

HOUSTON HUMANE SOCIETY



Annual Report 2010



Giving
HOPE
to Animals



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SHELTER LOCATION
14700 Almeda Rd.
Houston, TX 77053
Phone: 713-433-6421
Fax: 713-433-4325

MAILING ADDRESS
P.O. Box 450528
Houston, TX 77245

SHELTER HOURS
Receiving:
Mon.-Thurs.: 9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Fri.-Sun.: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Adoptions:
Mon.-Sun.: 11 a.m.-5 p.m.
Thurs.: 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

CLINIC LOCATION
14810 Almeda Rd.
Houston, TX 77053
Phone: 713-433-6453

CLINIC HOURS
(Vaccinations & Exams)
Mon.- Fri.: 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Thursday: 10 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Sat. – Sun.: 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

*Please arrive at least one hour
before closing.*

Visit us online at www.houstonhumane.org or
email us at mail@houstonhumane.org.



Hope for all Animals

The actor Christopher Reeve said, "Once you choose hope, anything's possible." At the Houston Humane Society we take that message to heart and infuse hope in everything we do—hope for the wellness of these animals, hope that they find loving families and hope that we can end cruelty and make a positive difference in their lives.

In 2009, we faced unprecedented challenges both in numbers of animals and economic influences. We feel blessed to have weathered this past year fairly well and were able to help thousands of beautiful animals. As we reflect on our accomplishments in 2009, we see that the seeds of hope are blooming and each day we grow stronger in our faith that all things are possible.

Each year, the Houston Humane Society helps care for more than 45,000 animals. In 2009 we turned away no animal, provided housing and medical care and found permanent, loving homes for thousands of them. Our goal for the year was to increase adoptions by 25 percent and I'm pleased to say that not only did we reach this goal, but surpassed it for a total of 39 percent. We are dedicated to finding new ways to help even more animals in 2010.

After 5 years of fundraising and construction, the Audrey Jones Beck Adoption Center was opened to the public in December 2008 and the individual climate-controlled canine habitats were occupied in mid July 2009. Dozens of animal lovers braved the first snow in decades to celebrate the Holiday Grand Open House to tour our new facility where our much deserving animals are housed in more spacious comfortable quarters. We now have five separate dog kennel buildings, indoor canine chalets, kitty kat kondos and an auditorium dedicated to educational events. The Animals' Kingdom Boutique also resides in the new building.

Our Animal Wellness Clinic offered hope to thousands of abused and abandoned animals. In times of economic hardship, many pet owners desert their companion animals when they fall ill or even need routine care. We were able to prevent this from happening for thousands of animals by providing low-cost services to needy pet owners.

Raising awareness of how to properly care for animals and the tragedies that occur when that care ceases is a key component of our mission. We

carried a message of responsible pet ownership and a heightened reverence for life to hundreds of students and adults in Harris and surrounding counties. Our unique R.A.I.D.E.R. animal cruelty division saved hundreds of animals from a life of suffering.

Once again we were awarded Charity Navigator's 4-Star rating for the sixth consecutive year, proving our ability to efficiently manage finances and be good stewards of your donations. Over the last year we spent more than 90 percent on animal welfare programs and services and less than 10 percent on general and administrative.

None of this could have been accomplished without the generous help of our supporters and donors. We thank all of you that cared and hoped for these innocent animals that were in danger of becoming statistics caught up in the economic crunch.

I have no doubt thousands of animals will come through our doors in the year ahead and have confidence we can provide each one with the excellent care they so deserve. We'll be here to provide the love, housing and medical care needed, but depend on you for the financial support to carry on the life-saving work of the Houston Humane Society.

Help us spread our message of hope by making a donation or giving your time to the forgotten, lost and discarded animals that came to us yesterday, are here today and will come tomorrow.

For the animals,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sherry".

Sherry Ferguson, Executive Director

COMMUNITY OF HOPE

Saving and protecting the lives of thousands of innocent animals is a far bigger job than any one organization can do. It takes the commitment of the entire community to eradicate animal cruelty and overpopulation. By working together, we can create a community of hope for all animals in the Houston area.

In 2009, the Houston Humane Society hosted numerous educational and adoption events throughout Harris County, created new programs aimed at increasing adoptions and assisted other animal organizations when needed. Read on for a sampling of these community events.

Honoring Animal Welfare Activist

The Houston Bar Association's Animal Law Section honored animal welfare activist Madeleine Pickens at an event hosted at the Houston Humane Society. Pickens, a tireless advocate for animals, testified before the United States House of Representatives Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands in support of H.R. 1018, the Restoring Our American Mustangs Act (ROAM) in March.

Pickens' work to close the last horse slaughterhouse in the United States resulted in the American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act. She also organized emergency aid for the displaced dogs and cats of a Hurricane Katrina-stricken New Orleans. She is currently working to develop a 1 million acre sanctuary for wild mustangs. Pickens is a great example of how the involvement of one community member can make a difference.



Importance of Fostering

Our Foster Program enables members of our community to help animals on a temporary basis. Foster placement can last anywhere from a couple of weeks to a few months. Animals arrive at the Houston Humane Society in all kinds of shape. Some are not adoptable right away because of medical problems. Others are too young and can't be spayed or neutered. Foster families take on these animals and nurture them back to health in a loving environment so that they can find permanent homes.

Our Animal Wellness Clinic has treated hundreds of animals through our foster efforts on- and off-site. The Houston Humane Society provides veterinary care and medicine for the animals in our foster program. The main requirements of foster families are that they have time and can provide love and a place to live. We are constantly recruiting foster families and expect this program to grow in 2010.

COMMUNITY OF HOPE

Community Outreach Days at HHS

We believe that only when people know what's happening to these sweet animals can they take action to help them, which is why we invite the community to come to our facility and learn about what we do. This past year, dozens of school, scout and community groups participated in our community outreach days.

Each visit begins with an informational class where groups learn about our organization, its departments and all the efforts we lead. Following the classes, each group is taken on a tour where they get to see up close our residents and how they live. The day is wrapped up with a lively interactive session with our animals which can include anything from bathing to exercising our canine friends. Each person who attends goes away with a better understanding of what we do and what they can do to help. HHS also participated in several community events including KBR Kids Fair, Rice University's Community Outreach Days, Continental Airlines Health & Safety Fair and the Houston Marathon's Run for a Reason.

Mobile Adoptions

In 2009, our mobile adoption program traveled throughout the city in search of loving families. Our animals could be found at a variety of locations including Astros and Aeros games, the Houston Cat Club's Annual Charity Cat Show at the George R. Brown Convention Center, community-based events, PetSmart, restaurants and the Houston Young Lawyers Association Adoptions Day at the Houston Center.

Several adoption sites are chosen each month to ensure the placement of the maximum amount of animals. It takes a team of volunteers and staff to prepare the animals and coordinate this endeavor. The mobile adoption team arrives at each event with anywhere from five to 20 animals. It is because of their commitment to finding homes for these animals that hundreds of cats and dogs were adopted this past year.

The Feline Friends Program

1 cat adoption fee: \$85
2 cat adoption fee: \$125

Adoption fee includes spay/neuter surgery, microchip, current shots, and feline leukemia test

Top 5 Reasons to adopt 2 instead of 1:

1. You're saving 2 lives instead of 1
2. One kitten can become lonely
3. They help each other burn off energy
4. They act as pillows for one another
5. They will each have a friend for life

New Feline Friends Program

The Feline Friends Program, launched in September of 2009, encourages the adoption of two cats instead of one. The program was created based on the premise that the care of two cats doesn't take much more energy or expense than the care of one cat. Two cats can share a litter box and food and water bowls. Another benefit is that, with two cats, families never have to worry that their animals will be lonely while they are away. The Houston Humane Society also offers a discount when adopting two cats. While the program is still in its infancy, it has been well received to this point.

Continuing Education Programs for Volunteers

Educating our volunteers is one of our top priorities. In addition to our initial volunteer orientation, we provide quarterly training sessions with Bark Busters, a renowned dog training company. Using dog-friendly training techniques, the Bark Busters trainers teach volunteers how to handle the dogs in numerous situations.

The veterinarians from our Animal Wellness Clinic also provide a variety of health-related classes that include topics such as heartworms, parvo and distemper, heat exhaustion and other seasonal-related ailments. We are continually expanding this program and look forward to adding new training sessions in 2010 to better serve our staff, volunteers and most importantly our animals.

HHS Mascot Retires after Life of Service

After nearly 15 years of spreading love, hope and happiness to adults and children, the Houston Humane Society's beloved mascot Burnadette, "Burnie," is retiring. Over the years, Burnie's story as a survivor of animal cruelty by minors has educated and impacted hundreds of people.

In 1996, two young teens tied Burnie to a tree, doused her with gasoline and set her on fire. Luckily a police officer caught them in the act and immediately brought Burnie to HHS. Although she had third-degree burns, our HHS Animal Wellness Clinic staff saved her life and began the process of rehabilitation.

Throughout her painful treatments, Burnie remained friendly and loving to everyone. We fell in love with her and knew right away that she would make the perfect mascot to help us spread awareness of animal cruelty. She took her job seriously, visiting schools, appearing at special events, selling Animals' Kingdom merchandise and writing her own column in the HHS Companion newsletter.

Burnie also was named an Honorary K-9 Cop by Precinct 6 Constable Victor Trevino. In this role, she visited numerous schools with her law enforcement partners to teach kids of all ages how to recognize and report animal cruelty.

Racing was another passion of hers and each year she could be found participating in our annual K9 Fun Run & Walk. Up until her retirement from

racing at age 15, she won first place in her category every year but one. She represented HHS in the Snow Fest Parade, Gay Pride Parade, at HHS Galas, Wine Tastings and numerous other events and fundraisers.

Burnie's love is endless and she shared it with everyone from patients and staff at Shriner's Children's Hospital to the hundreds of senior citizens she cheered up by just showing up. We love Burnie dearly and are so thankful that she has been a part of our lives for all these years, but now it's her time to sit back and relax. She is actively seeking her replacement.



Benefits of Adopting an Older Dog

When looking to adopt a dog, many people often believe that a puppy is the best way to go. Puppies are adorable, full of joy, active and irresistible. However, a puppy can sometimes require more attention, time and training than what a new owner expected, which is why considering adopting an older dog might be the way to go.

There are many benefits when it comes to adopting an older dog. They're typically housebroken, have some training and tend to be calmer. Many people assume that when an older dog is dropped off at a shelter, it is for behavioral reasons, which is not always true. During this economic crunch, many families have had to give up their beloved dogs because they simply can't afford to keep them. These dogs can make the ideal pet for someone who prefers quiet walks and a companion who will be content sitting calmly next to them.

At the Houston Humane Society we have some dogs who take longer than others to find a home. Our shelter doesn't have a time limit for animals to find a home, so many lovable, larger dogs stay with us for months on end. We know that these dogs make incredible pets, which is why we created the Diamonds in the Ruff program.



Diamonds in the Ruff

In the event that any of our long term residents forget their manners, we've partnered with Lone Star Pet Lodges to train some of our long-time residents, in the hopes that obedient behavior will make these wonderful, older dogs more appealing to potential adopting families. These trained canines know how to sit, stay and wait patiently for a treat. They also will heel right by your side during a walk. Who could ask for anything more! Below are some of our residents who have gone through the Diamonds in the Ruff program.

Happy Tails, by Elaine, Jax's Mom

"I cannot begin to express how pleased we are with Jax! I am SO happy he was still there when I found him online! He is a wonderful, happy, very well mannered dog and has a funny and very charming personality. He and our other dog, Penny, immediately fell in love and are now inseparable. He has been teaching us his many talents as we get to know him better. Jax loves his treats and he will sit, shake, sit up and lay down almost without being asked! He loves to play fetch with balls and keep-away with his stuffed animals.

"He teases Penny with them and just begs her to chase him, which she, of course, does! My daughter brought home her little Jack Russell terrier puppy, Shiner, and Jax and Shiner have kept us all entertained by their wrestling and chasing each other non-stop! Jax is a very large dog and Shiner just about fits into his mouth, but he has been as gentle as possible with the little beast, who cannot stop his attack on Jax. It is hilarious! I can't imagine how so many people passed on Jax; he was up for adoption for over two months. The only answer that I can come up with is that Jax was waiting for us. What a wonderful dog! This is indeed a happy tails story!"

R.A.I.D.E.R. PROGRAM 2009 HIGHLIGHTS

R.A.I.D.E.R.s to the Rescue

As the first and only animal shelter in Texas to hire law enforcement officers as full-time cruelty investigators, the Houston Humane Society has made tremendous strides in uncovering animal abuse and prosecuting abusers. In 2009, our R.A.I.D.E.R. (Rescuing Animals In Danger and Education Resources) team rescued more than 230 animals, made numerous felony arrests and worked closely with the District Attorney's Office to aid in the prosecution of many more criminals. In addition, hundreds of animals were helped via education regarding the law and proper animal care.



Investigations this past year also corroborated the alarming fact that large-scale abusers, such as professional dogfighting operations, are going to more extensive lengths to avoid detection. Many organizers are now locating dogfighting events outside the city limits, making it more difficult for authorities with limited resources to investigate. In addition, reports of amateurs organizing street fights within the city limits have increased.

The American Pit Bull Terrier is hands down the breed of choice for these horrific crimes. All canines with identified scars from fighting that were rescued by the R.A.I.D.E.R. team were pit bulls. As fast as

these animals are rescued, more are bred for this despicable act of violence. In 2009, the numbers of pit bull breeders increased dramatically in the State of Texas.

In addition to the horrors of dogfighting, the practice of indiscriminate breeding by puppy mill operators is on the rise. These people breed with no regard for the animals while in their control or where they will end up. These animals suffer a lifetime of misery.

HHS Reserve Program

To combat the increase in animal cruelty calls and cases, the Houston Humane Society's Reserve Program was developed by R.A.I.D.E.R. Officer Sergeant Joe Guerra to assist our full-time R.A.I.D.E.R. officers in responding to reports of potential animal cruelty. We are the only animal shelter in Texas that has a program of this kind, enabling our R.A.I.D.E.R. officers to focus on investigating large-scale animal abuse.

This volunteer force is comprised of police officers who each undergo 16 hours of training at their own expense. These officers volunteer at least 24 hours a month and many upwards of 40 hours per month. They often respond to more than 10 calls per day. Many of the calls they complete are educational opportunities where owners may not realize their treatment of their animals is inhumane.

These volunteers save HHS between five to eight thousand dollars per month in investigative costs and ensure that the more than 60 reports that are received each week are investigated. Eight reserve deputies are currently assigned to the R.A.I.D.E.R. Reserve Program with ongoing monthly classes for new recruits occurring regularly.

We need your help!

The fight to save these animals and others from abuse and neglect takes place around the clock. It is because of the generosity of our supporters that HHS is able to provide the R.A.I.D.E.R. program. However, with abusers becoming savvier and their methods more sophisticated, additional funds are needed to ensure the safety of all animals. If you would like to help fight animal cruelty, note R.A.I.D.E.R. on your gift. Any amount is helpful.

R.A.I.D.E.R. PROGRAM 2009 HIGHLIGHTS

Meet HHS/R.A.I.D.E.R. Officers

Who are these brave officers who many times put their lives on the line to save innocent animals? They are compassionate human beings who have a desire to rescue animals from dangerous situations and an interest in educating the public on the treatment of animals. Based out of Harris County, Precinct 6, these deputies spend 100 percent of their time combating the abandonment and mistreatment of all animals.

Sergeant Joe Guerra

Having worked as a Houston Humane Society/R.A.I.D.E.R. officer for the past year, Sergeant Guerra has seen first hand the abuses inflicted on these animals. He has participated in raids and seizures of more than 200 dogs, cats, birds and horses. A law enforcement officer since 1997, Guerra's extensive experience has helped uncover these perpetrators and led to several arrests.

Under his leadership, the HHS cruelty investigations program has expanded, and has plans to continue growing, until animals are considered valuable members of the family and treated with respect.

Sergeant Stacy Schuelke

Sergeant Schuelke is new to the HHS/R.A.I.D.E.R. program. He is a native Houstonian and has been a police officer with the Harris County Constable Department Precinct 6 since 1992. He has served as a sergeant in the warrant, juvenile and patrol divisions.

Schuelke brings a wealth of experience working with community groups to the program. His previous position was as a patrol supervisor and community liaison for a dozen civic, community and super neighborhood groups.

A police instructor since 2001 and a master peace officer since 2004, Schuelke also worked with Guerra in the sex offender compliance unit. His outstanding investigative skills and community relations experience make him a welcomed addition to the program.

Goodbye, Blek

In Dec. of 2009, Harris County Precinct 4 lost a beloved member of its K-9 unit. Blek, a Czech-German Shepherd, was killed in the line of duty while chasing burglary suspects. Blek had worked with Precinct 4 for more than three years and had chased down hundreds of suspects. He was trained to find people and sniff out explosives. His handler and partner, Harris County Precinct 4 deputy constable Ted Dahlin, considered Blek his best friend. He will be greatly missed.

TO REPORT CRUELTY:

Call 713.433.6421, ext. 396

**File a report online at
www.houstonhumane.org**

For stray animals call your local Animal Control:

**Harris County 281.999.3191
BARC (City of Houston) 713.229.7300
Fort Bend County 281.342.1512
Montgomery County 936.442.7738
Brazoria County 979.849.2441**



Healing Thousands of Animals – One at a Time

At the Houston Humane Society's Animal Wellness Clinic, we strive to deliver the best care possible to every animal that passes through our doors. Our clinic has helped heal more than 2,500 private clients as well as thousands of abandoned and abused animals that come to us in varying stages of health and severity of medical needs. We are proud to offer needy pet owners low-cost care for their loving companions.

Services range from simple procedures such as preparing animals for adoption through vaccinations and spaying and neutering to treating more complex illnesses such as malnutrition, parasitic diseases and cancer. In 2009, our veterinarians performed an average of 40 surgeries a day.

Timothy Harkness, D.V.M., HHS chief veterinarian, leads this monumental effort. He has worked at HHS for the past 10 years and

serves as a forensic expert for the Houston District Attorney's Office. He routinely testifies in cruelty cases involving large-scale abusive practices such as puppy mills and dogfighting rings. His testimony has led to numerous convictions.

East meets West

Dr. Harkness' passion for the health of all animals has driven him to explore alternative and less invasive healing therapies. He is one of only a few veterinarians in the nation who studies Eastern medicine therapies. Whenever possible, Dr. Harkness utilizes a holistic approach involving natural medicinal herbs as well as acupuncture to treat ailments from cancer to arthritis.

By combining both Eastern- and Western-style therapies, Dr. Harkness has seen high success rates of extended life in animals that have been diagnosed with terminal inoperable cancer. He also is one of a few veterinarians in the United States studying and practicing the use of a plant material use for cancer treatment derived from the perennial herb root *Sanguinaria Canadensis*, more commonly known as bloodroot. Used as a topical salve, orally or in the intralesional form, this ancient formulation modality has proven successful in lessening animals' suffering and prolonging the quality of life of those inflicted with various forms of cancer.

Training Veterinarians from around the World

The HHS Animal Wellness Clinic also serves as a training ground to veterinarians from around the globe who are interested in continuing their education in the United States. These veterinarians study under Dr. Harkness who teaches them proper surgical techniques and a variety of procedures to prepare them for their clinical competency exams in surgery and medicine. To date, Dr. Harkness has mentored veterinarians from many different countries including Puerto Rico, Japan, India, China, Pakistan, Peru, and Colombia.

Every day, Dr. Harkness and the HHS Animal Wellness Clinic staff offer hope to abused and abandoned animals that might never have a chance at life. Through generous donations from our supporters, we also are able to provide low-cost services to needy pet owners. Our costs to operate the clinic continue to grow and we need your help to ensure that every animal that crosses our doorstep receives the treatment that they deserve.

HHS WELLNESS AT WORK

HHS Leads the Way with Canine Influenza Vaccinations

Always proactively seeking new ways to protect animals, the Houston Humane Society's Animal Wellness Clinic chose to include the H3N8 Canine Influenza Vaccine in its core vaccination program administered to the clinic's clients as well as dogs that go through the adoption process. Canine influenza, an emerging infectious disease caused by a "flu" virus, is a highly contagious strain of the influenza A virus. It often causes respiratory illness in dogs. Currently 33 states, including Texas, have reported cases of Canine Influenza.

While there has been much information in the public about the various strains of the influenza A virus including H1N1 which impacts humans, the Canine influenza virus only affects dogs. Since it is a relatively new virus, dogs have no natural immunity to it and are at risk for the infection. Certain venues and activities can increase dogs' risk of exposure. A dog that comes from a shelter, rescue center, breeding kennel or pet store or comes into contact with other dogs at a boarding kennel, doggie daycare, groomer, dog park or veterinary clinic is susceptible.

As a leading clinic in the Houston area, the HHS was one of the first to implement using the vaccine which resulted in a 65 percent drop in upper respiratory disease cases.

Spay and Neuter Gives Animals Hope for a Healthier Life

Each year, 6 to 8 million unwanted animals are born into a world that can't sustain them. Half of these innocent, adorable, healthy and adoptable dogs and cats end up being euthanized because there simply aren't enough families to take them in.

Spaying and neutering are safe and effective ways to combat companion animal overpopulation. By reducing the number of animals that need to be placed, it also gives shelter animals more hope that they will be able to find loving homes. In 2009, veterinarians at the HHS Animal Wellness Clinic performed more than 10,000 spay and neuter surgeries.

Spaying or neutering can be a difficult decision for some people. The following are a few benefits that might make the decision easier:

- Reduces the number of homeless animals;
- Eliminates the possibility of testicular tumors in male dogs;
- Lessens the desire to roam and mark territory;
- Eliminates heat cycles;
- Reduces the incidence of mammary tumors and ovarian cancer;
- Reduces aggression; and
- Helps dogs and cats live longer, healthier lives.

Give your animal hope for a healthier life by making a commitment to spay or neuter them or sponsor a surgery for a friend at the HHS Animal Wellness Clinic. While employing skilled, licensed Texas Veterinarians, the HHS keeps the cost low to be available to all pet owners.

For info on our low-cost surgeries and wellness services go to www.houstonhumane.org.

VOLUNTEERS GIVE HOPE

Our volunteers are a special group of people who dedicate their lives to helping animals. Without them, we would never be able to accomplish as much as we have over the years. We celebrate all our volunteers at our annual volunteer appreciation party but there are a few that stand out and deserve to be recognized for their efforts. This year we presented the following five awards to five extraordinary volunteers.



Hit the Ground Running Award

This award highlights a newcomer who has made a huge impact in a short amount of time. This year's recipient, Courtney Gabriel, spends her weekends at the shelter from opening to closing. Always with a smile on her face, she is constantly exercising the dogs, cleaning up after puppies and playing matchmaker for potential adopters.



Hit the Ground Running A Marathon Award

Our newest award, this award was created to highlight a longtime volunteer who has made a huge impact over time. Jacque Gaston, one of our most dedicated weekday volunteers, has worked with us for more than seven years in several capacities including fostering, helping out at events and even procuring a donated lunch for our golf tournament!



True Spirit of HHS Award

The True Spirit of HHS Award was presented to Loretta Knittel who every day demonstrates the true spirit of HHS. Loretta heads our volunteer weekday schedule system, works with the animals, recruits new fosters and adopters, and assists with follow-ups to past adopters. She even takes paperwork home with her!



Teen Volunteer of the Year Award

The Teen Volunteer of the Year Award is given to a teen volunteer that stands out throughout the year. Maryanne Flasiak is one of the best teen volunteers to pass through our shelter doors! With the help of her family, she has fostered more animals each year than anyone else. She also volunteers at the shelter, mobile adoptions, events, and can even be seen on TV. In her spare time she cares for Gilbert, our shelter iguana!



Volunteer of the Year Award

Our Volunteer of the Year Award is only given to the best of the best! Cheryl Gabelman is definitely in that category. She gives 100 percent every time she is at the shelter. She participates in events, works both weekdays and weekends, handles the weekend volunteer schedule, mentors new volunteers and has even fostered. While we might be able to get along without her around here, we certainly wouldn't want to! She always has a smile, keeps us in line and somehow leaves with the most pawprints on her shirt every week. She sets the bar extremely high for everyone else to measure up.



URBAN PAWS - HOUSTON VOUNTEER OF THE YEAR



HHS is proud to have nominated one of our youngest committed volunteers who goes above and beyond what is ordinary or usual; who stands out in a crowd of wonderful volunteers. Coleman Oubre was chosen as Houston's Shelter Volunteer of the Year. Coleman is a young man who volunteers at HHS several times a month giving freely of his weekends, holidays and school breaks. While his favorite job at HHS is exercising and training the large dogs, he also takes the time to work closely with potential adopters to help them choose the right pet for their family. He watches over the puppies and small dogs to make sure they are handled correctly and he arrives at special events ready to do whatever task is asked of him.

While this could describe a lot of volunteers in the Houston area, the biggest difference is this young man is only 12 years old. While his counterparts are at home playing video games and watching cartoons on Saturday mornings, Coleman is at the shelter with his mom and sister. He walks dogs that weigh more than him with the ease of someone who is a natural. With the goal of someday becoming a veterinarian, Coleman has the potential to help millions of animals throughout the course of his life. He is a true inspiration to volunteers of all ages. He makes us all remember that true joy can be found by simply spending time with shelter dogs on a Saturday morning.

BARC RESCUE STORY



In the heat of the summer of 2009, HHS residents doubled up in their kennels to make room for more than 65 animals from

BARC. These puppies had a variety and severity of ailments. After months of medical and individualized treatment by dedicated HHS vets, we were able to save a majority of these animals one of which is Jade. Jade was fortunate to find her loving home after spending six months with her HHS family.



HHS is Grateful for Our Generous Donors: Nosey's Notables

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Mary Lawton
Anne Lupton
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Deborah Miller
Mom and Dad: (*animal lovers*)
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Ginny Peters
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Donations were taken from January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009

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Aspen
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Annie's Angels Donors (continued)

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In Honor of Pickles
92-08 Best Weenie Dog
In Honor of Rocket
and Sugar Bear
Love You Always

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Norman Wilson

GIVEN BY:

Patti Heimlich

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Corry

Donations were taken from January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009

HHS WISH LIST

Looking for a way to help the animals? View our wish list below. Please drop off all wish list items at the Houston Humane Society during normal business hours.

Administrative Needs

Batteries (all sizes)
Calculators
Colored Paper
Copy Paper (letter)
Digital Cameras (4.0M) for high resolution
Double-sided Tape
Jump/Flash Drives 128MB +
Laminating Pouches
Markers (dry erase, permanent)
Paper Towels
Pens (black)
Plastic Storage Bins (18 gallon)
Printer Cartridges (HP 22, 27, 56, 57)
Printing Labels
Printing Services (Kinko's etc.)
Scotch Tape

Critter Needs

Kuranda Dog and Cat Beds
Bath Mats and Small Rugs
Dog & Cat Shampoo
Dog Brushes
Cat Food
Kitten Food
Kitty Litter
Leashes & Collars
Newspaper
Small Animal Feed and Bedding (Guinea Pigs)
Sturdy, Washable Cat & Dog Toys
Bath Towels
PetCo and PetSmart Gift Cards

Clinic Needs

Sam's Gift Cards
Bleach
Odo Ban (at Sam's Club)
Cotton Swabs
Disposable Latex Gloves
First Aid Kits
Hand Sanitizer
Rubbing Alcohol
Scrubs (all sizes)

Livestock/Rescue Needs

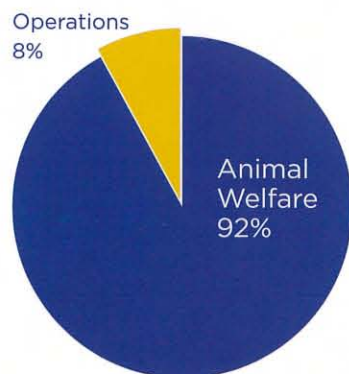
Binoculars
Dust Pans
Feed (horse, pig, poultry, goat)
Hay
Horse Trailer
Landscaper
Lawn Equipment

WISH LIST: RED ALERT!

The following items are desperately needed:

Bath Mats and Small Washable Rugs, Cat Litter, Leashes/Collars, Newspaper, Paper Towels, Bath Towels, Copy Paper (letter), Pens (black)

HOUSTON HUMANE SOCIETY FINANCIAL INFORMATION



The Houston Humane Society is the recipient of Charity Navigator's sixth consecutive 4-star rating, for our ability to efficiently manage and grow our finances. We have proven that the Houston Humane Society is worthy of the public's trust. With a brand new home, we stand ready to make an even greater impact in the coming year!

This chart indicates expenditures for the organization. As you can see, the majority of funds go directly to animal welfare programs and services.

2010 Humane Happenings

February

- 12 | One Hope Food Drive
sponsored by Purina
24 | Fix Felix For Free,
500 free male cat neuters

March

- 28 | Annual Houston
zHumane Society K-9 Fun
Run & Walk "Wizard
of Pawz"

April

- PREVENTION-OF-ANIMAL-
CRUELTY MONTH
15 | Sponsor a Pet Day
19-25 | National Volunteer Week
10-11 | Dock Dogs competition
at Meadowlake benefiting
HHS
TBD | Wine Tasting

May

- BE-KIND-TO-ANIMALS MONTH
1 | Save a stray donation day
30 | Hug your cat day

June

- ADOPT-A-SHELTER-CAT MONTH
HHS COMPANION CAMP
7-13 | Pet Appreciation Week

July

- HHS COMPANION CAMP
3-31 | Benefit art exhibit at
Archway Gallery
10 | Reception at Archway
Gallery benefiting HHS

August

- HHS COMPANION CAMP
1-5 | Benefit art exhibit at
Archway Gallery

September

- WALK YOUR DOG MONTH
20-26 | National Dog Week

October

- ADOPT-A-SHELTER-DOG MONTH
TBD | HHS Gala
TBD | HHS Par Fore Pets
Golf Tournament

November

- ADOPT-A-SENIOR-PET MONTH
1-7 | National Animal Shelter
Appreciation Week

Be sure to check for updates
of fun things to do for you
and your pets at
www.houstonhumane.org

Giving
HOPE
to Animals



Please help us continue
to give hope to animals
by making a donation to the
Houston Humane Society today.

OUR MISSION:

**The Houston Humane Society (HHS)
is a non-profit animal shelter
dedicated to eliminating cruelty, abuse
and the overpopulation of animals.**

OUR VISION:

HHS is committed to creating the awareness of,
and promoting animal welfare throughout the
Houston community by providing numerous
programs for Houston area residents and their
pets, including acceptance of all animals, pet
adoptions, humane education, R.A.I.D.E.R.
cruelty investigations and Houston's only \$30
spay and neuter clinic offering reduced cost
wellness services to those in need.

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713-520-6245

Houston Humane Society

Presents

2010

Wizard of Pawz

29th Annual K-9 Fun Run & Walk

Sunday,
March 28th, 2010
Sam Houston Park
10:00 A.M.

Benefiting
Houston's
Homeless
Animals



713-433-6421

www.houstonhumane.org

1 MILE COMPETITIVE RUN ~ 1 MILE NON COMPETITIVE JOG ~ 1 MILE NON COMPETITIVE WALK



HOUSTON
HUMANE
SOCIETY



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