**For immediate release: October 4, 2022**

### FLSARC Asked To Be Present At Hurricane Ian Incident Management Team Command Center

Lakeland FL – FLSART, Florida State Agricultural Response Team, asked FLSARC, Florida State Animal Resource Coalition, a department of SPCA Florida, to send representatives to the Incident Command Post based in Arcadia, FL. FLSARC will help triage incoming requests for help within the small animal field and assist with incoming/outgoing donations, as well as deploy trained volunteer support, at the request of FLSART

As of Sunday, October 2, 2022, FLSARC has two lead representatives stationed on the ground at the ICP, Incident Command Post in Arcadia, FL to help coordinate and take requests for shelter assistance affected by Hurricane Ian. FLSARC is assisting with daily calls and emails working with FLSART and EFS 17.

Florida SARC is a coalition of various groups and individuals working within the state of Florida to plan for and assist animals impacted by disasters. Coalition members have the combined knowledge and skills gained over many years of experience responding to both natural and man-made disasters. Pooling that experience, knowledge and talent has created a preeminent team of professional disaster animal responders.

ESF-17, The purpose of Emergency Support Function-17 (ESF-17) is to provide for the coordination of local resources in response to small pet, livestock, and exotic animal care needs before, during, and following a significant disaster incident.

SPCA Florida is acting as one of their distribution and transport centers to deliver food, supplies and vaccines to areas of need as directed by Greater Good.

Greater Good Charities works to help people, pets, and the planet by mobilizing in response to need and amplifying the good. Gd

 Charities is a global nonprofit organization that works to **amplify the good** in the world.

Established in 2011, FLSARC, Florida State Animal Response Coalition, was created to help Florida’s dogs and cats during natural and manmade disasters. FL SARC became a critically component of SPCA Florida in 2021.

Donations: hurricanereliefflsarc@spcaflorida.org

Questions: hurricanereliefflsarc@spcaflorida.org

“SPCA Florida and FL SARC are grateful for our staff and volunteers who are working tirelessly in the areas of greatest need, said Shelley Thayer, Executive Director, SPCA Florida/FL SARC. “The national and local groups we are working with are phenomenal, all fully focused on response, recovery and 100% support,” said Thayer.

**About SPCA Florida**

*Founded in 1979, SPCA Florida exists to eliminate animal suffering and engage the entire community in the welfare and well-being of animals. SPCA Florida will help and heal 20,000 dogs and cats through its SPCA Florida Animal Medical Center and provide direct care for 6,500 animals through its Adoption Center this year. Ani-Meals and Food Assistance Programs, provide food and medical care for animals of homebound families and families who need supplemental food for thousands of dogs and cats each year.*

**About Florida State Animal Response Coalition**

*Since 2011, FLSARC has helped Florida’s pets during natural and manmade disasters. The Florida State Animal Response Coalition is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to disaster mitigation, preparation, response, and recovery for emergencies involving companion animals. Our vision is to be the gold standard in emergency response involving companion animals with best-in-class training and volunteers.*

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