



**SEPTEMBER 2020**  
**Humane Society of Louisiana**

## **Dear Animal Defender,**

It's official: our crew has probably never worked so hard or so quickly to save and help as many animals as we have in this last month. Although economic times are tough and conditions are difficult, our team really stepped up to the plate to meet the challenge of Hurricane Laura's devastation and to handle multiple neglect cases in extraordinarily difficult times. Thank you for providing the needed support to make this lifesaving work possible.



## **An Incredible, Lifesaving Mission for Animals: 1000 Homeless Pets Saved in Laura Relief Effort**

As soon as it became evident that the Greater New Orleans area and our shelter facilities in and around Mount Hermon would be spared from the worst impact of Hurricane Laura, our crew sped into action to save lives and bring aid to animals in need. Because of our long standing relationships with small Louisiana shelters and our national adoption partners, we were able to quickly arrange and coordinate scores of transports, both before the storm and in its immediate aftermath. Our focus was transporting out homeless, adoption-ready animals from impacted shelters and rescues, to help them make way for incoming rescues and surrenders. A lion's share of the credit for this incredible accomplishment goes out to Jessica Cameron, our Animal Programs Manager, whose ability to manage complicated transports and partnerships both statewide and nationally is legendary. With few resources and little fanfare, our small agency impacted the lives of more animals than most of the national agencies providing disaster relief in our area - with an entirely grassroots program. We are so proud of our hard working crew, volunteers and supporters, for making this ongoing relief effort possible.



## **14 Cats Rescued from Neglect on Labor Day**

Our hard working animal care team was more than ready for some well deserved down time on Labor Day, but local law enforcement contacted us for help the night before the holiday. Assistance was needed to rescue more than a dozen scared and starving cats from a home, where they had been abandoned by an elderly caregiver. The woman had apparently suffered a mental breakdown and left town, leaving her poor cats behind, completely unattended for more than a week. Her family was preparing to institutionalize the elderly woman for her own safety. (Luckily, the cats had already been neutered - thanks to our Magnolia chapter.) The challenge was to capture and remove the already-traumatized kitties. We knew we'd have a long road ahead of us, in terms of their care; they would need time to decompress and recover after their ordeal, before they could be prepared for adoption. It took several hours, but our team was finally able to wrangle the distressed cats and relocate them back to our facility to start their road to recovery.

***Two of the abandoned kitties (left) rescued this Labor Day in Franklinton.***



**Humane Society of Louisiana PO Box 740321 New Orleans, LA 70174**  
**[www.HumaneLA.org](http://www.HumaneLA.org) [info@humanela.org](mailto:info@humanela.org)**

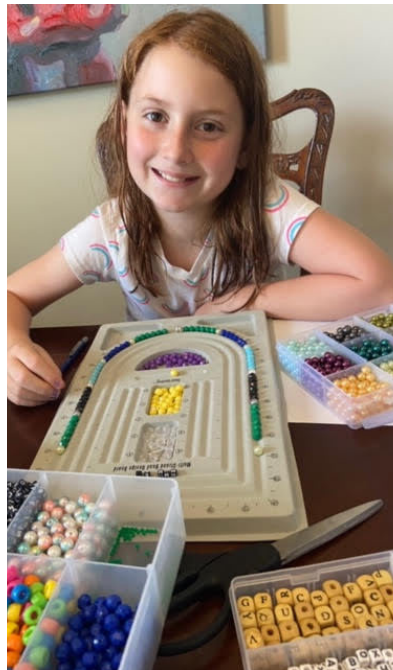
## Snapshots: Hurricane Laura Relief Effort



*A few of the hundreds of cats saved as part of our Hurricane Laura relief effort. These cats are starting out new lives in upstate New York, thanks to our awesome adoption partners.*



*We were extremely touched this month by the efforts of young artist and junior philanthropist, Sophie Gammon, who put her creative talents to work to help the animal victims of the hurricane. Sophie has been creating and selling pretty lanyards online for \$10 to benefit our group and other charities. Her efforts were featured this week on WDSU TV6. You can support her efforts for animals by purchasing one of her creations. Just visit her Facebook page 'Lanyards by Sophie' to order.*



We were so happy to be able to take custody of this poor dog, one of 33 neglected animals seized by law enforcement this month in a Springhill neglect case, in north Louisiana. We were contacted to help by a local rescue assisting officers with the case. We were happy to take the adult dogs, who had all suffered so greatly. This poor dog lived a miserable existence on a foot and a half foot chain under a hornet's nest. He had no ability to move, no water and no shelter of any kind. He's now on the road to a loving home at last.

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