



You make a difference!

Each April since 1974, the United States has recognized, encouraged, and celebrated the millions of individuals who give their time, energy, passion, and skills to organizations all around the country. During this time, we honor the people who dedicate themselves to taking action and solving problems in our communities. Whether you are [volunteering here at Helping Hands](#), [donating your time and talents](#), [running a fundraiser or a supply drive](#), helping at an [event](#), or making a [monetary contribution](#), you are valued and appreciated. Thank you for your commitment and passion to our mission and to changing lives every day.

In this edition of Monkey Business, you will read how your support made a big difference in the lives of [Maryanne and Jessica](#), and how your continued support allows us to be here for all our recipients in times of need.

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



Reunited: Maryanne and Jessica's story.

As you may know, Maryanne and her service monkey Jessica have been together since 2010. Last spring, we had to remove Jessica from her home. As you can imagine, it was heart wrenching for everyone involved. Especially since it wasn't the fault of Maryanne, Jessica, or anyone at Helping Hands. The county that Maryanne lives in had approved a new ordinance that prevented people from owning exotic animals, including monkeys, and there was no exemption for our service monkeys.

But, YOU made it possible for us to hire a lawyer and reunite Maryanne and Jessica. Your donation meant that when we were faced with this unexpected legal expense, we could fight for them.

Your gift today means that we can continue to be there for our recipients and service monkeys—no matter what happens—throughout the years to come.

[Read their story](#)



Ch-Ch-Ch-Changes...

Are you wondering why you haven't heard about the Monkey Helpers' Annual Festivale yet this year? Because we are changing the date of the event!

Next year, Helping Hands will be celebrating 40 years of increased independence, and to celebrate the Monkey Helpers' Annual Festivale will take place in the Spring of 2019! We need extra time to plan for such a special event. More announcements coming soon on our website, in upcoming editions of Monkey Business, and on Social Media.

If you want to be involved and help us celebrate our 40th Anniversary Year—[Contact us!](#)



Trainer Takeovers!

Have you been following us on [Instagram](#)? If you have, you may have noticed that occasionally the Helping Hands monkey trainers take over to show you a day in their life at The Monkey College! Save the date: Wednesday, April 18, as Natalie Shelton-May seizes the reins of Instagram for the day! Get a behind-the-scenes glimpse at what it is like to be on staff at Helping Hands.

[See what's happening on Instagram!](#)



Blooper of the Month

Helping Hands monkeys are great at learning and performing tasks, but not always great at posing for pictures!

Be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) to be a part of the fun and make your voice heard: vote for the image that will be featured in next month's blooper section!

Thanks for voting!

