Planned Giving

Philanthropy is the desire to promote the welfare of others. Every person, regardless of financial means, has the ability to make a difference and change the world!

The impact of planned gifts, legacy gifts and bequests to a charity helps ensure its continued existence. With a bequest to the Center for Great Apes you will be remembered for making life better for the orangutans and chimpanzees at the sanctuary.

Properly planned charitable giving can also provide substantial tax benefits to you and your family, both now and in the future. There are a number of ways to invest in the future of the Center such as:

- Bequests in your Will
- Revocable Living Trust
- Charitable Lead Trust
- Endowments
- IRA - 401K - Life Insurance
- Stocks, Bond & Annuities

Your financial advisor, attorney, or tax professional can advise you on which alternatives may be best to accomplish your charitable goals.

To learn more about Planned Giving to the Center for Great Apes please contact us at (863) 767-8903 or email Legacy@CenterforGreatApes.org

Legacy Society

The Center for Great Apes Legacy Society is a distinguished group for those generous supporters who have chosen to include a gift to the Center in their will or estate plans. The Legacy Society provides a way to recognize and thank donors during their lifetime, and ensures that your wishes are properly documented.

**Only a letter or statement of intent to leave a gift to the Center is required for membership.** If you have already included the Center in your planning, we encourage you to let us know so that we may honor you as a Member of the Center for Great Apes Legacy Society.

If you would like more information about the Center’s Legacy Society, email Legacy@CenterforGreatApes.org or call (863) 767-8903.

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Statement of Financial Position as of September 30, 2018

**Operating Income**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual Donations</td>
<td>776,336</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Grants</td>
<td>583,573</td>
</tr>
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<td>Corporate Gifts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legacy &amp; Bequests</td>
<td>16,038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-contribution Income</td>
<td>85,215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Income</strong></td>
<td>1,539,675</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Operating Expenses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program - Great Ape Care</td>
<td>1,190,167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Support</td>
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<td><strong>Total Operating Expenses</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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**Net Balance**

| Net Balance                      | 90,998  |

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**Operating Income by Category**

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**Net Balance**

| Net Balance                      | 90,998  |
Founder’s Message

Reflecting back on the first 25 years of the Center for Great Apes, I am deeply grateful for all the individuals, families, foundations, businesses, and animal organizations who have helped us along the way.

To date, the Center has accepted and helped more than 60 great apes who have needed a permanent home providing them with lifelong compassionate care. There have been so many wonderful moments in watching great apes who once lived in tiny cages in basements or garages flourish with space, activity, good nutrition, and health care. And there have been crushing heartaches along the way when a beloved elderly ape or ill resident has passed away.

But through it all, we continue to strive to give exceptional care to those apes who find their way to CGA.

I say this often to our supporters, members, volunteers, and staff: “We couldn’t do this without you!” And, it’s true. Without the funding from our supporters... the hard work from our staff, board members, and volunteers... and the dedication to our mission from our community of friends, we could not have expanded much beyond the original five sanctuary residents: two orangutans and three chimpanzees.

Our accomplishments are due to you! Thank you for helping us continue in this effort!

Patti Ragan

Aerial view of the Center’s expansion area under construction.

Celebrating 25 Years

Going back to our roots in Miami and celebrating near so many of our first members and supporters, the Center for Great Apes’ Board of Directors held a lovely event at the Key Biscayne Beach Club commemorating the sanctuary’s 25-year anniversary. Jazz guitarist Harry Hmura flew in from Chicago to share his great music, and Ron Magill (Communications Director at Zoo Miami) and primatologist Bob Ingersoll (Project Nim) spoke about the contributions of CGA to captive great apes. We’re grateful to our generous sponsors and to everyone who attended and participated. It was wonderful to see so many of our Florida friends at the event!
A Wonderful Donation

A special thank you to our friend and donor **Greta Smith** for sponsoring a sanctuary-wide fiber optic camera system (with 110 cameras) which not only provides gate security, but also allows the staff to monitor behavior of the apes. With 24-hour recording on each indoor nighthouse and outdoor habitat, staff members can go back and replay ape interactions overnight or any time during the day. This amazing gift helps us provide better care for our great ape residents!

The Gift of Shade:

The new habitats are out in an open field where the sun is hot, and shade is needed. We’re so grateful to all who have donated trees, bamboo, and other plants to help shade the area. Thank you again to Dr. Howard and Brenda Sheridan and to JD Thornton Nurseries who have generously donated over two dozen 30 to 40-foot-tall oak trees as well as to Thompson Bamboo Nursery and Island Bamboo for many wonderfully tall and beautiful bamboo stands.

Enrichment Program

What is enrichment? By definition, it’s “the action of improving or enhancing the quality or value of something.” Enrichment in the context of captive great apes means that their quality of life is enhanced by creating an engaging environment that allows their mental, physical, and emotional well-being to thrive. Some enrichment items help simulate natural behaviors, while others are simply items that the apes just enjoy.

With the help of CGA’s monthly social media enrichment campaign, our apes have had some great new enrichment materials. *Lookie Lous*, which are “ape-resistant” mirrors are popular. Self-aware great apes like looking in mirrors and examining themselves closely. They even enjoy making funny faces in the mirror! The *PrimaRocker*, a durable cone-shaped disk is an especially fun toy where the apes can spin themselves. (Mowgli and Pebbles love this play item and are expert “spinners”!) Other specialized ape toys as well as wading pools for water play, stock tubs, hammocks, craft paper, wood-wool and much-needed fans in the summer have all been donated through the enrichment campaign. Since great apes in the wild make new nests each night using vegetation and branches, the wood-wool is especially popular with the sanctuary apes for nest-building as it’s an effective and beneficial material to add to their nests of blankets, hay, leaves, and paper.

Each month a special enrichment item that will benefit the orangutans and chimpanzees will be chosen for the campaign and posted on the Center’s Facebook page. Donations for the enrichment program can be made at any time on our website at: [http://www.centerforgreatapes.org/donate/enrichment-sponsorships](http://www.centerforgreatapes.org/donate/enrichment-sponsorships).
The Growing Center

In 2014, the CGA board members and staff began a five-year expansion plan with a goal to grow to help additional orangutans and chimpanzees who would need sanctuary care in the future.

Over the past 4½ years, and with the help of many wonderful contributors, most of our goals have been met. Completed to date are a new nutrition and diet prep building, an expanded veterinary hospital and surgery center, two large great ape nighthouses (with 15 new bedrooms), four outdoor habitats, extended aerial trailways connecting all the new habitats, and a sanctuary-wide fiber optic security camera and monitoring system. And, along the way, many new trees have been planted in the new areas for shade. Still to be built is an Education Center and another outdoor habitat attached to the newest nighthouse.

During the construction process, and before we were ready for more residents, twelve great apes needed an immediate home! So six orangutans and six chimpanzees over the past two years have arrived and moved into some of the new spaces.

We are so grateful for the help and support of our donors who have made it possible for these most recent arrivals to have space here and permanent sanctuary care.

The interior of the **Arcus Great Ape Habitat**

is 8000 sq. ft. and ready for the final phase of building multiple climbing and swinging structures for chimpanzees.

Another recently built habitat, donated by **Gary Gero** and erected with a generous grant from the **Estate of Michael J Jackson** is ready for the interior climbing and swinging structures to be installed. Even though it’s not yet completed, the chimpanzees are enjoying the large spaces and cool grass!
We were honored to have award-winning travel and wildlife photographer, Mark Edward Harris visit the Center. Mark spent several days photographing our orangutans and chimpanzees and has donated the use of these portraits to the sanctuary. Even though the apes look like they’re sitting in a studio, they are each in their habitats, and he photographed them right through the enclosure mesh! Mark Harris plans to return to the Center to photograph more of our sanctuary residents, and he hopes to include them in a future show. We think they are fantastic and wanted to share them with you!
More on Bubbles

With the 10-year anniversary this summer of Michael Jackson’s death, there is a recent rash of online articles about Bubbles. As usual, these articles are full of false statements, wild conjectures, made-up quotes attributed to CGA staff, and just outright untruths. So, once again we must state the correct facts.

Bubbles has been cared for and nurtured by our dedicated staff at the Center for Great Apes since 2005. He arrived at the sanctuary in good health and with affiliative behaviors with other chimpanzees. Over the past 14 years here, he has been a well-adjusted member in his group with at least six other chimpanzees. We have seen no evidence of former neglect or abuse. Bubbles, like all our chimpanzees, lives in a social group, protected and engaged in the many wonderful ways great apes interact. He genuinely likes people as well as his chimpanzee companions. Even though many media gossip sources have invented false stories about Bubbles, he’s in excellent health, receives generous support from the Estate of Michael Jackson, and will remain away from those who would exploit him.

It is our hope that those who loved Bubbles know that he is happy and well-cared for, and we invite everyone to visit our website where they can learn more about Bubbles and all the wonderful chimpanzees and orangutans at the sanctuary.

Employee 10-Year Anniversary

With long-term employees Thom Kainz, Shannon Snead, Diane Beatty, and Tony Snead all passing their CGA 10-year anniversary a couple years ago, another valued employee has reached his 10-year mark now too. Chris Godfrey started as an assistant caregiver in 2009 and was soon moved to the position of primary caregiver for our special needs chimpanzee Knuckles. He also cares for other chimpanzees and orangutans at the sanctuary and serves as a Duty Officer. Chris’s compassion and devotion to providing Knuckles with exceptional care has made a positive difference in Knuckles’ life, and we are very grateful for that!
Our Dedicated Team
Patti Ragan, Founding Director

Ape Care Team
David Murphy, DVM, Veterinarian
Rhonda Pietsch, Ape Care Manager
Carissa Alvarez, CVT & Caregiver Duty Officer
Mandy Chorman, Caregiver
Laura Denum, Training Consultant
Mary Desedare, CVT & Caregiver
Ricca Ducharme, Caregiver
Jamie Ernewein, Caregiver
Nicole Geffner, Caregiver
Chris Godfrey, Caregiver Duty Officer
Tori Hanlin, Caregiver
Alicia Hansen, Caregiver Duty Officer
Kesley Hyten, Diet & Caregiver Assistant
Nathan Jeffers, Caregiver
Basil Malamis, Caregiver
Meg Mas, Caregiver
Ellyn Polander, Caregiver
Beth Hensley Provence, Diet & Nutrition Coordinator
Shannon Sneed, Caregiver Duty Officer
Keith von Stein, Caregiver
Darlene Winslet, Caregiver
Brea Woodhouse, Caregiver

Administrative Team
Diane Beatty, Donor Relations Director
Sandy Barnes, Facilities Coordinator
Lauren Burditt, Donor Programs Coordinator
Joy Hernandez, Volunteer Coordinator
Colten Marcum, Special Projects Assistant
Scott Semrau, Bookkeeper
Danielle Weeks, Office Assistant

Maintenance & Repair Team
Tony Snead, Maintenance Manager
Heeneer Hernandez, Maintenance Team
Thom Kainz, Welder
Teddy Ray, Maintenance Team
Nick Redditt, Maintenance Team

Our Leadership Volunteers

Honorary Directors
Jane Goodall PhD, DBE
Founder, Jane Goodall Institute & UN Messenger of Peace
Dr. Ian Singleton,
Director Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Programme, Indonesia

Board of Directors
Patti Ragan, President
Sue Dupré, Board Chair
John Gill, Vice Chair
Wally Baldwin, Secretary
Scott Peisner, Treasurer
Kevin Carmichael, Past Chair
Charlie Carlon
Lucie Easley, DSW, LCSW
Patrick Harris
Pat Kelly
Dr. Lindsey Matheson
Lori Perkins
Ronna Phelps

Advisory Board Members
Jocelyn Bezner, DVM
Melanie Bond, Great Ape Keeper, National Zoo (retired)
Linda Brent, PhD, Founder, Chimp Haven
Thomas Brockway, CPA, Partner, Holyfield & Thomas, LLC
Robert Ingersoll, Primatologist “Project Nim”
Ron Magill, Communications Director, Zoo Miami
Eric Shroyer, Horticulturist
Dawn Siler Nixon, Esq., Ford & Harrison Employment Law
Jane Watkins, President, JR Watkins Public Relations

Directors Emeritus
Patrick Barthet, Esq.
Laura Jack
Lynn Messner
Theresa Mersentes
Sarah K. Smith
Betsy Swart, PhD
Ken Veneziano, Esq.
Walter B. Olliff, Jr. 1954-2014

Charity Navigator
Four-Star Rating
★★★★

For more than ten years, the Center for Great Apes has received top ratings from Charity Navigator, an organization that guides intelligent giving by rating the fitness of non-profit organizations. Charity Navigator rates charities from 1 to 4 stars based on the criteria of sound financial management, accountability, and transparency. For another consecutive year, the Center has received a Four-Star rating.
Message From The Board

As we move forward in our 26th year of providing a lifetime home for orangutans and chimpanzees, the CGA Board of Directors would like to recognize and thank all of you — our members, donors, foundations, volunteers, staff, and vendors — for making the Center for Great Apes such a unique and wonderful place.

It has been very gratifying to watch new arrivals at the sanctuary flourish with the excellent and individualized care they receive. With customized diets, treatment plans, enrichment activities, and medical care for each orangutan and chimpanzee, these great apes are fortunate to call the Center home.

None of this would be possible without the support and input from you who so graciously and generously have given to us over these last years. I am very grateful for your advice, your contributions, and your unwavering support. And a special thank you to our Legacy Society members who have included the Center for Great Apes in their estate planning for the future.

With sincere gratitude,
Sue Dupré, Chairman

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

There are so many ways that our volunteers contribute to the sanctuary, and we truly appreciate them. More than 180 volunteers donated 6300 hours of service to the Center for Great Apes this past year! Volunteers are vital to the daily care of our great ape residents and assist with cleaning ape habitats as well as helping with ape laundry, grounds work, gardening, maintenance projects, diet preparation, ape enrichment, office mailings, member events, fundraising, outreach, and other special projects.

We can’t say it often enough... Thank You!

Global Award

Last summer, the Center for Great Apes was awarded the Carole Noon Award for Sanctuary Excellence by the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries. This award was established ten years ago and given posthumously to Carole Noon, the founder of Save the Chimps sanctuary. We are very appreciative of this worldwide recognition of our work to help orangutans and chimpanzees.
In Loving Memory

Katie 1995-2019

The very toughest thing about our work at the sanctuary is losing any of our beloved great ape residents. We are somewhat prepared for the passing of elderly apes, but one that hit us especially hard was the loss of Katie in January 2019.

Before coming to the sanctuary, Katie was kept in a private home in an indoor cage not bigger than 5’ x 4’. She had only a tiny shelf and a bar in the cage. At age 18, Katie was alone and had no chimpanzee companions to groom or play with. While her owner loved her, it was a misplaced love that did not allow Katie to be moved to a larger space and where she could have chimp friends. It was not until her owner passed away in 2013, that the family brought her down to our sanctuary.

When she arrived, Katie had very little hair on her body and very dry, flaky skin. She was emaciated and had been eating things with a great deal of sugar. For years, she had picked wood splinters off the wall of her closet-like cage and stuck them deep into her ears. As a result, Katie had frequent infections in her head, face, and ears.

But like other chimpanzees, Katie was resilient. In a matter of months with a healthy diet, she was gaining weight and finally learning to interact with other chimpanzees at CGA. It took several years for her skin to heal and her hair to fill in… but in the past few years, she was beautiful with a thick coat of hair.

Soon after her arrival in 2013, Katie was introduced to Murray, Casey, Mickey, and Daisy. Katie loved Murray and Casey (and Mickey too), but Daisy would not interact with her, so she lived most of her time here with Murray and Casey. During the past year, her chimp friends grew to include the new young arrivals Bentley, Kenzy, and Hannah. But her all-time favorite companion was Murray who stuck to her like glue. The two were very best friends often making their nests each night close to one another.

Katie was finally the picture of health living in a group of chimpanzees, but early one January morning – before the staff arrived – Katie suddenly passed away in her nest (with Murray in the room with her) from a fatal heart arrhythmia.

Many staff, volunteers, and donors truly cared for Katie and championed her steady progress. While her passing was devastating to all of us, we find comfort in the fact that Katie’s last six years were lived with chimpanzee companions in large spaces and with enriching activities. She was dearly loved.

Note: Katie’s passing was hard on Murray also, but we are happy to report that his affections right now are being directed to 18-year-old Hannah who appears to greatly enjoy his attention.
Saying Goodbye to Two Wonderful Volunteers

We sadly lost two of our valued and long-term volunteers this past year – Patty Foster and Miller Ekas.

In his eighties, Miller Ekas volunteered for over ten years and was devoted to helping all of our staff and apes. With a special knowledge of building things and a keen interest in keeping everything clean and organized, Miller worked closely with our maintenance team in repairs and cleanup projects. We are grateful for all the help and contributions Miller made to the Center during his ten years here. We all miss Miller’s jovial greetings and genuine concern for our great ape residents… especially his favorite chimp lady, Daisy.

Patty Foster served the Center as a docent – one of the committed volunteers who give educational tours to our donors introducing them to the sanctuary and the primate residents. Patty also trained new volunteers in the duties, responsibilities, and safety when participating in the work at the Center. For almost five years, Patty loved her volunteer time here and was truly dedicated to our mission. Her cheerful attitude and love for the apes were genuine, and we miss her greatly too.

It is not the length of life, but depth of life.
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Our staff and board members send condolences to the family and friends of those who lost loved ones this past year. We are grateful to them for thoughtfully suggesting donations to the Center for Great Apes in lieu of flowers and in memory of their loved ones. And, we are grateful to those who included the Center in their estate planning providing for the future care of our great apes.

Garrett Auman  Mary Baldwin  Anita Cady
Pam Cecere  Dee Cody  Sandra Croll
Miller Ekas  Sharon Flaherty  Patty Foster
Kodua Bennett Galieti  Loretta Gosik  Doreen Hughes
Perry “PJ” Johnson  Lorrie Knowles  Geri Perkins
Leslie Reed  Bonnie Turrentine  Michael Veit
Lise Yust

Our Mission

The Center for Great Apes’ mission is to provide a permanent sanctuary for orangutans and chimpanzees who have been rescued or retired from the entertainment industry, from research, or from the exotic pet trade; to educate the public about captive great apes and the threats to conservation of great apes in the wild; and to advocate for the end of the use of great apes as entertainers, research subjects, and pets. The Center provides care with dignity in a safe, healthy, and enriching environment for great apes in need of lifetime care.