



Greetings from the Executive Director

When I sit down to share my thoughts each month, I always start with a bit of research. I like to examine what is celebrated during the month and how it relates to Helping Hands. There are many occasions to observe in February. We celebrate both Black History Month and American Heart Month. Did you know that February 17 was Random Acts of Kindness Day; and February 20 was Love Your Pet Day?

Our board is leading us with love, kindness, and a keen sense of the future as we implement our dynamic transition. The changes in the way we operate from monkey helpers to the Innovative Technology Initiative are made knowing that we are setting the organization up to assist future generations who may deal with physical disabilities with technology that is cutting edge, and can provide independence until a cure is found for every debilitating injury or illness.



Love your pet day—now isn't every day love your pet day? While our monkeys are not pets, we know that we are caring for them all with appreciation for their service and with great love and affection. **Every day at the Monkey Living Center is love our monkeys day!**

As always, we are discussing our present and future while celebrating our past. Therefore, I would be remiss if I didn't remind you that you can join us to celebrate our past, present and future on March 25th at our From Monkeys to Robots gala event at the [Charles River Museum of Industry & Innovation](#) at 154 Moody Street in Waltham, MA from 6:30 – 10:00 pm. For tickets, please visit our [website](#).

If you are interested in supporting us as a sponsor, please take a look at the [Sponsorship page](#) for more information. Sponsorship provides [many benefits](#) and opportunities to become involved in the organization.

Hope to see you March 25! And remember to practice random acts of kindness!

Sincerely,

Diane S. Nahabedian
Executive Director

Are you ready to have a virtual reality (VR) experience and meet a robot?

We are so excited to be offering a VR experience, and a chance to meet a robot at our Saturday, March 25 event!

Thanks to our friends at the [Tufts University's Virtual Reality Certificate Program](#) and [Northeastern University's Institute of Experiential Robotics](#) guests will not just hear about our dynamic transformation, but will get to experience a bit of what we are undertaking.

The instructors from Tufts University Virtual Reality Certificate Program will be available to talk with guests and provide the VR headsets to let guests have an actual virtual reality experience. Put the headset on and be transported to another world. VR can provide a gaming experience, but also provide access to telehealth appointments, physical and occupational therapy programming, socialization, or even a trip around the world. Who knows what is waiting for you?

What happens if you drop your phone and cannot retrieve it? Or, if you need a bottle of water and your mobility is limited. Maybe you need a robot! The folks from the Institute of Experiential Robotics at Northeastern University will be available to demonstrate a robot that is specifically designed for human support.

Thank you to our Event Sponsors!

We greatly appreciate all of our generous Sponsors of From Monkeys to Robots: The Evolution of Helping Hands on March 25.

Interested in joining them? Check out the benefits of Sponsorship and how you and/or your company can get involved.

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Still looking for volunteers - would you be one of them?



We still need a crack team of volunteers to help to make sure everything on March 25th runs like clockwork.

Have you missed volunteering? Here's your chance to get back in the swing of things and help out for a good cause! If you would like to volunteer, please [contact us](#) and we will put you on the list.

Thank you for all that you do for Helping Hands; we've missed you and we can't wait to see you!

[EMAIL US](#)

February Birthdays at the Monkey Living Center!

Join us in wishing Robin, Sharon, and Sadie a VERY Happy Birthday!

If you want to send them a birthday gift, check out our [Amazon Wish List](#) for ideas of our most needed items!

[Visit the Wish List](#)



Robin



Sharon



Sadie

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