

ASPEN • LEADERSHIP • GROUP

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SOUTH FLORIDA WILDLIFE CENTER HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES

Fort Lauderdale, Florida

<http://humanesociety.org>



The Aspen Leadership Group is proud to partner with the Humane Society of the United States in the search for an Executive Director, South Florida Wildlife Center.

The Executive Director (ED) will provide leadership, oversight, and direction for the South Florida Wildlife Center (SFWC). The ED will promote the mission of the Center as its primary spokesperson in the community as well as cultivate donors and constituents.

The Humane Society of the United States is the nation's largest and most effective animal protection organization. The Humane Society and its affiliates provide direct care to more than 100,000 animals each year—a higher volume than any other animal welfare organization—through sanctuaries, veterinary programs, and emergency shelters and rescues. The Humane Society works to professionalize the field of animal care with its education and training programs.

The Humane Society is the leading animal advocacy organization, seeking a humane world for people and animals alike. The Humane Society confronts the largest national and international problems facing animals, which local shelters don't have the reach or the resources to take on, such as animal fighting, puppy mills, horse slaughter and soring, seal killing and other forms of commercial slaughter of marine mammals, captive hunting and the wildlife trade, and inhumane slaughter and factory farming.

While the Humane Society comes to the aid of animals in crisis, they also attack the root causes of problems. The Humane Society's most important goal is to prevent animals from being in situations of distress in the first place. The Humane Society drives transformational change for animals—bringing a wide set of tools to the biggest fights, confronting multibillion dollar industries and staying the course until reform is achieved

The Humane Society takes a mainstream approach in combatting the most severe forms of cruelty and abuse. Leaders in the humane movement ranked the Humane Society as the most effective animal organization in the country, in a survey conducted by Guidestar's Philanthropedia. The Humane Society is approved by the Better Business Bureau's Wise Giving Alliance for all 20 standards for charity accountability and was named by *Worth Magazine* as one of the 10 most fiscally responsible charities.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS

The Executive Director reports to the Senior Vice President, Animal Rescue, Care and Sanctuary.

THE SOUTH FLORIDA WILDLIFE CENTER

The Humane Society's South Florida Wildlife Center admits more than 12,000 injured, orphaned, or imperiled animals annually, making it one of the largest wildlife hospitals, trauma centers, and rehabilitation facilities in the nation. The Center provides field rescue, clinic triage, state-of-the-art diagnostics, expert veterinary treatment and surgery, as well as pediatric and rehabilitative care to its wildlife patients. Through the use of three rescue ambulances that collectively travel about 7,000 miles per month, the Center serves the tri-county area of Palm Beach, Broward, and Miami-Dade.

The South Florida Wildlife Center employs more than 60 staff members, including three licensed veterinarians, wildlife rehabilitators, veterinary technicians, and many other animal care specialists. The Center also has more than 600 active volunteers.

Founded in 1969, South Florida Wildlife Center has been an affiliate of The Humane Society of the United States since 2009. It operates at no cost to citizens and relies on private funding.

The Center's state-of-the-art wildlife nursery admits up to 120 orphaned, abandoned, or displaced baby animals a day during baby season. Once the animals are admitted, trained rehabilitators and veterinary technicians hand-feed and treat them around the clock. This is no small task, given the huge numbers of wild animals displaced as a direct result of unprecedented land development in South Florida.

Learn more about the South Florida Wildlife Center here:

http://www.humanesociety.org/animal_community/shelters/wildlife_care_center/

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

The Executive Director will:

- provide leadership to the staff and volunteers associated with the Center;
- provide supervisory oversight of the SFWC directors/center managers/supervisors;
- serve as the spokesperson for SFWC with community groups and media;
- provide direction for optimum facility management, maintenance of assets, procurement of supplies and materials, and maintenance of necessary licenses and permits;
- develop and implement facility policies and standards;
- assist with cultivation of major donors;
- be actively involved in all levels of fundraising;
- provide expertise/collaboration to other HSUS departments as needed; and
- prioritize resource needs, assist in budget formulation, manage budget, and approve all expenditures.

KEY COLLEAGUES



Melissa Rubin

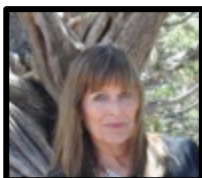
Senior Vice President, Animal Rescue, Care and Sanctuary

Melissa Rubin is responsible for the management of The HSUS's five animal care centers, The HSUS Animal Rescue Team and the Humane Society Veterinary Medical Association (HVSMA). Rubin helps develop the care centers and build support for them within their communities and nationwide.

A leader at the HSUS for more than 26 years, Rubin has measurably grown the five animal care centers to become model facilities of wildlife rehabilitation and sanctuary. The five centers make up the largest and most diverse group of animal care centers in the country, assisting more than 26,000 animals a year and more than 640 species. Her work with HSVMA has grown the organization to more than 11,000 veterinary professional members. The HSVMA, Rural Area Veterinary Services (RAVS) program has provided free veterinary care, as well as thousands of spay/neuter services, to pets of low-income families. It hit its 105,000 mark in assisting animals last year.

Rubin joined The HSUS in 1990 as the assistant general counsel. In 1994, she was given the responsibility of overseeing Field and Emergency Services. She oversaw the growth of the Emergency Services program from a staff of one and led the HSUS through many disasters, including the Red River Floods and Hurricanes Floyd, Charlie, Frances, and Katrina.

Her involvement in animal protection began in 1983 when she founded Students for Animal Welfare, the first college animal protection organization at American University. Rubin received a degree in environmental science from American University and went on to obtain her Juris Doctor from the Washington College of Law. She has a certificate in non-profit business and management from Johns Hopkins University.



Deb Parsons-Drake

Senior Director for the Animal Rescue, Care and Sanctuary Division

As a 30 year Florida resident, Deb Parsons-Drake was involved in corporate management for more than 20 years. While traveling extensively, Parsons-Drake experienced wildlife—including manatees, dolphin, polar bears, harp seals, orca whales, grizzly bears, and hundreds of species of birds in the Galapagos Islands. Her involvement with domestic animals was focused on an interest in veterinary care for her own family, which included many special needs animals. Hurricane Andrew opened her eyes to the plight of animals in a disaster and stirred her to begin training in disaster relief programs long before her career shift into animal welfare. These experiences helped drive her commitment to animal welfare. Parsons-Drake frequently took leave from her corporate positions to assist with animal issues during Florida disasters, before moving into animal welfare as a career.

As the Executive Director of a humane society, Parsons-Drake served on the front lines of disaster relief in Florida. She volunteered as the HSUS Shelter Manager in Hattiesburg, Mississippi in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in 2005. After Katrina, she accepted a position with HSUS as the Director of Disaster Sheltering, later moving into Field Services (now State Affairs) with HSUS.

In 2009, Parsons-Drake brought her animal experience and business management experience to the Animal Care Centers operated by HSUS. She directly manages the four Fund for Animals Care Centers and consults

on the South Florida Wildlife Center management. Not willing to yield to the threat nature brings with seasonal storms, she relocated from Florida and now works from a home office on the Gulf Coast of Texas.

CANDIDATE QUALIFICATIONS AND QUALITIES

The ideal candidate for the position of Executive Director will have:

- seven years of progressively responsible supervisory experience;
- experience in budget development and oversight of a \$1 million organization;
- experience and demonstrated involvement with rehabilitation/release programs and organizations;
- significant experience with nonprofit management;
- strong communication skills, including public speaking and writing for diverse audiences and media;
- ability to facilitate goal setting for program development; and
- willingness to travel.

A minimum of ten years of professional experience is required for this position, and a degree in wildlife biology/zoology, animal husbandry or a related field is preferred.

SALARY & BENEFITS

The Humane Society of the United States offers an excellent and competitive benefits and compensation package.

LOCATION

This position is located in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Before sending your résumé for this position, please read it over for accuracy. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the successful candidate has been selected.

To nominate a candidate, please contact Greg Duyck: gregduyck@aspingleadershipgroup.com.

All inquiries will be held in confidence.