

Kids Can Help Animals Hurt by Katrina

In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, many children are asking how they can help pets affected by the disaster. One of the best ways is to support The HSUS Disaster Relief Fund. Through this emergency fund, The Humane Society of the United States is rescuing, treating, and sheltering thousands of stranded and evacuated animals. Your donation provides veterinary supplies, cages, and transportation from disaster-stricken areas to temporary shelters. The HSUS has also established a reconstruction fund to rebuild animal shelters and other animal care facilities destroyed by the storm and flooding.



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If your family, school, sports team, or club would like to raise money to support The HSUS Disaster Relief Fund, here are some ideas to get you started:



Hold a car wash, bake sale, craft sale, dog wash, pancake breakfast, spaghetti supper, tag sale, or auction. For fun, you can even make animal-themed crafts, animal-shaped pancakes or cookies, or treats just for pets.

Organize a sports event, such as a walkathon, a run for the animals, or a basketball game, or host a school dance or costume party. A local DJ or band might be willing to perform for free if the proceeds from ticket sales help animal victims of Katrina. There are less traditional



events you can organize as well. One *KIND News* reader, a ten-year old with pets of his own, decided to help animal victims of Katrina by setting up a “petting zoo” in his backyard. Friends and neighbors were invited to come play with his pets for a small admission fee. Refreshments were served. All proceeds were donated to the HSUS Disaster Relief Fund. Depending on your own interests and skills, you might try staging a play, a field day, a bowl-a-thon, or something else that’s “right up your alley!”

Design and sell 2006 calendars celebrating pets or honoring the wonderful qualities people have shown in the aftermath of this disaster: heroism; hope, friendship, charity, and compassion. Kids' artwork and photos make picture-perfect calendar pages. Print and assemble calendars using school computers or home PCs, or ask a local printing business to donate its services to your cause.



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Put an HSUS banner on your school or personal Web site. Downloadable banners are available at www.hsus.org, and each click can help raise money for animals in need.



Courtesy of M. Pauza

Don't forget to collect pet food and supplies for your *local* animal shelter. Many humane societies outside the Gulf Coast region are taking in cats and dogs left homeless by Hurricane Katrina. They could use your help!

Kids Helping Kids

Last, but not least, many schools throughout Texas, Alabama, Louisiana, and other states have enrolled high numbers of children displaced by the hurricane. Those schools are in great need of reading materials and other supplies. Why not help a school—and students like yourself—by “adopting” a classroom? For about \$1 per student, you can provide a full school year's worth of *KIND News* classroom newspapers to a school in need. Join our Adopt-a-Classroom Program today!

