

## We're There *Helping Animals in Crisis*

*We provide care for animals in need: rehabilitating wildlife trade victims, preserving habitat, helping shelters and under-served communities care for pets, and intervening in human-animal conflicts.*

### Road to Freedom

The animals' journey ends in May 2012 by a wetland drained for cattle pasture in north-west Nicaragua. It's midday and hot, but a patch of forest across a drainage ditch offers shade and relative cool. After months of preparation, animals seized by police from the illegal wildlife trade, then rehabilitated at a center that Humane Society International helped expand, are released in rapid succession: Parakeets burst from their cages, winging their way into the trees, where they perch in a noisy group, already at home in the wild. White-faced capuchin monkeys rush out of their crate, like athletes taking the field. Yellow-naped parrots and toucans, owls and foxes, caracaras and kinkajous follow.

HSI is helping build and strengthen a network of rescue centers in Central America to return poached animals to forests—one in El Salvador in 2012 and another planned for Honduras in 2013. Across the region, the organization is training police, customs officials, soldiers, and others to identify protected species and handle captive wildlife.

The May release was bittersweet for Tatiana Teran, a rescue center veterinarian. She first met the parakeets and parrots when they were naked, starving, dehydrated hatchlings just confiscated from a dealer. "They didn't have any feathers on them. ... They were

freezing." For three and a half months, Teran fed them with a syringe. Over almost a year, she taught them how to fly. As they regained their freedom, she was both sad and excited. "I should not get attached," Teran says. "But it's hard."

### Serving Shelters

Tucked away in an industrial part of a southern Mississippi town, Brookhaven Animal Rescue League runs on a shoestring budget funded solely by donations, barely covering the bills and salaries for two employees. What it lacks in money and staff, though, it makes up for in the dedication of 90 volunteers who keep the shelter open seven days a week and rehome almost all of the pets they care for.

During Sarah Matisak's visit to the small, limited-intake facility, the HSUS Shelter Services coordinator was struck by the emphasis placed on enrichment for the animals. Cats mingle in community living rooms and dogs romp in large fenced yards. Matisak arranged a gift of Kong toys to enhance the dogs' play,



Vet tech Erin Spencer checks a patient during a Rural Area Veterinary Services clinic at North Dakota's Standing Rock Reservation. RAVS—a program of the Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association—provided free spay/neuter and treatment to nearly 7,000 animals in 2012, training 309 veterinary students along the way.

THIS SPREAD, WOMAN WITH CAT: DAVID PAUL MORRIS/FOR THE HSUS; ALL OTHERS: KATHY MILANI/THE HSUS



### *Into the Trees*

Monkeys, birds, and other wildlife trade victims are released back into the wild after rehabilitating at an HSI-supported rescue center in Nicaragua.



### AROUND THE GLOBE, STREET BY STREET

Humane Society International is making a difference for the world's street dogs. Among the 2012 accomplishments:

**HAITI:** Rabies vaccinations for 250,000 dogs, in partnership with government; more than 1,000 sterilized

**BHUTAN:** 10,000+ street dogs sterilized and vaccinated (40,000 since 2009)

**CEBU CITY, PHILIPPINES:** 11,000+ dogs sterilized and vaccinated; dramatically decreased euthanasia and dog bite numbers

**INDIA:** Nearly 6,000 street dogs sterilized and vaccinated; vet training and high-volume spay/neuter center opened in Jaipur

**WEIXIAN COUNTY, CHINA:** Country's first humane animal control program launched

**COSTA RICA:** 3,300+ dogs sterilized and vaccinated



Pet owners line up for a Pets for Life outreach event in Chicago. Among other free services, the program provides dog training for clients like Philadelphia resident Megan Carman, owner of energetic King and Queen. “The dogs are a big help,” says Carman, whose son suffers from ADHD. “Sometimes when he has his rough days, he’ll go out and sit with the dogs. So it’s almost like the dogs are helping me keep him OK.”

## SAVING WILD LANDS

While expanding its portfolio of protected U.S. properties to 17,000+ acres in 2012, the Humane Society Wildlife Land Trust helped authorities catch and prosecute poachers through rewards and robotic decoys. The HSUS affiliate also built wildlife-friendly fencing on a Montana sanctuary, installed devices to collect snow and rainwater on overgrazed land, and enhanced habitat at an Oregon sanctuary for endangered sage grouse.

as well as elevated beds to keep them off the concrete kennel floors.

In 2012, Shelter Services staff fielded more than 1,000 inquiries from all over the country, providing in-depth remote assistance to 80 shelters, visiting 58, and conducting regional training workshops for a dozen more. Topics ranged from cleaning cages to improving customer service. The cost to the shelters: not one penny.

### Taking It to the Streets

In the Chicago community of North Lawndale, where 45 percent of residents live below the poverty line, The HSUS’s Laurie Maxwell had been keeping an eye on a boarded-up house. As a manager for the Pets for Life program, her job involves helping pets in underserved neighborhoods by building relationships with their owners. She would often see two dogs in front of the house, but she could never get their owner, Del Smith, to come out and talk.

One night, Maxwell finally spotted Smith next to an ice cream truck. She bought her a

chocolate ice cream cone, and the two finally chatted there under the train tracks—Smith telling her she could opt for public housing but didn’t want to give up her dogs, Momma and Rocky. Instead, she would continue slipping in and out through a basement opening in that boarded-up building.

Maxwell arranged to spay Momma and the puppies from her final accidental litter, while Smith in turn introduced her to most everyone on the block. “We talk all the time,” Maxwell says. “She’s a beautiful woman who loves her dogs so much that she’s going to stay in this situation in order to keep them.”

Similar stories—a selfless dedication to pets, clients becoming key advocates—have emerged from Philadelphia, Atlanta, and Los Angeles as well, where Pets for Life also operates. In Philly, Betty Hill’s Pomeranian Brandit had fathered at least a dozen litters with her female Chihuahuas. Pets for Life funded spay/neuter surgeries for all seven dogs and one cat. Now on a mission, “Miss Betty” has helped sign up additional clients for

## RAISING KINDNESS

**NAME:**  
The Fournier family



**WHY THEY’RE HSUS SUPERSTARS:** Have donated to disaster response, rescues and shelters, and other initiatives

As a child, Jennifer Fournier (pictured above) offered her brother \$10 to release the fish he’d caught. Today, that compassion is something she shares with her husband, Alan, and seeks to instill in her four children. Longtime supporters of local rescues and shelters, the Fourniers became HSUS donors after Hurricane Katrina in 2005. “I saw all the good work [The HSUS was] doing and wanted to help,” she says. In 2012, they donated to The HSUS’s campaigns against gestation crates and puppy mills. The couple’s children have also gotten involved, collecting towels to pad the cages of dogs rescued from a puppy mill, volunteering at shelters, and asking for donations for animals in place of birthday gifts.

OPPOSITE PAGE: CHRIS LAINE/FOR THE HSUS; THIS PAGE: FROM LEFT: CARLY CROWLEY; TOM & PAT LEESON; NEXT SPREAD, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: KATHY MILANI/THE HSUS; CHUCK COOK/FOR THE HSUS; THE HSUS; KATHY MILANI/THE HSUS; LISA J. GODFREY/FOR THE HSUS; THE HSUS; KATHY MILANI/THE HSUS

## Neighborhood Solutions

For every wildlife conflict, there’s a humane solution. That’s what the Rev. Sallye Hardy learned when she contacted The HSUS in 2012 for help with a beaver dam causing periodic flooding at Camp Selah in Sutherlin, Va. Whenever it rained, the beaver pond overflowed into a nearby culvert and over a newly installed bridge, washing away the camp’s only access road. The stagnant water became a mosquito breeding ground.

People offered advice: Destroy the dam. Trap and relocate the beavers. Or worse yet, kill them. “But everyone said no matter what you do, they are going to come back,” says Hardy. And none of the propositions stayed true to the camp’s humane stewardship ideals.

A water control device installed by HSUS specialists worked perfectly for the ministry’s 37-acre retreat, even in heavy rains. Camp volunteers have since built an observation deck at the pond’s edge where children can sit and watch the beaver lodge.

HSUS experts fostered humane alternatives to lethal wildlife management in several states in 2012, halting coyote and goose culling programs through community engagement and educational outreach. Nearly a dozen coyote hazing workshops helped communities resolve conflicts with prevention techniques.



Emphasizing techniques for coexistence, HSUS experts intervene to save coyotes, geese, beavers, and other wild animals from lethal management programs.



**WORLD SPAY DAY 2012**



**54,490**

spay/neuter surgeries by partner organizations



**600**

events in 377 cities



**\$294,162**

raised for spay/neuter in the online pet photo contest



**\$5,000**

each given to Coalition: Humane in Tacoma, Wash., and Outer Banks SPCA in Manteo, N.C., the groups chosen by the judged and fundraising category winners, respectively