



Dear Animal Defender,

To all of our local friends and supporters - we sincerely hope that you made it through Hurricane Francine safely and without any major damage. As always, we thank you for your consistent support and compassion for animals, particularly in difficult times! Also, very special thanks go out to Truman Tench for his generous recent gift. Truman, we really appreciate your kindness and commitment to helping animals, over many years!

HURRICANE FRANCINE RESPONSE & RELIEF



We're very relieved and grateful to report that our crew and animals all made it safely through the hurricane. Our headquarters and animal care facilities were directly in the storm's path, but we only lost power for a few days, and we were fully prepared. In addition to stocking up on supplies and securing our animals and buildings before the storm, HSLA rushed to help those in harm's way. Our team worked long hours, relocating 82 homeless animals to adoption partners out of state. We also rushed emergency funds to Brittany Ware of *Hayden's Hoofbeats Haven* in Allen Parish; she kindly took in 6 dogs and 2 cats from *Acadia Animal Control* by making space in her grooming salon; thankfully, this saved them from

euthanasia. We also distributed emergency funds and supplies to animal caregivers and rescuers in need. As soon as electricity was restored in most areas, we held our first supply drive in Gretna to collect needed items for animal caregivers impacted by Francine. Special thanks to animal rescue patrons Harold and Ellie Harper for their particularly generous donation of cat food! As with all major weather events, Hurricane Francine will no doubt continue to cause financial hardships, which will result in more displaced residents with pets. This will no doubt make an already extremely difficult time for overburdened shelter and rescue groups even worse.

HURRICANE HELENE - RELIEF UPDATE: In the wake of the catastrophic damage caused by Hurricane Helene, HSLA is mobilizing to send supplies and workers to Asheville, North Carolina. We have friends and animal rescue contacts in the area, who have helped us in several disasters. We are also mobilizing to help a small shelter in Georgia. It's time for us to give back to all those who have come to our aid in the past. We'll keep you posted on our work in the disaster zone.



EVANGELINE PUPPY RESCUE

An elderly pet owner, who was recently admitted to a hospital, was no longer able to care for her 'outside' dogs and puppies in Evangeline parish. Like so many other parishes, Evangeline is short of resources, rescue groups, and low-cost spay and neuter options. We agreed to take in the little ones - 5 chocolate and three black lab pups - along with their Mom and Dad.

