



## *You're making a difference for animals*

We can't do this work without donors like you. Thank you for standing with us!  
Here's one donor's story.

Gloria Nelson may have been an only child, but she wasn't a lonely child. "I grew up having animals in my life and considered them part of the family," she says. "They were the closest thing I had for siblings, and my parents taught me a great love for animals."

A teaching career kept Gloria busy, but she nonetheless made time to volunteer for local shelters. "I did it as much for myself as for the animals, as I seemed to always need an animal fix," she admits. "Working with animals made me feel good."

Her steadfast love for all animals inspired Gloria to do even more to help those at risk. "Animals are really at our mercy," she observes, "and we must protect them. I feel it is very import-

ant that we be good stewards of all that is living and wild. I kept hearing stories about all the good The HSUS was doing, [and] I wanted to be of some help to this organization."

For Gloria, a Charitable Gift Annuity (CGA) offered the ideal way to make a meaningful gift. The gift annuity provides Gloria with cash flow now, to help with living expenses. After her lifetime, The HSUS will use the remainder of her gift to help create a more humane world for all animals.

To learn how a CGA can help you as it helps animals, contact Ann Kolakowski at 800-808-7858 or [akolakowski@humanesociety.org](mailto:akolakowski@humanesociety.org), or visit [humanesociety.org/giftannuities](https://humanesociety.org/giftannuities).

→ Visit [humanesociety.org/donate](https://humanesociety.org/donate) to learn about other ways you can support our work.

# Get involved

Our staff work on a diverse set of issues, fighting the biggest threats to animal welfare and working to stop the worst cruelties. But you don't have to work for us full time to stand with us in the fight for all animals—you can get involved in other ways!

Volunteers for The HSUS help out around the globe, both working directly with animals and in our outreach and advocacy work. Even sending an email can help our efforts. For general information on ways to volunteer with The HSUS, you can go to [humansociety.org/volunteer](http://humansociety.org/volunteer).

Below are two important programs we're working to build.

## DISTRICT LEADERS

Because one of the most powerful ways to help animals is through better laws and public policies, The HSUS engages animal lovers around the country in taking our message to decision-makers. District leader volunteers build professional relationships with their federal, state and local legislators, relaying animal protection positions to them, and encouraging their co-sponsorship and support of animal protection legislation. The HSUS provides guidance on how to establish relationships, and district leaders follow through, building a network of HSUS allies to take action to advance animal protection issues.

In 2017, two of our district leaders in Pennsylvania—senior district leader Natalie Ahwesh and district leader Brian Bonsteel—worked with the Pittsburgh City Council to persuade the mayor to sign a bill banning the use of bullhooks, whips and electric prods on exotic animals, a major advancement to protect animals forced to perform in circus acts.



HSUS district leader Shana Ellison gets some puppy love during a transport of dogs out of San Antonio after Hurricane Harvey.

The HSUS aims to identify and coach at least one strong district leader volunteer for each of the 435 congressional districts in the country. To learn more, check out the information and position description at [humansociety.org/districtleaders](http://humansociety.org/districtleaders); contact [districtleader@humansociety.org](mailto:districtleader@humansociety.org) with any specific questions.

## STATE COUNCILMEMBERS

Our State Councils are composed of key supporters who are highly committed to the mission of The HSUS. Members include engaged professionals who make an annual philanthropic commitment to the organization and also donate a limited amount of time each month to help advance The HSUS' agenda in their states and nationwide. They serve as high-level volunteer ambassadors and are part of the inner circle of the organization, working closely with state directors to extend the reach of our programs and our sphere of influence.

In 2017, state councilmembers documented terrible conditions at a pet shop, coordinated volunteers at a vegetarian festival, helped out at a wildcat sanctuary, organized a group of veterinarians to inform them about animal protection issues, testified at public hearings, talked to constituents about how to live in harmony with local wildlife, organized a fundraiser to help fight the dog meat trade and much more. They've been instrumental to our work and we'd love to see more talented, committed animal lovers—like you!—sign on.

→ **TO LEARN MORE**, email [statecouncils@humansociety.org](mailto:statecouncils@humansociety.org).

# Our next big fights

*These are our top priorities in the coming years.*

■ Putting an end to cruel puppy mills, so that mother dogs and their pups don't suffer on these factory farms for dogs.

■ Ending the use of animals in cosmetics testing.



■ Preventing wild and domestic horses from being slaughtered for meat.

■ Gaining legal ground to ensure better care for farm animals—especially broiler hens, billions of whom are raised and slaughtered cruelly and forced to grow at unnatural rates that cause them physical pain.

■ Ending the trophy hunting of wild animals.



■ Stopping the Asian dog meat trade, in which millions of dogs are raised in harsh conditions and killed brutally.