Dear Friends,

Thank you for your generous support of Helping Hands: Monkey Helpers in 2015! As we look back at our accomplishments and look forward to pursuing our goals for the future, we are grateful to you, our donors and friends, who make our life-changing work possible every day.

This past year, our staff, Board of Directors, and volunteers joined together to advance our most important strategic initiatives including planning for our new facility, strengthening our staff and volunteer structure, and, as always, building and reinforcing the systems that allow us to provide lifetime care for all of our recipients and service monkeys across the country.

Each year, we’re also faced with the sad and difficult reality that we must say goodbye to some of our wonderful recipients and beloved service monkeys who we have lost. It is in their honor that we are inspired to plan for the future, and create and support new recipient-monkey partnerships. Partnerships like Travis and Siggy, who were matched in October 2015. You’ll learn more about Travis, his service monkey Siggy, and their first year together later in this report. I hope you feel a sense of pride that your gifts to Helping Hands allowed us to form this incredible team.

We were also introduced to artist and children’s book author Kelly Fischer who, with the help of Foundation Robmar, created “Capu Capuchín goes to The Monkey College!” a story that teaches young children about disability awareness and safety. The staff at Helping Hands is thrilled that we’re able to share this new book with the classrooms and youth groups we visit throughout the year as we continue our Living Permanently Enabled program.

On behalf of all of us at Helping Hands Monkey Helpers, I want to express our sincere appreciation to you for being a member of our team. Whether it’s making a donation, telling a potential applicant about our work, or sharing a social media post or e-newsletter with family or friends, you play an irreplaceable role in our success. We look forward to sending you updates and new stories of hope, healing, and the power of the human-animal bond in 2016 and beyond.

Warmest regards,

Megan Talbert
President and Executive Director

P.S. We love to hear from you! Please reach out to our staff and Board anytime you have questions, comments, or want to explore new opportunities to get further involved with our work.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Megan Talbert
President and Executive Director

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2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Robert Sanders
Chair of the Board

Lynn Trimby
Treasurer

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Erica Noyes
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Placement Trainer and Veterinary Technician

Brittany Sprague
Placement Trainer and Veterinary Technician

Emily Wheeler
Development Assistant

Marina Cuda
Placement Trainer

Jessica Raider
Placement Trainer

Joe Murphy
Husbandry Assistant

Emily Wheeler
Development Assistant
My name is Travis. I joined the Navy right out of High School to pursue my dream of becoming a Navy Seal. Unfortunately, I learned I had an undiagnosed injury in my shoulder that made it impossible for me to continue with the advanced training I had set my sights on.

I had my accident in New Orleans after being discharged from the Navy. Long story short, I was out with some buddies one night and I made some bad decisions. It could happen to anyone. I fell and broke my neck.

I was flown home to California to be closer to my family and to complete rehab—and, because of the extent of my injury, I had to move back in with my parents. You can imagine how difficult that was for me, so badly wanting to make it on my own, to have to rely on my parents to take care of me. I was heartbroken.

One day, my cousin introduced me to Helping Hands. I was so stoked about the idea of a service monkey! I decided right then and there that I was going to make this happen.

A couple of years later, the planets aligned. My sister was moving back to town and needed a place to stay, as did my brother. I started looking into houses and found a five bedroom house that was perfect for us and included a room for my future monkey! I rode 30 minutes in my wheelchair to meet the landlord and six months after we moved in, I applied to Helping Hands.

I had been in the chair for four years at this point, and I wanted to be able to spend time on my own, not having to ask people to do things for me or come over and hang out all the time to help me. I think I was most looking forward to the companionship that a monkey could provide me.

Then, in October 2015, I was matched with Siggy.

Our relationship is as magical and special as I always dreamt it would be. We are together every day while my sister is at work and Siggy provides so much distraction and entertainment. I find it amazing that people find it in their hearts to support a program that makes such an incredible difference in the lives of people like me.

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I find it amazing that people find it in their hearts to support a program that makes such an incredible difference in the lives of people like me. I wish to convey how deeply grateful I am for your generosity and thank you sincerely from the bottom of my heart.
MONKEY UPDATE: NICKY, ROBIN, & DIPPY

In 2015, Nicky (on far left) returned to our Monkey College after his recipient of 10 years, Robert, passed away. Though he returned under the saddest of circumstances, everyone in Boston was thrilled to see our old friend and Nicky quickly became best school buddies with Robin and Dippy.
2015 marked the completion of the second year of Helping Hands’ five-year Strategic Plan and we experienced solid financial results. Our total unrestricted revenues and gains for the year were $1,394,271 and total expenses (before depreciation and amortization) were $1,376,602, resulting in an operating surplus and increase in net assets of $17,669.

Our original budget for 2015 was a bit more aggressive, however, in April we lost our Director of Development and were without a DOD for the balance of the year. Because of the unexpected cost of the DOD search and the length of time it took to fill the position, we revised our forecast downward mid-year and postponed several expenses originally planned for 2015. In spite of our concerns, we ended the year with a strong year-end appeal and revenue from several new foundation grants.

One of the goals of the Finance Committee this year was to find a new auditor, one with deeper resources and expertise with non-profit accounting. In September we selected Smith Sullivan and Brown, a firm founded in 1993 that specializes in not for profit organizations (over 75% of their clients are non-profits). This audit and tax season has gone very smoothly and we are pleased with our new audit team’s responsiveness, depth of knowledge and assistance on a variety of issues. As we continue to move forward with our Strategic Plan initiatives, we anticipate that SSB will be a valuable partner in helping us achieve our goals.

Our Financial Statements displayed in this annual report are in a new format this year, as recommended by our new auditor, including the reclassification of our net assets. As a result, we are not able to display our financial results compared to the prior year. However, we will be able to resume the comparison next year as we carry the new format forward.

Our investment portfolios were essentially flat over last year, reflecting the lackluster returns in the financial markets and our conservative investment strategy. The total value of our investment accounts at the end of the year was $1,108,916, including $275,000 of restricted funds. The Charles Evans Funds, which are restricted, provide a payout of 5% each year, as does the Earl Rogers Estate, which is now listed on the Financial Statement as “Beneficial Interest in Perpetual Trust.” Overall our investments generated $52,781 in interest and dividends, most of which was reinvested.

We anticipate that 2016 will be another year of progress for Helping Hands. We have a new Director of Development in place and have cash set aside for our capacity building and strategic plan activities, including planning for our new facility and gearing up for a capital campaign. With total assets of $4,742,642 at year end and no long term debt except our mortgage, we continue to be in a strong financial position.

At the Monkey College, our service animals are taught using imitation-based, positive reinforcement training. (Monkey See, Monkey Do!)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS
Current Assets $583,639
Net Property and Equipment $2,286,754
Non-Current Assets $1,872,249
Total Assets $4,742,642

LIABILITIES
Current Liabilities $139,953
Long-term Liabilities (Mortgage) $777,199
Total Liabilities $917,092

NET ASSETS
Unrestricted $3,186,607
Temporarily Restricted $173,047
Permanently Restricted $525,896
Total Net Assets $3,855,550

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS $4,742,642

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

REVENUE, SUPPORT, AND RECLASSIFICATION
Unrestricted Support, Revenue and Reclassification $1,394,271
Less Restricted Revenues ($203,814)
Total Support, Revenues and Reclassifications $1,190,457

EXPENSES
Program $1,094,040
Administrative $118,686
Fund Raising $163,876
Total Expenses $1,376,602

TOTAL CHANGES IN NET ASSETS ($326,169)

NET ASSETS – BEGINNING OF YEAR AS RESTATED $4,211,719
NET ASSETS – END OF YEAR $3,885,550

In 2015 Helping Hands switched auditors and, at their suggestion, made changes to our accounting practices to more accurately reflect our financial position. These changes will allow us to better communicate our financial data moving forward. Our one of the most significant changes was restating our net assets for 2015, which included reclassification of funds. Since we are creating a new basis year, year over year comparisons will only be possible once we close 2016.

FINANCES

PROGRAM SERVICES = 79%
ADMINISTRATIVE = 9%
FUNDRAISING = 12%

MONKEY UPDATE: BERNICE
Bernice closed out 2015 fittingly by learning to close a cage door behind her! This task allows a recipient to ask a monkey to return to the cage and securely lock the door for meal times or more serious situations like a stranger entering the house, medicine dropping within reach, or anything a recipient deems risky. This task is easy to teach as we encourage the monkeys to associate positive things with their bedroom-like enclosures such as favorite toys and stuffed animals, food, and even television!
A very special thank you to our Capuchin Caretakers—donors who make an automatic monthly contribution to Helping Hands at an amount that works for them. Your steady support throughout the year means:

• The best care for every monkey in training at The Monkey College, including optimal nutrition, individualized training, ample play time, and regular veterinary check-ups.

• Ongoing support for recipients across the country throughout the lifetime of their service monkey placement. Including being able to contact a Helping Hands trainer at any time, day or night.

• Lowered administrative costs so more of your donation goes to help recipients and our monkey helpers.

Helping Hands is pleased to count our Capuchin Caretakers among our most ardent supporters. You make a difference every day in the lives of our recipients and monkey helpers.

If you’d like to join this special group of supporters and become a Capuchin Caretaker, you can learn more and sign up securely online at monkeyhelpersdonate.org/monthly.

The average length of a placement is 7-12 years. Many monkeys are placed more than once in their careers.
The Simian Society is a new name to recognize donors who choose to leave a gift to Helping Hands in their will. Your decision to make a donation as part of your estate plan has a far-reaching positive effect on the work we do every day. Leaving a gift in your will is an easy way to give back and still make sure you’re able to provide for yourself and your family throughout retirement. Helping Hands is proud to recognize the generosity of our current Simian Society members, listed below:

- Lydia Ainsley
- Craig Cook
- Mary Elizabeth Dunfee
- Marya Hunziker
- Evelyn and Stephen Kowalewski
- Carol Lewis
- Ronald Olsen
- Joan Pelvar
- Lynn Trimby

- Philip Bloomdorn
- Elena Damien
- Donna Lee Graham
- Susan and Brad Keys
- Joan LeBel
- Joan A. Michalko
- Joan Only
- Malinda Sanders

As some of our most committed supporters, Simian Society members receive special communications from Helping Hands throughout the year, providing them with an insider’s perspective. And, beginning in 2017, we look forward to hosting Simian Society members at a yearly luncheon.

If you have already included Helping Hands in your will—or are interested in learning more about making a gift—we’d like to make sure you are recognized as a Simian Society member. Please contact Angela Lett, Director of Development and Communication at angelal@monkeyhelpers.org or at 617-787-4419 x114 so that we may officially welcome you into the Simian Society.

MONKEY UPDATE: SADIE

With the phone support and advice of a trainer, Sadie worked closely with not only her recipient Karen, but also Karen’s husband, to transfer more and more of her tasks learned in Boston to her placement home in Arizona.
Thank you to the foundations, corporations, and organizations whose support was integral to our work this year.

**$100,000+**
- Johnson Family Foundation
- The Powell Foundation
- The Robmar Foundation
- The Bernice and Milton Stern Foundation

**$25,000+**
- C. Graham Brewind, III
- The William Bingham Foundation
- Burns & Levinson LLP
- The Michele and Agnese Cestone Foundation

**$10,000+**
- The Helen W. Bell Charitable Foundation
- Bushrod H. Campbell and Adah F. Hall Charity Fund
- Copeland Family Foundation, Inc.
- The Lore Kann Foundation
- The Mentes Foundation
- The Rands Foundation
- Joan K. Sexton Foundation

**$5,000+**
- The Charles Evans Foundation
- The Fesenden School
- The Gordon Family Foundation
- Holland & Knight
- Keys North Atlantic
- Laura J. Niles Foundation
- Rockland Trust
- The Eleanor P. Stuart and Mary C. Stuart Family Foundation
- Whitney Young Children’s Foundation

**$1,000+**
- The Big Wood Foundation
- Bresky Foundation
- W. Y. Campbell Family Foundation
- Frederick V. Davis, Jr. Living Trust
- Depuy Spine
- Donation Line, LLC
- Emerson Process Management
- GoGet Library
- Howland Capital Management Inc.
- The Richard & Natalie Jacoff Foundation, Inc.
- MatWorks
- The MENTOR Network
- Charitable Foundation
- Microsoft Matching Gift Program
- Mundt Family Foundation
- Network For Good
- Partners + Simmons
- Louise Plater Charitable Foundation, Inc.
- The L. E. Phillips Family Foundation, Inc.
- Pomeroy & Co., Inc.
- The John A. Scileppi Foundation
- Special People in Need
- State Street Bank

**$500+**
- Adaptive Control Systems, Inc.
- American Veterinary Medical Association
- The Boston Foundation
- The Jacob Burns Foundation, Inc.
- Casa del Rey Mexican Restaurant
- Migneault Electric
- Neuberger Berman LLC
- Thoughtforms

**$250+**
- American Express Company
- Employer Giving Program
- JSRM Foundation
- The Lagniappe Brewing Co.
- Melville Capital
- Senior Aerospace Metal Bellows
- Seaside Chocolates
- Silicon Valley Community Foundation/Standard Insurance
- Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine
- Xaverian Brothers High School

We gratefully acknowledge each and every donor who supported us in 2015. Your gifts enable us to create and support priceless partnerships throughout the United States. Thank you for providing new beginnings to our recipients every day.

We also appreciate all the federal, state, local, and municipal employees who make their donations through the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC #11196) or Independent Charities of America.

Helping Hands is the only organization in the world dedicated to training and placing capuchin monkeys with people living with paralysis or other mobility impairments.
Every year, individual donors show their commitment to improving the lives of people with disabilities by making a donation to Helping Hands. Thank you to everyone who made a gift this year in support of our work.

Jane and George Harper
Mrs. Marvel Horsewill
Winnie Hall
Jew and Michael Horvitz
There has been a remarkable transformation of the lives of individuals with disabilities in the typical 30-35 years old.

Capuchin monkeys have an average lifespan in the wild of about 20 years. The monkeys in the Helping Hands program typically live to be 30-35 years old.

INDIVIDUAL GIVING

Key: *Capuchin Curated/Monthly Donor  *Board Member  *Employee  *Recipient  *Foster Family

Marilyn Kucharski  
Gretchen U. Kingsbury  
Robin Holland  
Steven Hindman  
Mary P. Happ  
Marcy Ashley Gray  
Evelyn Furse and Rusty Dassing  
Linda and Jeff Frack  
Andrea and Joseph Finnerty  
Aviva R. Figler  
Kathleen and Steven Eiser  
Kimberly and Dane Dwyer  
Nancy Dow and Alexander Wolsk  
Eugene Dixon  
John A. Cataldo Fund  
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Gregory S. Bednarz  
Sharon Bazarian and James McDermott  
Carol and Ray Andrejasich  
Robert Stern  
Susan and Brad Keyes  
Anonymous (2)  
Judi Hindman and Frank Odell  
Combined Federal Campaign Donors

$1,000+

Jane Yanson  
Patty Wolfe  
Lynn and Ross Trimby  
Erin and Mark Seiden  
Robert Sanders  
Stephanie Rogers  
Robert Stabler  
Eric and Mark Toder  
Stacie and Frontman  
Kathy and Michael Orso  
Dee Stoller  
Bill Stump  
Barbara and John Byrne  
Lori and John Beckman  
Mike Black  
Kathy and David Oldrey  
Diane Palma  
Alan Payne and Doug Longshore  
John Stoller  
Vicki Stankus  
Thomas O’Farrell  
Pat and Elaine Drachman Fund  
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Kathy Peverly  
Mike Phillips  
Helen Chubak  
Stacee Chudnick  
Ryan and Mary Goldfinch  
Ms. Margaret Gray  
Georgianne C. Crane and Richard D Green  
Helen and Lawrence Green  
Alex Gruback  
Stacey and Tammy Smith  
John and Alan Salzer  
Nancy Stengel  
Jennifer C. Tol, and Ted and Bernice Rockwell  
Martin and Charles Tulloss  
Joanne Siegel and Michael Joffe  
Gary Wilitch  
Lifelong Friendship  
Neale and Royce Wiley  
Boe and Dena Williams  
Georgianne Zagloks

$250+

American Express  
John Albro  
Patricia and Jerry Allen  
Diane Allen  
Jane Arbuckle  
Dale Baker  
Mary Jane and William Balk  
Vivian Lam  
Jackie Labor  
Samantha and Dennis Logan  
Jordan and Larry Land  
Michael and Eileen Lang  
Sorcha and William Lasz  
Betsy Lant  
Matthew Leach  
Pamela H. and Jeffrey W. Mittleman  
Larry Miller  
Nancy and Michael Migneault  
Mark C. Michalowski  
Jessica McPherson  
Devita McConnell  
Beth Mazer  
Michelle Flannery  
Sabrina and Dennis Lopes  
Diane Lopes  
Diane Lopes  
John and Alice Crum  
Suzanne and Donald Jenkins  
Floyd and Eileen Kline  
John and Alice Crum  
Mrs. Sheila Johnson Robbins  
Sondra Resnikoff  
Julie and Patrick Reed  
Donna Driscoll and Gina Perez  
Barb and Richard Renz  
Mike and Mary Young  
Jonathan Young  
Shelly and Gary Rosenthal  
Merrill and Tyler Rockey  
Anne and David Rogers  
Caroline Schuller  
Micha and Janet Schumm  
Lorenzo and Harvey Scher  
Suzanne and Norman Seidoff  
David Scott Sioux  
Steve and Mary Smith  
Cally and Watson Stieglitz  
Megan Tolbert  
Bill Smith  
Suzanne S. Snay  
Boston and Dan Stieglitz  
Deirdre Howley and Ira Eisenstadt  
Martin Sikorski  
Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Herwins  
Jamie and George Harper  
Mrs. Marvel Horsewill  
Winnie Hall  
Jew and Michael Horvitz  
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IN KIND

Donations of services, materials, food, and beverages helped support special projects and general operations throughout the year. We are extremely grateful to all of the individuals and establishments who made these generous contributions.

Laura Barrauso
Bidding for Good
Bryan Cave, LLP
The Columbus Hospitality Group
Lisa Flores
Patrick Gan
Halliday Construction
Holland & Knight

GIFTS MADE IN HONOR OF

Donations were made in honor of the following people:

William Brady
Mari Bradle
Grady Brooks
Simon Brown
Eliu Burgess
Frederick Cress
Wendy Cobb
Elaine and Matthew Connolly
Nancy and Kent Converse
Craig Cook
John Cora
Marina Cuda
Bruce Dieter
Anne Dwosiner
Sue Drake
Kate Emad
Andra Faust
T. Foster
Alex Garman
Stephan Glasing
Robert Gorman
Stephen Hasland
Pamela Helling
Judy Hetherington
Julie Hindman
Bob House

GIFTS MADE IN MEMORY OF

Donations were made in memory of the following people:

Colin McLeod
William G. Miller, Jr.
Shirley Mullen
Pierre Raymond
Michael Reed
Earl A. Rogers
Helen Sterling
Napoleon Wilenisk
Judy Zappia

We have attempted to be as accurate as possible in listing our donors. While we do not have space in this publication to print the names of every single contributor, we remain forever grateful for every gift of every size to Helping Hands. Please accept our sincere apologies if there are any errors or omissions and let us know so that we can correct our records.

MONKEY UPDATE: PHOEBE

When Phoebe was matched in 2015 with an applicant living in New York, she and her trainer Jessica worked daily on learning how to stretch a long straw from a camel-pack that holds water on the back of a wheelchair around to a person’s mouth. This simple task makes a huge difference in our recipients’ daily lives.
Established in 1979, Helping Hands: Monkey Helpers for the Disabled is a national non-profit 501(c)3 organization that raises and trains capuchin monkeys to provide daily assistance to people living with spinal cord injury or other mobility impairments. Helping Hands supports each service monkey and his or her human partner during their many years together through interactive mentoring of the placement, and close supervision of the monkey’s behavioral, nutritional, and veterinary needs. Relying on private contributions, Helping Hands provides these specially trained service animals and their lifetime support free of charge to our recipients.