



### Will you be mine?

*Amy can come up to my level of feeling. She rides on my shoulder and grooms my hair and I can actually feel her fur and body warmth on my face and that means more to me than I can even say. – Mary Kay & Amy*

*The time we spend together, whether Jessica is helping me, or I'm doing something for her, pain, her smiles are a vacation from your problems! – Maryann & Jessica*

You are the creator of these memories. The gift of companionship cannot be quantified by a turn of a page, a retrieval of an object, or the switch of a light. Unconditional love is what makes the human-animal bond so amazing. You provide this love with your generous support.

Did you know that over 75% of our current monkey-recipient partnerships have been paired for ten years or more? Read below to see how your support has transformed the lives of one of our longest partnerships, **MaryKay and Amy**—together for 15 years. Your gifts sustain these life-altering partnerships. If that isn't the definition of love, then what is?

Thank you for being ours. Stay connected as we continue to spread the love helping adults with spinal cord injuries and other mobility impairments throughout the U.S. live more independent and engaged lives.

Do you know someone who might benefit from having a service monkey? [Connect us!](#)



#### Welcome Sarah and Dan!

In January, we welcomed Sarah Davis and Dan Skehan as new members of the Board of Directors of Helping Hands: Monkey Helpers.

Sarah is currently co-chair of **Festivale!** and has been involved with the event for many years. Dan has been serving as a non-voting member of our finance committee and brings strong accounting skills to the organization. Learn more about Sarah and Dan [here](#).

Join us as we say "thank you" to Erin Seiden. We are grateful for the service Erin has provided while she was on the Board.

Interested in joining a group of dynamic and hard-working individuals focused on a common mission? Find out more about becoming a member of the board of directors [here](#).



#### Do our monkeys and recipients hold a special place in your heart?

Join us this month as we kick off our Capuchin Caretakers drive for 2019. Our Capuchin Caretakers provide support all year long for our recipients and monkeys in training, placement, and retirement with a recurring monthly gift.

At Helping Hands, we believe in making lives a bit easier. The gift of love can be made in one simple step by setting up automatic monthly [donations](#). Imagine one less reminder in your **2019 Calendar!**

\*free for signing up as a Capuchin Caretaker!



#### MaryKay and Amy: A love story 15 years in the making

From the day Amy came into MaryKay's life, it was love at first sight. A sweet little 34-year old bundle of energy, Amy readily assists MaryKay in ways beyond household tasks.

*"Besides the independence [Amy] provides and the entertainment value, there's the companionship that becomes so tightly interwoven."*

Read more about this sweet Valentine [here](#) in Monkey Profile #6. Did you miss previous Monkey Profiles? Don't worry! Catch up on all of them [here](#).



#### Share the love

This Valentine's Day, send a monkey in the mail! Well, not quite.

But a monkey e-Card is just as fun!

Let someone special know that you are thinking of them with a [Valentine's e-Card](#) from Helping Hands.



### Sponsor Spotlight

Thanks to all of our sponsors, [Festivale!](#) will be an event to remember!

Interested in getting your name in front of 300+ attendees and supporting our Training and Placement programs? Click [here](#).

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### Grant Spotlight

Helping Hands: Monkey Helpers is grateful to **The Spark Fund** for their continuing generosity with a grant that will support our training and placement program. We are honored to have them as a partner in our work.

Thanks to a \$5,000 grant from **The Eleanor P. Stuart and Mary C. Stuart Family Foundation**, Helping Hands: Monkey Helpers can continue to support recipients across the country that rely on a service monkey for increased independence, hope, and joy.

