



Valentine's Day is just around the corner and we all have love on our minds. Now is the perfect time to celebrate all the ways that love and companionship enrich our lives. Helping Hands' work centers around connections, and it is thanks to you that we are able to make these amazing human-animal connections.

In this issue, you will get a peek into the background of Executive Director, Angela Lett, read about the special bond between our monkey helpers and their trainers and learn more about our exciting new sponsor a monkey opportunity!

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



**Helping Hands Executive Director Featured**

Helping Hands Executive Director, Angela Lett was recently profiled by the Social Innovation Forum, a Boston-based nonprofit dedicated to creating positive social change.

In this profile, Angela shares her unique path in the nonprofit sector, the most important skills she's learned on and off the job, tips and tricks for newbies in the field, and how past experience never ceases being relevant.

Read the full profile [here](#).

**A Love Story – Mango and Natalie**

You have heard about the priceless companionship that Helping Hands service monkeys provide for our recipients, but another important love story within our program is the bond between our service monkeys and their trainers. At The Monkey College, each trainer has a group of monkey helpers assigned to their care.



Each monkey spends much of their day with the same trainer. They grow to trust each other and establish a powerful bond. This bond is especially apparent in the connection between placement trainer, Natalie, and one of her monkeys, Mango. Natalie and Mango have been working together for over ten years and have a very special relationship because they were born just three months apart! About the relationship with her monkeys, Natalie says:

*The relationship between a monkey and their trainer is unique in that it takes time to grow a bond built of mutual trust and respect. The time and work it takes to build that bond makes it all the more rewarding when your monkey shows how they care for you – by grooming, cuddling, and so on. It's difficult to put into words the love and compassion I have for each of my monkeys. Each one is different, with their own personality quirks, and I feel so lucky to have the opportunity to have these sweet, mischievous monkeys in my life!*

What a sweet love story!

**Sponsor a Monkey**

A key element of Helping Hands' work is caring for a growing population of retired monkeys. Our precious monkey helpers have dedicated their lives to helping others. Now, it is our turn to support them as they live out their golden years and spend time with their trainer and monkey friends at the Monkey College.



You can financially support our retirees by sponsoring your very own monkey helper. We recently launched this exciting new opportunity and there is a level for everyone. Your sponsorship will provide things like veterinary services, food, blankets, toys, and staffing time for their daily care. By sponsoring a monkey, you are giving back to these animals who have touched the lives of so many people. In fact, many of our retired monkeys have assisted multiple recipients during their "careers!"

For more information, visit our [website](#).

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Make a Gift

Helping Hands: Monkey Helpers

