and the rest is history, as shown in the pics.

Meanwhile, further south and west, an animal loving couple rescued a sickly, homeless dog in Avoyelles parish, where there is no facility for animals in need. Of modest means, the pair had lots of love to give but needed help to cover the considerable costs for veterinary care, heartworm treatment and spaying the sweet dog they named Trixie. Luckily, our supporters stepped up and contributed the funds needed to pay for the sweet dog's rescue.





**Executive Director, Jeff Dorson,** and key volunteers attended a press conference recently, as we kicked off the 'Support our Public Animal Shelters' campaign. As we related in last month's alert, we've been hard at work, encouraging elected officials to allocate needed funding for animal shelters. We're asking the public to do their part, by spaying and neutering and supporting Louisiana's underfunded animal protection charities. The initiative received widespread coverage on radio and television outlets across Louisiana.

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