

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nearly 90 evacuated pets arrive at San Antonio Humane Society ahead of Hurricane Laura



SAN ANTONIO – Aug. 26, 2020 – The San Antonio Humane Society (SAHS) is taking in nearly 90 cats and dogs to help assist shelters along the Gulf Coast in advance of Hurricane Laura.

The first group of pets, 20 dogs and 10 cats, were flown in from the Jefferson Parish Animal Shelter in New Orleans to San Marcos, Texas last night with the help of Wings of Rescue. When they arrived at 8:30 p.m., a SAHS team was already there ready to greet them and help transport them to the shelter.

The SAHS also coordinated and helped transport 39 cats, 9 dogs and 11 4-month-old puppies from the Humane Society of South East Texas in Beaumont, Texas this morning. The SAHS team left at 4 a.m. with three vehicles and picked up the animals to ensure the shelter has space for relief efforts before and after the hurricane, which has strengthened to Category 4 and is expected to make landfall Wednesday night into early Thursday near the border between Louisiana and Texas.

"As a destination shelter well outside the storm's path, the SAHS stands ready to assist displaced animals as Hurricane Laura continues to threaten our coastal states," SAHS President/CEO Nancy F. May said. "By relocating shelter pets from areas at high risk for damage, we are both bringing those animals to safety and freeing up much-needed space and resources for displaced pets after the storm."



As soon as all the kennel spaces fill up at the SAHS, the shelter has already organized and set up temporary crates in its Education Building for the new, incoming pets.

SAHS Chief Veterinarian Kristine Hawkins, who travelled to Beaumont to assist with the transport, is glad to be able to lend a helping hand to fellow animal shelters during this time of need.

"The animal rescue and shelter community are a small, tight-knit community and strongly believe in the mission of saving lives across the board," Dr. Hawkins said. "If we can help others in this field with their animals in a time of crisis, we are lucky to be able to."

All of the animals will be available for adoption through SAHS's no-contact adoption process once SAHS veterinarians have cleared them medically.

Donations are also being accepted to support relief efforts. The shelter is currently in need of supplies such as dog/cat beds, towels, paper towels, pet toys, copy paper, treats, rubbing alcohol, hydrogen peroxide and bottled water.

The SAHS encourages our community to adopt or donate to ensure these animals find their forever homes. For more information, visit SAhumane.org/donate.

To view photos and B-roll, click here.

About The San Antonio Humane Society

The San Antonio Humane Society (SAHS) is a nonprofit, no-kill organization that has served Bexar County and its surrounding areas since 1952. As a local nonprofit, we are not affiliated with the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS). We do not receive funding from the federal government, the HSUS, or the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA). Every year, the SAHS shelters, medically treats, and rehabilitates thousands of animals. Many are injured, abused, surrendered by their owners, or found as strays. All pets remain in our care until adopted. Our mission is to protect and improve the lives of dogs and cats by providing shelter, care, adoption, rescue, spay and neuter programs, and community education. SAhumane.org

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