



# Q1 2026

• Progress Report

## from the CEO

Every time I sit down to write these updates, I'm struck by the same thought: the world we're building for animals isn't just a dream anymore. It's becoming real—because of people like you.

This quarter, I've been thinking a lot about the power of a single voice. I recently heard a story about one of our volunteer Changemakers in North Carolina that perfectly captures the *unstoppable* momentum that support like yours fuels. As the Operations Director for a major political party in Wake County, home to the state capital Raleigh, he propelled our mission into the heart of local politics. He successfully passed a Resolution to Support Farmed Animal Welfare at his precinct meeting with virtually no opposition. This is how we win: by bringing the sick reality of animal suffering into the rooms where policy is made and refusing to let it be ignored. Your partnership ensures we have the resources to be in those rooms, refusing to let the truth be ignored.

As you dive into this Q1 report, you'll see that same spirit reflected on every page. We're celebrating a massive, hard-won victory against supermarket giant Ahold Delhaize—a win that proves that, with you behind us, no corporation is too large to ignore the call for compassionate change. You'll also read about how we're empowering the next generation of advocates through nearly \$2.3 million in grants to our coalition partners across the globe.

**I am proud to fight alongside you.** As a passionate activist, your support lies behind every victory we secure. You're providing the resources that fuel our persistence. Thank you for helping us build a world where we can look millions of animals in the eye and say: *we aren't going anywhere.*

*For the animals,*

Dan Shannon  
Chief Executive Officer



# *this victory* BELONGS TO YOU

**YOUR VISION FOR A KINDER WORLD—AND YOUR INVESTMENT IN IT—** is what turned months of pressure against Ahold Delhaize into a watershed moment for hens.

In March, Ahold Delhaize—the **largest grocer on the East Coast** and the powerhouse behind brands like Stop & Shop, Food Lion, Giant Food, The Giant Company, and Hannaford—**officially buckled.**

After nearly a decade of broken promises to animals and 15 months of relentless pressure from activists like you, they were forced to surrender, committing to a total ban on the extreme confinement of hens.

When we launched this campaign in late 2024, Ahold Delhaize executives thought they could wait us out. They believed that if they stayed silent long enough, our movement would get tired and go home. They were so, so wrong. Social change rarely happens overnight—and when it does, it happens because thousands of people like you persist and refuse to give up. **This victory was a masterclass in collective persistence.**

Picture the sheer grit it took to reach this moment. Our activists spent weeks on the ground at corporate headquarters in Quincy and Salisbury, facing police encounters and court dates with unshakable composure. They pushed through physical exhaustion, freezing temperatures, and exhaust fumes while screaming into megaphones until their vocal cords were shredded. They worked behind-the-scenes and organized locally, refusing to let Ahold executives ignore the truth behind their supply chain.

At the end of the day, our community staged over 100 protests, flew airplane banners over the Boston Marathon, and sent more than 100,000 messages directly to decision-makers. None of it would have been possible without you.

**THIS VICTORY WILL  
SPARE APPROXIMATELY**

**5 MILLION HENS**

*as well as thousands of mother pigs,  
from a life of intensive confinement.*

**BUT WE DIDN'T STOP THERE.**

By forcing Ahold Delhaize to commit to annual public reporting and clear in-store signage across 2,000 locations, we are shattering the industry's status quo. These shelf signs will nudge millions of customers toward compassion, ensuring transparency and accountability for animals across all its brands. **We proved that people power can move even the world's largest companies.**



# Q1 spotlights



## HOLDING GIANTS ACCOUNTABLE

Your generosity is fueling a global pressure campaign against Unilever (the titan behind Hellmann's Mayo). While the brand touches billions of lives, it has ignored the suffering of millions of birds.

The Goal: We're calling for full accountability in every market where Unilever operates.

The Catalyst: This global mobilization is made possible by donors like you.



## DEFENDING THE LAW

A major legal hurdle was cleared when a US District Court Judge dismissed the DOJ's challenge to California's Proposition 12, considered to be the world's strongest animal protection law.

Immediate Impact: The law remains in full effect, ensuring millions of birds are spared from cages thanks to your support.

The Next Frontier: We are now working to block the industry-backed "Save Our Bacon Act" in the Farm Bill. Your continued advocacy is the shield protecting these legislative wins.



## ENDING "REFINED" CRUELTY

The New York Appellate Court upheld the state's landmark foie gras sales ban in a massive victory for animals.

Strategic Support: Your commitment to animals allowed us to provide the critical grants and consultation that APA member Voters for Animal Rights (VFAR) needed to win this fight.

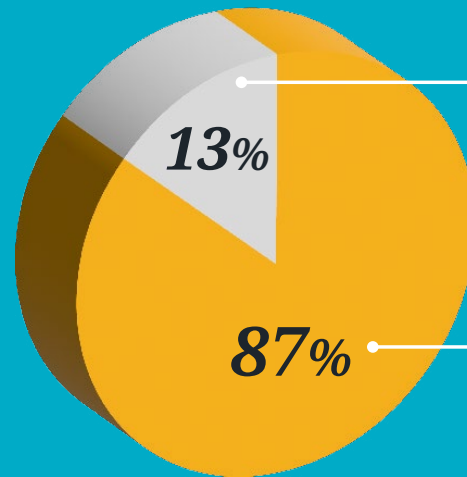
The Message: Together, we are proving that no form of abuse is too "refined" to be abolished.



## EMPOWERING THE GLOBAL MOVEMENT

This quarter we awarded nearly \$2.3 million in grants to fuel the global movement for animals. Globally, these heroes are now armed with strategic training, legal counsel, funding, and networks—giving them a stronger platform than ever in the fight against factory farming in their own communities.

total grants awarded  
**\$2.3 MILLION**



**\$300K**  
to 13 local and state-level advocacy groups through APA

**\$2M**  
to 28 animal protection organizations through OWA



### Grantee Spotlights

#### Korea Animal Rights Advocates | South Korea

Launching their first corporate cage-free campaign in one of the most tractable markets for this work in Asia.

#### Animal Welfare League | Ghana

Racing to stop cages from taking hold at all, with 9 new hotel commitments and now setting its sights on retail, hospitality, and foodservice companies.



### Grantee Spotlights

#### Missouri Alliance for Animal Legislation | Missouri

Defending hard-won protections for animals against a wave of industry-led rollback attempts.

#### Northwest Animal Rights Network | Oregon + Washington

Building a first-of-its-kind data platform to expose the environmental and social harms of factory farms, to give advocates and lawmakers the empirical firepower they need.

# YOUR 2026 IMPACT

January - March

35

**FOOD BUSINESSES  
REPORTED PROGRESS**  
towards ending the extreme  
confinement of hens, and  
**10 ELIMINATED BATTERY  
CAGES COMPLETELY**

38

**NEW CORPORATE  
COMMITMENTS TO  
END CAGES**  
secured by the  
Open Wing Alliance

311,922

**MESSAGES SENT**  
to decision-makers on  
behalf of all animals

1,276

**GRASSROOTS ACTIONS**  
taken to end the abuse  
of animals raised for food



**2025 Annual Report  
NOW AVAILABLE**

**Your 2025 Annual Report is here!**  
See how your support transformed the  
lives of animals across the globe last  
year at [thl.link/2025annualreport](https://thl.link/2025annualreport)

## financial UPDATE

As of May 4, 2026

RAISED  
\$10,700,000

PLEGGED  
\$5,160,000

STILL NEEDED  
\$7,730,000

**MAKE A GIFT TODAY**

*Please share our mission* with  
your networks and encourage  
them to also support THL.

Your ongoing support is the  
driving force behind our work.  
Because of you, The Humane  
League can continue to end  
the abuse of animals raised  
for food and expand our  
reach worldwide. **WE ARE  
PROFOUNDLY GRATEFUL  
FOR YOUR UNWAVERING  
COMMITMENT TO OUR  
MISSION.**