

June 26, 2006

Ed Sayres
President, ASPCA
424 E. 92nd St
New York, NY 10128-6804

Dear Ed,

I wanted to let you know that I just returned from a tour of Gulfport, MS and the greater New Orleans, LA area. I met with animal control in many of the parishes, talked with rescue groups, and gave several seminars on TNR and other lifesaving programs.

It is my belief that the human and financial resources exist to fully recover from the devastation that Hurricane Katrina caused, and also to move aggressively toward No Kill. Unfortunately, the millions of dollars received by local groups such as Spay Louisiana and the Louisiana SPCA are not being leveraged to the benefit of comprehensive lifesaving on an aggressive timetable.

This money will not be—and is not being—used to its full intended purpose and potential. And as it stands, there is no hope that it will be.

For example,

- The Louisiana SPCA is budgeting a paltry \$12,000 on TNR this year, is not hiring an open position to promote TNR and help resolve feral cat issues humanely, and is cutting kennel space in favor of a dog agility center at its proposed new multi-million dollar facility.
- Spay Louisiana won't provide spay/neuter vouchers to Parish officers to provide an alternative to killing feral cats, preferring an overly bureaucratic approach that will eviscerate use by the people who need it most.

By contrast, smaller rescue groups are making a lifesaving impact, but they are hampered by lack of resources and organizational skills. These groups were shut out of the lion's share of financial dollars flowing from the national agencies to the region. They also subsidize the work of the larger local groups, with very little support in return.

The larger agencies are undermining the vast lifesaving potential that exists in the region. The end result is waste, petty competitiveness, lack of vision, misapplication of effort, and ego. The situation calls for accountability and intervention.

Very truly yours,

Nathan J. Winograd