

Our top victories for animals in 2018

California passed the world's strongest farm animal protection law.

We tirelessly led the campaign, joined by other members of the Prevent Cruelty California coalition, to pass the strongest farm animal protection law in the world. Proposition 12 prohibits the cruel confinement of egg-laying hens, mother pigs and calves raised for veal, and bans the sale of products from these animals raised in extreme confinement anywhere else.

Ohio outlawed cruel and all-too-common practices in puppy mills.

We mobilized hundreds of thousands of Ohioans with our Stop Puppy Mills Ohio campaign, which brought pressure on state lawmakers to pass one of the strongest anti-puppy mill laws in the country. Commercial breeders in Ohio—a state that previously had one of the worst track records for puppy mill cruelties—will be more tightly regulated and can no longer cram dogs in stacked cages or deprive them of basic needs like adequate space, exercise and veterinary care.

Florida voted to end greyhound racing.

Alongside GREY2K USA Worldwide, the Doris Day Animal League and others, we led the fight to shut down the cruel sport of greyhound racing in Florida, its last remaining stronghold. In November, Florida voters agreed to end racing by 2020, which will close down 11 of the 17 remaining tracks in America.

We helped thousands of animals impacted by natural disasters.

Our trained animal rescuers swung into action in the Carolinas and Florida after Hurricanes Florence and Michael, in California during the massive Camp Fire, in India after historic flooding and in Guatemala after a volcanic eruption to rescue, relocate or care for more than 2,000 imperiled and displaced animals.

We worked to ensure that Congress passed an animal-friendly farm bill.

We played a key role in keeping a terrible amendment out of the federal Farm Bill that would have voided dozens of state and local animal protection measures. And we won big new protections: a U.S. ban on the slaughter and commerce of dogs and cats for human consumption; federal protection and help for pets belonging to victims of domestic violence; and a clarification that federal animal fighting prohibitions apply to the U.S. territories, including Puerto Rico.

New Jersey and Hawaii became the first states to pass a sweeping ban on wild animals in circuses.

Our longtime efforts to end the exploitation of wild animals in entertainment helped lead New Jersey and Hawaii to make history by becoming the first U.S. states to ban the use of wild animals in circuses and traveling shows.

We shut down three dog meat farms in South Korea and helped demolish the country's largest dog slaughterhouse.

Working with our global affiliate, Humane Society International, we continued our push to close dog meat farms in South Korea and rescued 363 more dogs—bringing our total to 13 farms closed and more than 1,600 dogs freed—and helped local authorities to tear down the country's largest dog slaughterhouse.

We organized and led a major effort to reduce cat and dog overpopulation in Puerto Rico.

Heading up a coalition of 26 organizations in Spayathon™ for Puerto Rico, we spayed/neutered and vaccinated 17,003 dogs and cats in the world's largest, no-cost MASH-style veterinary operation, and brought in \$3.2 million worth of in-kind donations.

We reached a major milestone helping pets and people in underserved U.S. communities.

We sterilized our 100,000th companion animal through our Pets for Life program, which brings veterinary care and companion animal support to people and their pets who live in under-resourced parts of the country.

We struck a major blow against trophy hunters of native carnivores and wildlife.

We used the power of the courts to stop a planned hunt of grizzly bears in Idaho and Wyoming after the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service tried to strip Endangered Species Act protections from bears in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, and our efforts to protect threatened African wildlife were strengthened with our undercover investigation into the unregulated U.S. trade in giraffe parts.