

Greetings from the Executive Director

Bonding with our Monkeys

The bond between our capuchins and our recipients, or our special care families and/or animal care staff are all examples of the human animal bond that has developed beautifully. After over 40 years of working with capuchins we know what happens when the capuchins and the humans with whom they work, live, and play are together for many years. Currently we are supporting 100 monkeys including 10 with recipients, 35 in special care homes, and 55 in our Monkey Living Center in Boston.



We often discuss the impact our service monkeys make on our recipients and the bond they form with both the recipient and the recipient's family. However, what we don't usually discuss is the tremendous bond our special care families have with their monkeys, or the bonds the animal staff form over time with the monkeys at the Monkey Living Center.

Many of the Helping Hands special care families have cared for a monkey for many years. They have opened their homes to a capuchin out of love and agreed to care for a monkey who needed a loving home. The bond between the family and the monkey is now unbreakable.

What about the 55 monkeys at the Monkey Living Center? The animal staff has devoted their careers to ensuring the monkeys stay as healthy as possible, and live their post-service years in joy. With large new play spaces, the older monkeys are jumping, swinging, screeching at each other, and just being capuchins. Most have been in service to one, two, even three adults with physical disabilities, and are now spending time with each other and the animal staff. The monkeys are also cuddling and interacting with the human staff, some of whom may have trained them originally. While this all sounds wonderful for the capuchins, the staff are also happy to have monkeys in their midst and have a solid bond with the capuchins. And, not just the animal staff per se, but the administrative staff as well. Those who do not deal directly with monkeys professionally take great joy in interacting with the monkeys, when possible, just enjoying seeing our little monkeys enjoy the sun or climb with abandon.

Helping Hands: Monkey Helpers is committed to supporting all 100 monkeys in our care. As they have cared for so many, it is our responsibility to now care for them. You can join us by making a gift before the year is out. Please join us.

Sincerely,

Diane S. Nahabedian

Diane S. Nahabedian Executive Director

P.S. Monkey Week is coming! Save the date: December 12 - 18 is Monkey Week!

Join us in welcoming new staff members Julie Totten and Matthew Salcedo



Director of Development Julie Totten

Julie joined Helping Hands: Monkey Helpers in October 2021. She brings extensive fundraising experience, having worked in development positions for the last seven years at various nonprofit organizations in Massachusetts. She founded Families for Depression Awareness, a national nonprofit organization that helps families recognize and cope with mood disorders to get people well and prevent suicides.

Meet Julie

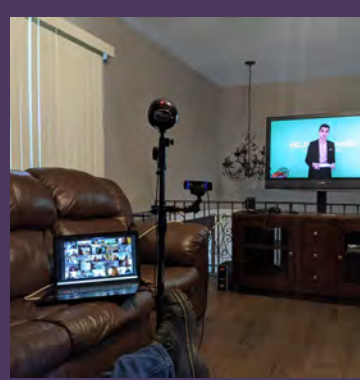


Administrative Assistant Matthew Salcedo

Matthew graduated from Boston University in 2021 with degrees in neuroscience and psychology. He has always loved animals and when he found out about Helping Hands, he loved the idea of both our past work and the future vision. He was excited to accept a position with the organization in September.

Meet Matt

You came, you saw, you played BINGO!



What an event! We loved seeing over 70 of you on Zoom on October 23 for our first ever virtual event, BINGO!, hosted by special guest, Actor, Singer, and Writer, Alex Carroll. (Fun fact, not only is Alex a talented actor, he is also the son of Executive Director Diane Nahabedian!)

Helping Hands wishes to extend a heartfelt thank you to the following companies and community members who helped make BINGO a success:



We would also like to recognize our committee members who donated time, money, food, supplies, and effort to the event:

Lisa Brown, Dr. Sarah Davis, and Susan Keyes

And very special thanks to Sophia Spring, Matthew Salcedo, and Lauren Tetzell-McCall for all your hard work!

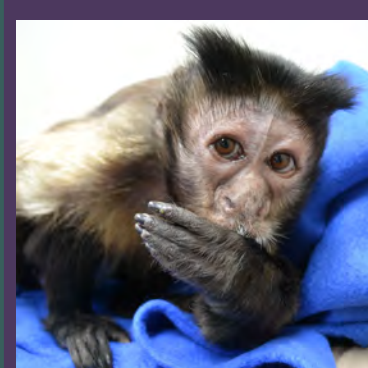
Finally, we thank all of you who played BINGO with us. We hope you had as much fun as we did!



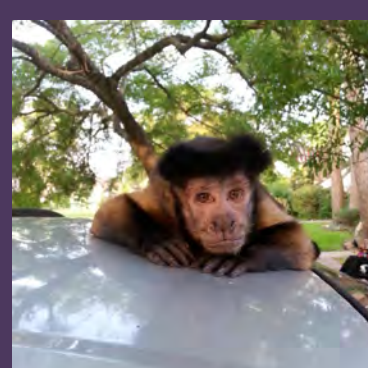
Birthday Round-up!

Please join us in wishing our monkeys who were born in November a very Happy Birthday!

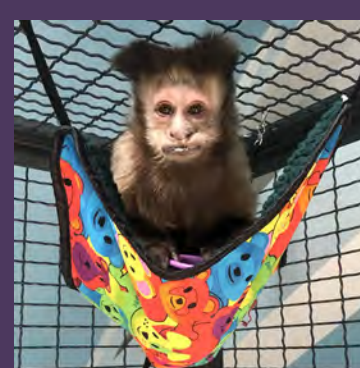
Pawa, Nicky, Samantha, Lindsay, and Goldie!



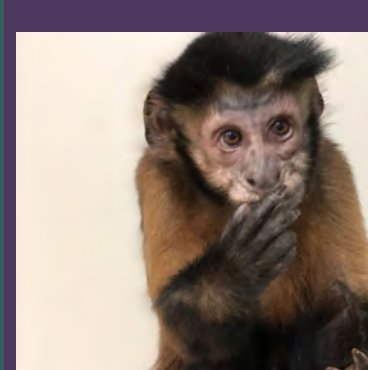
Pawa



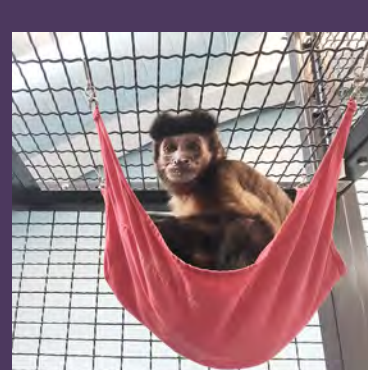
Nicky



Goldie



Samantha



Lindsay

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Made possible by Foundation Robmar, the Helping Hands 2022 Calendar celebrates the monkey helpers who have helped so many. We hope that each month's photo brings a smile to your face knowing that your donation helps provide for these special service animals.

Now available for purchase, a Helping Hands: Monkey Helpers calendar makes a wonderful holiday gift!

Purchase Your Calendar Today