Slide 1:

Here at the Louisiana SPCA, we frequently get this question…

Are you a No-Kill Shelter?

Answering that question is not as easy as you think.

Slide 2:

Did you know a shelter can earn the label of “no-kill” as long as no more than 10% of the animals in their care are euthanized? It seems that even no-kill shelters are not actually no kill.

Slide 3:

In 2019, 84% of the 4869 animals who became a resident of our shelter were either adopted into their forever home, transported to a partner shelter for adoption, or reunited with their owner. Not to shabby but not quite a no-kill. 12% of animals were humanely euthanized and 4% of animals had an outcome that was not through a placement program or euthanasia.

Slide 4:

The rate of animals who found their homes increased 18% since 2015 despite the fact that the number of animals turned in to the shelter decreased overall.

Slide 5:

A closer look at the 583 animals humanely euthanized reveals that 87% of those animals were classified as unhealthy and untreatable meaning they had severe medical conditions and irreparable behavior issues that could not be resolved. Out of the remaining animals only 12% were not considered healthy but had conditions that could be rehabilitated or managed. Only 3 animals out of all animals euthanized were considered healthy.

Slide 6:

The rate of animals who were euthanized decreased by 54% since 2015, an even steeper rate of change than the increase an in animals who found homes.

Slide 7:

Besides increasing the number of animals finding their forever homes and decreasing the number of animals being humanely euthanized, the Louisiana SPCA is also working towards reducing the number of unwanted and homeless animals that need our support in the first place through our humane education programs, low-cost community veterinary services and high volume spay-neuter initiative.

Since 2015, the number of animals who became a resident at the shelter decreased 34%.

Slide 8:

Let’s recap, the number of animals who need help are going down, the number of animals being saved is going up and the number of animals being humanely euthanized is going down exponentially. That sounds pretty impressive.

Slide 9:

To quantify this impact, we can look at the number of lives saved for every animal humanely euthanized. In 2015, that number was 2.6. In just five years, the Louisiana SPCA has improved that to 6.7 animals saved for every 1 euthanized, an increase of 160%.

Slide 10:

Looking into the future, we are projected to surpass the 90% no-kill minimum number of lives saved in 2021.

Slide 11:

So again, we ask the question… Are you a no-kill? The progress made by the Louisiana SPCA in the animal community cannot be summarized by a yes or no answer. The answer is that we are not a no-kill, but better. We are working towards a goal to zero homeless and unwanted animals who need our help.