



Greetings from the Executive Director

Dear Friends,

It is hard to believe that we are already almost a month into 2021! There are a lot of exciting things happening here at Helping Hands. As you may know, Helping Hands: Monkey Helpers has been talking about and planning for a new facility. Our building is home to many monkeys who have returned post-service to live out their golden years, receiving the best care possible in a safe, secure, and healthy physical environment. Our initial plan was to complete renovations to the building in the next few years, but due to concerns over COVID-19 and some critical systems beginning to fail, our plan has been compressed and accelerated.



The heating/cooling system is at end of life and replacement is particularly crucial at this time, both for air quality improvements and energy efficiency. Immediate needs require replacing the HVAC system for the safety of staff and animals. Building renovations will begin this week, and the existing designs meet new safety protocols to adapt the training center for senior monkeys returning to live out their post-service years. As of Wednesday, January 27, the administrative staff will be working remotely, to allow construction to happen on the ground floor and the top floor simultaneously.

We cannot delay these renovations to a more convenient time, as these upgrades must happen now for the well-being of the staff and all the monkeys in our care. Daily operations will continue as we move to a temporary location for the duration of this process. We look forward to sharing updates with you as the construction progresses.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to us via email.

Thank you for your friendship and support as we enter this phase.

Sincerely,

Diane S. Nahabedian

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Executive Director

Welcome to the staff:
Salena Deane



Salena joined the Monkey Helper team in November and we are so excited to have her whipping the office into shape as our Administrative Assistant! She graduated with honors in Creative Writing from Brandeis University in 2019 and is a co-founder of Sapphire, an online creative art space for womxn to socialize, read, teach, and learn from and about each other.

Meet Salena

Stop and Shop Community
Bag Program



Did you know that **Helping Hands: Monkey Helpers** was selected to be a part of the **Stop & Shop Community Bag Program** in January? When you purchase a \$2.50 reusable **GIVE BACK** Community Bag at the Stop & Shop located at **60 Everett Street, Allston, MA**, \$1 is donated to Helping Hands: Monkey Helpers!

Not nearby? You can visit your local Stop and Shop, purchase your bag, and use the giving tag to designate your donation to Helping Hands!

Meet a Monkey-Kyla!

Kyla is a 33-year-old monkey living at The Monkey College who loves her healthy snacks! Favorite greens? Brussels sprouts and cucumbers. She's one happy camper when you give her some nuts, oatmeal, or peanut butter.

Kyla's idea of a perfect afternoon would be lying in a quiet sunny spot in one of our playrooms, snacking away.

Learn More about Kyla

