



As we celebrate the New Year, we turn over a new leaf and celebrate the potential that comes with each beginning. On the heels of Helping Hands' 40th anniversary, we are looking forward to the new decade and all the possibilities that come along with it!

Featured in this Newsletter:

- Happy New Year from Helping Hands
- Monkeys in Aftercare
- A Renewed Sense of Hope

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

Happy New Year

In 2019, the generosity of individuals like you allowed us to continue our work and provide our services at no cost to our recipients. Gifts to Helping Hands facilitate year-round connections and allow us and our monkey helpers to give recipients the priceless gifts of increased independence, companionship, and hope. Your support makes this possible so please accept a big THANK YOU for all of your support in 2019!



Monkeys in Aftercare

For more than 40 years, our monkey helpers have helped over 160 adults with spinal cord injuries and other mobility impairments live more independent and engaged lives. But did you know that an element of our work at the Monkey College is caring for a growing population of retired monkeys?

When a monkey returns from placement, our trainers assess their health and determine whether they can be placed again. If our trainers decide that a monkey should be retired from the placement program, they will continue to receive exceptional care at The Monkey College and be able to socialize with their trainer and other monkey friends.

Our retired monkeys have spent many years supporting recipients. We are committed to providing the best quality of life during their retirement; these precious animals have brought joy, happiness, and support to so many individuals in need. They deserve it!

To learn more about our aftercare program, click [here](#).

A Renewed Sense of Hope

You hear a lot about the tangible benefits that our recipients get from their monkey helper but there are benefits that aren't always visible. Our recipients find that their monkey helpers are able to offer a sense of hope. As recipient MaryAnne says about her monkey helper, Jessica:



"We're a team, she and I... helping each other get through the day. Having Jessica has put me back in a caregiver role again, given me purpose. With that purpose, it distracts me from the pain, loneliness, and isolation I found in the chair."

More than just a pair of "helping hands" to assist with tasks, each match empowers the recipient to act as a caregiver for a living creature, thereby providing companionship and renewed feelings of responsibility and hope to our recipients.

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Make a Gift

Helping Hands: Monkey Helpers

