

HOUSTON HUMANE SOCIETY



Spring
2015

Wilma Underwent Eye Surgery at Gulf Coast Veterinary Specialists



The Houston Humane Society's beloved mascot Wilma underwent cataract surgery this past summer to restore vision in her left eye. The life-changing surgery took place August 14, at Gulf Coast Veterinary Specialists by Dr. Julie Hempstead. The decline in her eye sight limited Wilma's ability to continue her mascot duties at the Houston Humane Society. After conducting an electrical function test, called an electroretinogram (ERG), and an ocular ultrasound, it was determined Wilma's left eye was a good candidate for cataract surgery to replace the cloudy lens with an artificial lens.

Prior to the surgery, Wilma was hesitant to walk up and down stairs and had become very co-dependent. She now has a new lease on life and is back to running things at the Houston Humane Society — the way it should be!

Wilma came to the Houston Humane Society in February, 2010, as one of 93 animals rescued from a puppy mill in Panola County. Living the first several years of her life in filth with

a complete lack of veterinary care and proper nutrition took its toll on her. While the permanent signs of her past are still visible, this lovable gal spends her days managing the administrative offices at the Houston Humane Society, visiting schools and kid camps throughout the community, leading Girl Scout tours at the shelter and being an ambassador in the fight against puppy mills.

Spot's Story

Spot, a Jack Russell mix, was brought to the Houston Humane Society's Animal Wellness Clinic on September 30, 2014, by his owners. Unfortunately for Spot, they waited 2 weeks after he was hit by a car to seek veterinary care. Suffering severe traumatic injuries to his right hind limb and the left side of his trunk, Spot's injuries were worsened due to the neglect. Not willing to spend more than \$25 on their dog, the couple surrendered Spot to the shelter. Our veterinary team immediately went to work saving Spot's limb and life. After months of intense surgical wound management, antibiotics and pain medication, Spot's injuries healed. The happy boy was all smiles the day his new dad took him home!



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www.houstonhumane.org

MISSION STATEMENT

The Houston Humane Society is dedicated to, and working towards, ending cruelty, abuse and the overpopulation of animals while providing the highest quality of life to those in our care.



From the Desk ^{of the} Executive Director



WILMA

Dear Friends,

In 2014, the Houston Humane Society faced many challenges. From more animals needing our help to our very own mascot Wilma undergoing surgery to restore her vision, the Houston Humane Society was able to meet each challenge head on thanks to our wonderful supporters and friends.

This year is sure to be no different, and our amazing staff and volunteers are ready. Through our low cost spay and neuter efforts, affordable animal care services, pet adoption program, open-door admission policy and RAIDER animal cruelty investigations, we stand ready to help even more animals in 2015.

As an open-admission shelter, we turn no animal away regardless of age, breed, temperament or physical condition. These animals will continue to come to us and we will continue to be there for them — just like we have been since 1958.

Please don't be confused with the advertising the national organizations have running in the Houston market. The Houston Humane Society is not under the umbrella of any national organization and receives no operational funding from national animal welfare groups. In addition, the Houston Humane Society does not receive government funding. HHS 100% funds contracts for the officers in our RAIDER cruelty investigations program. The daily cost to care for the animals that pass through our doors is high, but with the support of our community and donors to assist us we will continue to care for nearly 50,000 pets each year.

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 lifesaving work of the Houston Humane Society.

Help us continue our efforts 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,

Sherry

Sherry Ferguson
Executive Director



Wilma
Executive, Executive Director

P.S. I consistently hear amazement from visitors when they see Burnie's Backyard walking paths and the acres of park setting we have for our animals at the back of the shelter. I invite each of you to come out and share, not only that amazement, but the total package of the HHS shelter and animals. I guarantee you will leave delighted that the support you give is spent for the animals' care and enrichment.

Happy Tail Darling



Honor & Memorial

Honor and Memorial donations are a special way to remember and honor loved ones and pets. A card will be sent to whomever you ask us to notify. You can make a gift online on our website at www.HoustonHumane.org.

For more information, call (713) 433-6421 ext. 321 or email mail@houstonhumane.org.



I made my first adoption on my first visit to the HHS adoption center! I was very impressed by the cleanliness and by the massive dog walking area in the back! I am thrilled to gain Trixie as a new companion and family member and I have since changed her name to Darling.

I'm grateful that HHS posted on facebook her profile. I wasn't anticipating on really adopting but I wanted to see her because she was so adorable. I had initially just liked and shared HHS's post, but I felt like I really wanted to see her. I went to Houston for the weekend after my graduation and showed my parents her photos. My father disagreed in the adoption initially, but after we went to spend some time just playing with her, my father gave me permission to adopt! So, I strongly believe that not only should we like and share HHS's posts, but if you have a chance, and you think a dog is adorable or whatever feeling you get when you see it online... GO VISIT IT IN PERSON! You never know, this may be the dog for you... and you may be the forever home for it. Thank you HHS.

Karen Chen

Thanksgiving Feast at Houston Humane Society



Our staff and volunteers treated all the animals to a wonderful Thanksgiving feast thanks to an incredible donation by Iams. We received 40 pallets of donated food through the Iams Bowls of Love Program. The donation included a special flavor, Turkey Day Dinner. Our dogs loved the special treat!





Stats



9,751
SPAY/
NEUTER
SURGERIES

227



Number of dogs
and cats helped
during our June
2014 Hurricane
Preparedness
Event



16,659
RABIES
VACCINES
ADMINISTERED



2014:
574

2015:
610

Number of male cats neutered
for free during our annual Fix
Felix for Free event.

72



Number of dog adoptions
with sponsored heartworm
treatments in 2014



34,849 PATIENTS
SERVED

Pawla, HHS's very own Elf on the Shelf, helped keep tabs on the shelter mascots, used her elf magic to help pets find forever homes, and helped gather donations.



The 25th Annual Par FORE Pets Golf Tournament helped raise much needed funds for the animals!



HHS was 1 of 3 charities to partner with the Houston Zombie Walk!



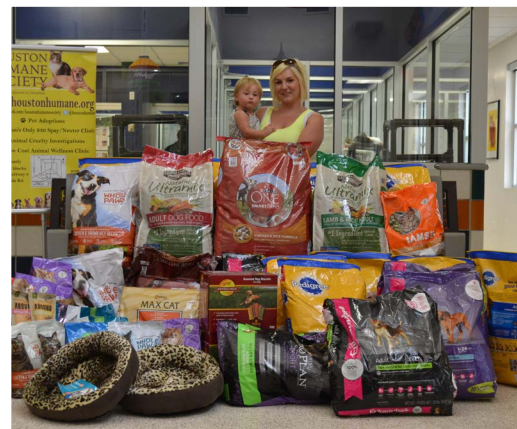
The Houston Humane Society was honored to receive a 2014 Houston PetSet grant for \$4,500!



Natural Pawz and Nature's Variety teamed up to donate nearly 6,000 pounds of food to HHS!



Studio 3 the Salon held a supply drive for the Houston Humane Society!



HHS Mascot Wilma at the Valobra Jewelry & Antiques event where a \$10,000 diamond and pearl bracelet was auctioned off to benefit HHS.



Santa Paws made a special stop at the Houston Humane Society for our annual Free Photos with Santa event!



Houston Humane Society Dog Becomes Service Companion

Last year, Service Dogs, Inc. adopted Jax from the Houston Humane Society. Through their program, our Jax received extensive training as a Service Dog for people living with disabilities. He has been matched with H. Bruce Brim, and the pair have become quite close. Brim had a benign brain tumor removed in 1988. The surgery left him with mobility and speech impairments and ataxia in all four limbs. Brim faced physical challenges daily such as losing his balance and falling and dropping items. Just walking was a struggle.

Jax helps Mr. Brim in his day to day routine by picking up items he drops, things like his cellphone, TV remote, even cooking utensils. He opens heavy doors, and most importantly, he provides much needed walking stability. Mr. Brim says Jax, "provides me motivation to get out and participate in the world and life. My confidence has increased exponentially. I now feel like Jax and I can leap tall buildings in a single bound!"



Houston Humane Society's Annual K-9 Fun Run & Par FORE Pets Golf Tournament

The Houston Humane Society is a private, non-profit animal shelter that relies solely on donations and fundraising to operate the numerous life-saving programs offered each day. Two events that help raise critical funds for the animals served by HHS are the annual K-9 Fun Run & Walk at Sam Houston Park in Downtown Houston and the annual Par FORE Pets Golf Tournament at Memorial Park Golf Course.

The K-9 Fun Run & Walk is Houston's oldest dog walk and features a 1 mile run/jog/walk down Allen Parkway with man's best friend, a festive post-race party with pet friendly vendors, a mobile adoption, activities for the whole family, a doggy costume contest and an HHS Alumni Parade. The event is held each March.

The Par FORE Pets Golf Tournament is a great opportunity for area golfers to putt for pets at the gorgeous Memorial Park Golf Course. The annual event is chaired by Merrill Lynch Private Wealth Management – The Massey Schmidt Group and raises thousands of dollars for homeless animals cared for by the Houston Humane Society. Mark your calendars for the 2015 Par FORE Pets Golf Tournament on September 22nd.



More info online:
www.HoustonHumane.org

Statement of Audited Financial Position as of December 31, 2013

Assets:

Cash and cash equivalents	\$2,321,353
Investments	\$2,233,627
Endowment	\$838,163
Inventory	\$34,548
Property and equipment	\$8,154,962
Total Assets	\$13,582,653

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Liabilities:

Accounts payable	\$135,516
accrued expenses	\$10,408

Net assets:

Unrestricted	\$12,568,471
Restricted	\$868,258

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$13,582,653
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Revenue:

Contributions	\$1,563,862
Special Events	\$141,789
Merchandise sales	\$27,552
Service fees	\$3,182,092
Other	\$527,672
Total Revenues	\$5,442,967

EXPENSES:

Program services	\$3,983,430
Fundraising costs	\$518,287
General and administrative	\$116,819

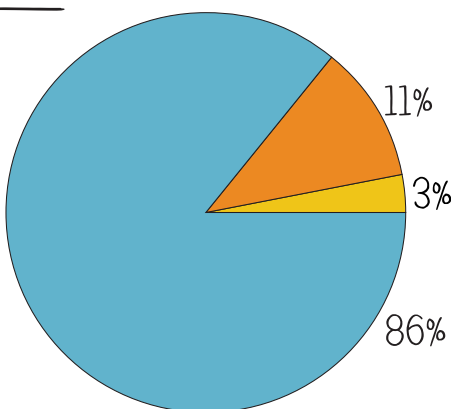
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$4,618,536
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CHANGES IN NET ASSETS	\$824,431
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Net Assets, beginning of year	\$12,612,298
Net Assets, End of Year	\$13,436,729

Expenses by Category

■ Program Services
■ Fundraising Costs
■ General and Administrative



Since 2004, Houston Humane Society has earned nine Charity Navigator 4-star ratings for its ability to efficiently manage and grow its finances, indicating HHS outperforms many charities in America in its efforts to operate in the most fiscally responsible

way possible. This highest designation from Charity Navigator differentiates HHS from many peers and demonstrates to the public it is worthy of their trust.



Monthly Giving

Become a monthly donor through our Constant Companion program, and your annual gift will be divided into manageable monthly contributions that are processed automatically. It's a convenient way for you to give, and you will be providing a steady stream of lifesaving funds to help pets all year long. Constant Companion donors provide a regular source of income to support the Houston Humane Society's monthly budget, allowing us to spend less on overhead and more on lifesaving services for the nearly 50,000 pets who desperately need our help. For more information or to donate, call (713) 433-6421 or visit www.HoustonHumane.org.

Happy Tail Molly



When I first met Molly, she had just arrived at the Houston Humane Society. Molly had been on the streets for a long time and was so matted, she couldn't even squat. She was a mess. I don't know what attracted me to Molly. She was quiet, disinterested, and aloof, and when I took her into the visiting area she pooped on the floor. For some reason, I fell in love and RAN to the front desk to fill out the application before any "competitors" could.

When you adopt a rescue dog, you never really know what you'll get. Her behavior told us she was very familiar with grooming. She had many absolute rules: she didn't step on the kitchen tile, wouldn't think of getting on furniture, plopped her butt down and sat like a rock waiting for a leash to be put on or removed, had no idea what begging was, and would explode before she would have an accident in the house ... Of course, we ruined

most of her good habits quickly! She clearly had substantial training. We just couldn't figure out what language was used to train her. We tried English, Spanish, German, Russian, and Dutch with no response, yet she clearly had been well trained in some language. We gave up and decided she'd just have to learn English.

As Molly became comfortable with us, she showed more and more of her hysterical idiosyncrasies. She is the most vocal dog we have ever owned, cooing, scolding, complaining, demanding, and telling us who and what is outside and what we are supposed to do about it. She squeaks (really!) when she sees a squirrel because she gets so excited she can't get normal sounds out. She challenges every dog she meets just to confirm that SHE is the toughest 10-pounds they'll ever come across. She is the funniest, most entertaining dog we've had in the past 45 years. We'll forever be grateful to the Houston Humane Society for saving our little girl and forever be glad that she chose us to be her people!

Susan Eckles

Companion Camp for Kids

Companion Camp is a wonderful opportunity for children ages 7-13 (or ages 12 - 15 during teen week) to work hands-on with the Houston Humane Society animals. Campers learn valuable life lessons concerning the welfare of all animals, the importance of being compassionate to animals and the great responsibility that comes from having an animal. During a typical day, campers receive humane education, workshops from animal experts, games, crafts, the opportunity to visit our veterinary clinic to watch a spay/neuter surgery, and one on one time with animals. This camp is a must for all kids!

Cost is \$295 per session and includes daily snacks and drinks, camp t-shirt, crafts, and all activities. Register before June 1st for just \$270 per session. Lunch is not provided; attendees need to bring a sack lunch. Camp hours are from 9:30-3:00, and an optional, extended morning hour has been added from 8:30 – 9:30 for just \$50 more per session. Visit www.HoustonHumane.org for a full list of available camp weeks and to sign up.

