



**Gracie-Healed!**



**Lady After Surgery On Her Neck**



**Cassie After Surgery**

Dear Friend of Rita B. Huff Humane Society:

These are the faces of some of the countless abused, abandoned and neglected animals that have been rehabilitated and adopted into forever homes, thanks to your generous support over the years. Gracie was kicked, breaking both bones in her right front leg, fully recovered and later adopted. Lady was found with a choke chain painfully embedded in her neck. RBH helped Lady and she found a loving home. Cassie was shot in the left front leg, abandoned, nursed back to health and into a forever home. These are only a handful of the hundreds of success stories at RBH.

The Rita B. Huff Humane Society was founded in 1982 by a group of concerned citizens of Walker County. The organization took its name for Dr. Rita B. Huff, a professor and Chair of the Accounting Department at SHSU. She took in many stray dogs and cats, nursed them to health, had them spayed or neutered and found them homes. Days before the first formal board meeting, Dr. Huff suffered a stroke and died. The Rita B. Huff Humane Society was incorporated and gained the 501c(3) non-profit charity status. In 1985, Gibbs Brothers donated the land and building plans were finalized. The current shelter opened on August 1, 1986, and developed into a No-Kill Shelter, the only one in this area.

- In 2019, RBH took in almost 600 animals and the adoption rate was a remarkable 98%.
- RBH offers weekly low cost spay/neuter services, basic vaccinations and micro chipping for the public.
- Second Chances Shelter Dogs is a program in partnership with TDCJ, placing shelter dogs with inmates who teach them basic obedience and socialization. The adoption rate is 98%.
- Each month, an average of 49 pets are adopted.
- There are nine paid staff and approximately 30 volunteers.
- RBH's principal sources of revenue are from donations, special fundraising events and \$12,000 annually from Walker County. RBH receives no other governmental funds.

Sadly, the current shelter facility outgrew its capacity many years ago. With Walker County's steady growth, RBH receives daily calls from individuals who have found or need to bring in animals they

cannot care for. "No Vacancy" is the norm at RBH and the current conditions have become cramped and crowded. The waiting list to bring in animals is often two pages long, which makes it obvious that our community needs a larger facility. RBH has secured a location for the new shelter on Veterans Memorial Parkway. Plans are now underway for a state-of-the-art shelter facility, boasting 5,600 square feet for intake, exam and surgery and two separate buildings, 4,100 square feet each, to provide 60 indoor/outdoor kennels for dogs, with a large exercise yard. Cats will be afforded their own unique space to explore, roam and play.

Much of the success at RBH this past year can be traced to our fine executive director, Lori Toliver. Her tireless dedication and Facebook marketing have greatly increased the adoption rate. We are so very proud to have her at the helm at these exciting times for RBH. Lori, along with her staff and volunteers, work together to make the shelter animals their top priority.

How can you help? Your generous financial gift will provide the path to a smooth transition into the new facility and help to fund and expand the operations of RBH. This Capital Campaign Appeal will be our only public solicitation of funds this year. The success of RBH's operations this year depends on your generous support and the Board of RBH hopes that you recognize the need and value of RBH to our community and the abused, abandoned and neglected animals it helps. We depend on generous donors like yourself and appreciate you being a vital part of RBH's success story as we start phase one of the new shelter construction. Please help us help them.

Jan Boaz Ables  
RBH Board Member

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Credit/Debit Card or PayPal donations can be made at [ritabhuff.org](http://ritabhuff.org). Please complete the applicable portion below and return if sending a donation by mail.

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Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  Check enclosed

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