WELCOME THEM HOME

Chimp Haven Sanctuary Expansion Campaign
A generous partner has stepped up with a $1 million matching gift to help Chimp Haven complete its expansion and bring former research chimpanzees home for good.
In 2015, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) officially ended federally-funded biomedical research on chimpanzees, and Chimp Haven was designated as the place where hundreds of chimpanzees formerly used in biomedical research would retire.

Since then, Chimp Haven has become the world’s largest chimpanzee sanctuary by welcoming hundreds of chimps to sanctuary, located on 200 beautiful forested acres outside of Shreveport, Louisiana. And since the NIH’s 2015 decision, we’ve embarked on a determined effort to bring every former research chimpanzee eligible for sanctuary retirement home to Chimp Haven as quickly as possible.

Now, we’ve reached a pivotal moment.

With some of the last remaining chimpanzees still waiting their turn to come to the sanctuary, we’ve reached the final stretch of a $20 million effort to expand the sanctuary to make room for them.

Completing the Welcome Them Home sanctuary expansion will be a historic moment for chimpanzees in our country. It will mean that chimpanzees once used in biomedical research will have a place to come home -- for good.

This is Their Moment: Making History for America’s Chimps

On the cusp of a history-making moment for chimpanzees, it’s time to bring them home for good.

In 2015, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) officially ended federally-funded biomedical research on chimpanzees, and Chimp Haven was designated as the place where hundreds of chimpanzees formerly used in biomedical research would retire.

Since then, Chimp Haven has become the world’s largest chimpanzee sanctuary by welcoming hundreds of chimps to sanctuary, located on 200 beautiful forested acres outside of Shreveport, Louisiana. And since the NIH’s 2015 decision, we’ve embarked on a determined effort to bring every former research chimpanzee eligible for sanctuary retirement home to Chimp Haven as quickly as possible.

Now, we’ve reached a pivotal moment.

With some of the last remaining chimpanzees still waiting their turn to come to the sanctuary, we’ve reached the final stretch of a $20 million effort to expand the sanctuary to make room for them.

Completing the Welcome Them Home sanctuary expansion will be a historic moment for chimpanzees in our country. It will mean that chimpanzees once used in biomedical research will have a place to come home -- for good.
A Life Lived in Research

Prior to coming to Chimp Haven, most of our chimpanzees spent all or the vast majority of their lives in biomedical research.

When they arrive at Chimp Haven, those days are behind them, and we're focused on their future. Read on to learn about the life that awaits them at sanctuary.
MULTI ACRE FORESTED HABITATS

DAILY Enrichment Activities

EXPERT VETERINARY CARE

FRESH HEALTHY DIETS

FREEDOM TO CHOOSE

LARGE, DYNAMIC SOCIAL GROUPS
Life at Chimp Haven

At Chimp Haven, chimps retired from research experience the pleasures and freedoms they would have enjoyed in the wild: climbing trees, living in large, bonded social groups, eating their favorite fruits, running, playing, exploring, and — best of all — choosing how they spend their days.

We believe we’re not that different, humans and chimpanzees. As our closest living relatives, chimps share more than 98 percent of our genetic blueprint, and upon visiting the sanctuary it doesn’t take long to see that they have all the personalities, emotions, relationships, dramas and joys that we do.

That’s why, in addition to providing the chimps with everything they need to be happy and healthy, Chimp Haven also focuses on their psychological and emotional wellbeing, led by our dedicated Behavior and Enrichment team -- the only of its size and kind at any chimpanzee sanctuary in the U.S. The work we do at Chimp Haven to care for the chimps is shared with fellow sanctuaries to continue to improve the lives of chimpanzees everywhere.

Everything about Chimp Haven is designed with the chimps in mind, creating a retirement that’s truly worth pant-hooting over for hundreds of chimpanzees.

We want every chimp to experience life at sanctuary, and now is our moment. You can be part of this historic effort to bring them home once and for all.

“Chimp Haven cares for chimpanzees retired from medical research, enabling them to enjoy a healthy, happy life, living in engaging, enriched habitats and in communities with other chimpanzees. I hope you will support Chimp Haven and help provide for these chimpanzees as they live out their days in the sanctuary’s excellent care.”

– Dr. Jane Goodall DBE, founder of the Jane Goodall Institute and UN Messenger of Peace
Preparing Space to Welcome Them Home

Since 2017, Chimp Haven has been working tirelessly on a $20 million effort to expand our sanctuary to make room for federally-owned chimpanzees still waiting in research facilities.

Now, with $1.1 million to go, completing the campaign will at last allow us to bring them home.

In addition to new housing for chimpanzees still waiting in research facilities, the Welcome Them Home expansion will provide much-needed sanctuary upgrades to ensure Chimp Haven can meet the needs of our rapidly growing family for years to come.
Your support is urgently needed for the following projects:

**New Forested Habitats**
Three new naturally forested habitats will provide a comfortable and enriching space for large and dynamic chimpanzee family groups. Each area will be between 1.5 and 3 acres, including all the things chimpanzees love—open forest, grassy substrates and space to climb, play, interact, search for food, and simply enjoy life.

**Chimpanzee Bedrooms & Care Centers**
The creation of new natural environments to accommodate more chimpanzees will also require a new housing and support center. A new 10,000 square foot building will allow chimpanzees to move freely in and out of their outdoor environment while also giving our veterinary, husbandry, and enrichment staff a place to provide expert care for every chimpanzee.

**Veterinary Clinic & Chimp Support Areas**
As Chimp Haven's colony grows, so too does the need for state-of-the-art veterinary and support spaces to care for the sanctuary's aging chimpanzee population, many of whom have chronic illnesses such as liver, kidney, and heart disease, hepatitis, arthritis, and more. A dedicated veterinary clinic, enrichment kitchen, and corresponding staff areas will enable the Chimp Haven team to perform physical exams and provide daily care for chimpanzees housed in the new multi-acre habitats.

**Transfer Chutes**
A network of transfer chutes throughout the sanctuary enables staff to move chimp groups from one habitat or corral to another without sedation and to rotate chimpanzee groups to new, novel living areas regularly. These chutes play a critical role in the many complex social introductions that must occur as new chimpanzees arrive at sanctuary, and therefore must be operational upon completion of the new chimp living areas.

**Kitchen & Prep Space**
With dozens more chimps on the way, Chimp Haven has an urgent need to expand food storage and prep space to feed our growing population. A new, 4,600-square-foot kitchen will be a game changer for our Husbandry and Enrichment teams, providing much-needed space to store and prepare chimp meals and enrichment, save costs on food orders and deliveries, and better plan for holidays and emergencies.

**Roadways**
Paved roadways throughout the expansion area are urgently needed to ensure time is not lost to rain delays. Louisiana's rainy season often makes the construction roadways impassable for days at a time, causing significant delays that must be avoided as we complete our most critical projects. Unfinished walkways have frequently created safety and work challenges for staff as they attempt to distribute medications, conduct chimpanzee observations, and operate vehicles in these unfinished areas.
**Lighting & Infrastructure**

Expanding to accommodate more chimpanzees will also add pressure to our existing water, waste treatment, exterior fencing, and lighting. Like any growing community, we must also invest in these infrastructure needs as our population expands.

**Staff Support**

Chimp Haven currently has 65 dedicated team members. To accommodate additional chimpanzees and to maintain the same exemplary level of care, we must hire more chimpanzee caregivers and behavioral specialists while also providing upgrades to existing staff support areas, including work space, showers, lockers, and expanded enrichment storage.
Together, We’ll Make History

Chimpanzees are still waiting in research facilities – let’s bring them home.

We’re approaching a monumental moment for chimps in our country. With the support of leadership donors like the Walter Family Foundation and numerous others, we’ve raised more than $18 million to achieve our goal of bringing research chimps to sanctuary once and for all.

We must raise $1.1 million to finish the expansion and give every eligible chimpanzee their chance to experience sanctuary.

At this critical moment, we need your help. The clock is ticking for the chimps who are still waiting, and we must act now to ensure they receive the retirement they deserve.

There are many opportunities, large and small, to be part of this historic effort. Please join us.
Crystal arrived at Chimp Haven in 2007 after spending nearly 21 years in research. She came to the sanctuary with a missing eye, which doesn’t slow her down. What was slowing her down, though, was some extra weight. Crystal became part of Chimp Haven’s “Gympanzee” program, which pairs staff with chimps to help them become more healthy and active.

Last year, Crystal’s group moved into a brand new 15,000-square-foot corral, one of the first chimp living spaces completed as part of the sanctuary’s Welcome Them Home expansion. She’s clocked more than 30 miles walking with staff, and a newly-installed floor scale recently revealed that she’s lost an incredible 60 pounds since her last physical!

This kind of one-on-one attention from staff, combined with the exciting new living spaces that the Welcome Them Home expansion will provide, is exactly what makes life at sanctuary so unique, and so special.
When Hamlet arrived at the sanctuary in 2006, many who worked with him during his life in research thought he would never be able to live in a group with other chimps. Hamlet, like other retirees who arrive at Chimp Haven, was described as “hyper-aggressive.”

Chimp Haven’s Behavior and Enrichment team is dedicated to successfully matching every Chimp Haven retiree with a social group. With a fresh start, new settings, space to move around, and a variety of chimp personalities to choose from, they are able to find a perfect match for every retiree.

Today Hamlet lives in a group of 21 chimps, including six of our newest arrivals. In 2019, they bonded over exploring one of Chimp Haven’s forested habitats.
Twenty-five years ago, during her life in research, Flora gave birth to a baby chimp named Clinton. Over the course of her tenure in research facilities, she was moved and separated from her son. But later in life, Flora had another baby. Now at home at Chimp Haven, 35-year old Flora and her daughter, Valentina Rose, live happily in a group with other chimps, including Valentina Rose's two half-sisters. Flora is a strong and dedicated mother who watches over Valentina Rose as she grows. They are often seen lounging in the sun together and affectionately grooming each other.
They’re Counting on Us
Let’s Bring Them Home Today.

www.chimphaven.org
318.925.9575
information@chimphaven.org

Ladybird
Living the Chimp Life Since January 2011