



# Florida SARC News

News, Updates, and Important Information  
from FL SARC to our volunteers and  
supporters



**Because the ENTIRE Family Matters!**

## From the Manager's Desk

**Happy Holidays everyone!**

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#### • GRANTS RECEIVED!

#### • JUNE 2024 EXERCISE

#### • SARC BY THE NUMBERS

#### • NEW SARC GRADS

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- FL SARC continues to stay active and busy these last few months! What happened?

- Hurricane Idalia support
  - Coordinated donations
  - Helped operate a local co-located hurricane shelter in Union County
- Held Level 1 and 2 classes in Daytona Beach, Ocala, Dade City, and Green Cove Springs FL
- Deployed responders and coordinated organizational assistance at the Lake City Humane Society.
- Currently providing volunteer support for the Humane Rescue Alliance in Washington DC
- Participating in planning activities for the June 2024 State Hurricane Exercise (location to be determined)
- \$50k grant received, with another \$20K pending!

2023 definitely was a great year for our program, and we look forward to seeing what 2024 brings. Thank you all for your support and encouragement. Best Wishes for a happy and safe holiday season - Because the ENTIRE Family Matters!

Steve Carriere

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# SARC Family Assists Lake City Humane Society

Animal shelters throughout the country struggle daily with high animal surrenders. Personnel and volunteer shortages, and more recently the highly contagious canine pneumovirus spread, compound shelter struggles as they try to keep staff and animals safe. Lake City Humane Society recently reached out to FL SARC for assistance with daily care, but once on scene we discovered there was much more to be addressed.



*The crew of Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League, UF Veterinary Team, Lake City Humane and SARC staff gather for a picture. Peggy Adams Rescue transported 18 dogs on this day from Lake City!*



*Top: Dr. Cynda Crawford leads her team assessing shelter cats*

*Bottom: Lake City Humane Society Staff and SPCA Volunteers after unloading over 2500 lbs of donated food from Greater Good Charities*



The University of Florida's Shelter Medicine Program was contacted to help assess the health of all animals, nearly 160, on site. Over 40 cats and kittens were identified for transport to Operation Catnip for spay/neuter and vaccinations. Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League in West Palm Beach helped transfer over 40 dogs and puppies out of the shelter to their adoption facility. Halifax Humane Society of Daytona Beach received 22 of the over 40 cats to help adopt out, while a local Suwannee County veterinarian took 10 more to adopt out! As of December 5, 108 dogs and cats were transferred to pet placement partners in 26 days, reducing the number in the shelter to just 48 dogs and 9 kittens!

Dr. Cynda Crawford and Cameron Moore also worked with staff to identify where major improvements were needed to modify daily shelter operations, with particular focus on intake procedures, daily care, cleaning and adoptions. Big Bend DART volunteer Haven Cook helped with onsite assessments.


**SARC Family Assists Lake City Humane Society (cont.)**


This collaboration was an outstanding testament to SARC partners and the rescue community coming together. SARC volunteers, including Melissa Forberg, Carol Shumanski, Leslie Long, and Haven Cook, drove hundreds of miles to stay on site and help with daily care, providing their experience, knowledge and expertise to help ensure the safety of the staff and animals on site.

Several other thanks and appreciations are due:

- Halifax Humane Society - transporting over half of Lake City's feline population and give them new hope for better lives.



*Melissa Forberg helps with the laundry room in Lake City*



*Linda Fleming and Leslie Long, two long time SARC volunteers, take a break between cleaning and feeding.*

- University of Florida Shelter Medicine Team and Operation Cat Nip – what an amazing staff of students, techs, vets, and more!
- Big Bend DART – your assessment was crucial in helping SARC work with our partners to devise a plan of action.
- Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League, Humane Society North Central Florida, and Lucky Cat Rescue - dozens of adoptable pets now have a chance at an amazing life thanks to your response!
- And a huge thank you also goes to SPCA Florida and Greater Good Charities – the food and flea medication donations were extremely crucial to keeping all of Lake City's animals in their care fed and treated.

Dr. Crawford stated, "This partnership truly embodies the spirit of the sheltering community in providing assistance to colleagues in need". This situation could have been much worse - instead, Lake City Humane Society now has hope and vision for a better future, thanks to the SARC family and rescue community!



*Left: Lake City volunteers apply flea treatment provided by Greater Good and donated by SPCA FLORIDA.*

*Right: Lois Shumanski, long time SARC volunteer, helps clean and organize kitten airline carriers.*



## SARC Sends Responders to Washington DC

Thanks to a generous and gracious grant from Humane Society International to a shelter in Washington DC, SARC was able to coordinate travel logistics for 5 SARC responders.



SARC is supporting daily shelter operations at the Humane Rescue Alliance in Washington DC until December 22nd. The shelter recently faced staffing and volunteer shortages due to illness, in addition to the widespread canine influenza affecting many shelters across the country.



*Humane Rescue Alliance in Washington, DC, where 5 SARC volunteers will be deployed.*

Special thanks to Adam Jackson, Sadie Peterson, Linda Lane, Carol Summerville, and Diana Lawhorn for their prompt responses and support!

## Partnership with Bissell Foundation - Equipment Donations

In November, the Bissell Foundation contacted SARC to explore donating disaster response equipment in support of sheltering operations and disaster response in the southeast. This inquiry proved timely, as SARC is currently in the process of relocating equipment from Bushnell, FL, to other locations across the state.



*Above: Over 200 wire crates and carriers loaded onto a truck for the Animal Rescue Corp ([www.animalrescuecorp.org](http://www.animalrescuecorp.org))*

*Right: 60+ carriers loaded for transport to Baton Rouge, LA)*



*Loaded up for Opelousas, LA - 60+ wire crates*

The Animal Rescue Corps, a non-profit organization providing disaster response assistance, had an urgent requirement for crates and carriers. SARC swiftly facilitated the transport of over 200 wire crates to Tennessee. A week later, we coordinated the delivery of 60 airline carriers to a shelter in Baton Rouge, followed by another consignment of over 60 wire crates to the St. Landry Parish Animal Control in Opelousas, LA, just a few days after Thanksgiving. Our collective efforts resulted in SARC providing more than \$47,000 worth of inventory to organizations to support their animal rescue and disaster response initiatives.



# SARC Receives Hurricane Idalia Response Grant!

The SARC team received a grant application invitation by Volunteer Florida, a non-profit organization working in collaboration with the Emergency Management Department. SARC also received an invitation to participate in future ESF-15 programs and events, providing more opportunities to showcase our skills and promote our name and mission.



volunteerflorida

To acquire this impressive grant, we had to illustrate our heroic efforts during Hurricane Idalia. Our team of volunteers and employees contributed over 640 man hours and traveled over 2,500 miles. We also coordinated the delivery of 16,000 lbs of pet food! Furthermore, we ran an emergency shelter for three families and five pets. All totaled, our hard work helped over 300 survivors and pet owners!

That's just the beginning - **We received an astonishing \$50,000 for our hurricane relief work!** A massive round of applause goes out to everyone at SPCA Florida, SARC, Greater Good Charities, and all the volunteers and employees who made this possible. But wait, there's more! The ASPCA took notice of our remarkable work and invited us to apply for a \$20,000 Disaster Preparation Grant to fund a SARC response equipment trailer. So, stay tuned to see how we will grow even more!

Want to learn more about Volunteer Florida? Head over to their website at [https://www.volunteerflorida.org/about-us/!](https://www.volunteerflorida.org/about-us/)

## 2024 Hurricane Exercise UPDATE

It's been several years since SARC was able to participate in a full scale exercise and drill with our ESF-17 partners. As briefly mentioned in our last newsletter, drills and exercises will resume next year in June 2024. We incorrectly stated Jefferson County would host. The State is taking several counties and applicants into consideration and will announce the location in the coming weeks. In the meantime, make preparations to be deployable! You can update your profile at:

<https://www.volgistics.com/vicnet/> From here, update your contact information and verify your deployment eligibility:

**Deployment Requirements** ^

Please send an electronic copy of your certificates to store in your profile. This may eliminate the need to present them for a deployment. Email to [volunteer@flsarc.org](mailto:volunteer@flsarc.org). Once your documents are stored in the system, we will update this section for you.

Verified Deployment Requirements-LVL1 (Read-only)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Awareness Level Class Completed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Code of Conduct	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FEMA IS 100	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tetanus Vaccination - 10 years	<input type="checkbox"/> Tetanus Vaccination - 5 yrs
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**Make sure your FEMA Certificate, Code of Conduct, Tetanus Vaccination (5 OR 10 year), and Awareness Class Completed areas are checked off. If not, send the information to [volunteer@flsarc.org](mailto:volunteer@flsarc.org) to get your profile updated or reset your login. You WILL be required to be deployable to participate in the state drill and exercise!**



# SARC by the NUMBERS

<b>Volunteer Records:</b>	892
<b>Archived Volunteer Records (bad email, no updated contact info, inactive):</b>	99
<b>DEPLOYABLE (LEVEL 1 AND LEVEL 2):</b>	107
<b>LEVEL 1 TRAINED:</b>	862
<b>LEVEL 2 TRAINED:</b>	195
<b>DEPLOY LIMITED (i.e. missing ICS/Tetanus Vax):</b>	746
<b>Missing ICS 100 (AWARE):</b>	666
<b>Mising ICS 200/700/800 (OPS):</b>	149
<b>Missing Tetanus Vax Info</b>	686
<b>Total Volunteer Hours to date: 46,761</b>	46,761
<b>Total Volunteer Hours Value to date: \$1,402,830</b>	\$1,402,830.00
<b>Total Miles traveled to date:</b>	91,257
<b>Total Miles Value to date:</b>	\$59,773.00
<b>Total estimated classes held since 2011</b>	250
<b>Total estimated students trained since 2011</b>	4,100

# CLASS GRADUATES

**LEVEL 1 AWAR**  
**HALIFAX HUMANE SOCIETY**  
**DAYTONA BEACH FL**  
 14 OCT 2023



**Dawn Eyestone, Lead Instructor**  
**Dale Byers**  
**Christine Vicars**  
**Calvin Bailey**  
**Sarah Tingle**  
**Chris Hansen**  
**Julie Stevens**  
**Sarah Bair**



**LEVEL 2 OPS**  
**VOLUSIA COUNTY EOC**  
**DAYTONA BEACH FL**  
 19-20 OCT 2023



**Steve Carriere, Lead Instructor**  
**Paula McPhaul, Admin**  
**Judi Wilkinson**  
**Alicia Dease**  
**Dylan Wulf**  
**John Porche**  
**Hope Thomas**  
**Toni Moriarty**  
**Mark Gibson**  
**Shawn Riggins**  
**Chris Hansen**

**LEVEL 1 AWAR**  
**Green Clover Hall**  
**Ocala, FL**  
 4 Nov 2023



**Andy Bass, Lead Instructor**  
**Steve Carriere, Asst.**  
**Katie Kelly-Napier, Admin**  
**Wayne Cini**  
**Alexander Tays**  
**Dihanna Mabee**  
**Marc May**  
**Jennifer Swen**  
**Julie Stinson**  
**Sonjalyndickson-Rine**



**LEVEL 1 AWAR**  
**University of Florida IFAS Extension**  
**Dade City FL**  
 18 Nov 2023



**Steve Carriere, Lead Instructor**  
**CJ Buchanan, Admin**  
**Jane Spencer**  
**Hagen Johnson**  
**Kaylee Lannigan**  
**Casey Phillips**  
**Dana Klimas**  
**Arlo Patel**  
**Rhrianna DeJesus**  
**Chedeline DeJesus**  
**Kate Simpson**

**LEVEL 1 AWAR**  
**University of Florida IFAS Extension**  
**Green Cove Springs FL**  
 2 Dec 2023



**Steve Carriere, Lead Instructor**  
**Michele Newton, Asst**  
**Kat Cooper, Asst/Admin**  
**Courtney Sumner**  
**Kim Byers**  
**Nicole LaFerriere**  
**Adrianna McLeod**  
**Shauna Jackson**  
**Aymie Hellard**  
**Saskia Saint-Sulpice**  
**Maria McLeod**  
**Lisa Turner**  
**Caleb Hines**

# Upcoming Training

**\*\*Note\*\* - All trainings are FREE!**

DEC 16, 2024

Level 1 AWARENESS  
OSCEOLA COUNTY

Click below for Registration

<https://bit.ly/OSCEOLALVL1>



MARCH 2-3, 2024

Level 2 OPERATIONS  
PASCO COUNTY

Click below for Registration

<https://bit.ly/2024PASCOLVL2>



**Just Announced!!!**

**TRAIN THE TRAINER**

JAN 27-28, 2024

SPCA FLORIDA  
LAKELAND FL



Click HERE for information:

<https://bit.ly/TTTSARC2024>



TRAIN THE TRAINER

**Stay tuned for the following areas and dates to be published**

- |                                   |              |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| • Santa Rosa County - Level 1 & 2 | FEB 2024     |
| • Madison County - Level 1        | MAR 2024     |
| • Palm Beach County - Level 1 & 2 | APR/MAY 2024 |
| • Miami Dade County - Level 1     | MAY 2024     |
| • Charlotte County - Level 1      | MAY 2024     |
| • Jefferson County - Level 1      | JUNE 2024    |

Go to [www.fl sarc.org/training](http://www.fl sarc.org/training) for more information about our courses or how YOU could partner with us to hold a class for your organization!