
ANIMALACTION

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The Waiting Game

“Retired” NIH chimpanzees still haven’t been moved to a sanctuary—and for many, time is running out.

pg. 6

in this issue

8

FACES OF SURVIVAL

Meet animals you’ve helped through the NAVS Sanctuary Fund.

10

HUMANE SCIENCE

NAVS recognizes young innovators at Intel ISEF.



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The National Anti-Vivisection Society (NAVS) is dedicated to ending the exploitation of animals used in science.

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NAVS Executive Director Peggy Cunniff (second from left) congratulates this year's Humane Science Award winners.

Congratulations to the Recipients of the 2016 NAVS Humane Science Award

1st place

RALPH LAWTON, Biomedical and Health Sciences
 Th Smoking Gun: Toxicological Effects of Electronic Cigarettes on Epithelial Cells using Air Liquid Interface, Year Two (Ralph was the second place winner of the Humane Science Award in 2015).

2nd place

MEGHANA RAO, Biochemistry
 Th Differential Eff ct of Opioids on Breast Cancer Cell Pro-Survival and Pro-Apoptotic Pathways

3rd place

RAMA BALASUBRAMANIAM, Biomedical Engineering
 Th Mechanisms of Glioblastoma Migration in a Bioengineered 3D Brain Model

Read more about this year's winners and their projects on page 10.

UP FRONT

NAVS Goes “On Location” for Classroom Video Education Project



NAVS talks with McCracken Middle School students Maria Stelea (second from left) and Sarah Kahn (second from right).

When seventh-grade students at a Chicago-area middle school reached out to ask if NAVS would be available to meet with them and answer their questions about animal testing, we welcomed the opportunity.

As part of a class project on “Expanding the Circle of Compassion,” students at McCracken Middle School in Skokie, IL, prepared a public service video to educate their classmates about the need to stop animal experimentation and ways the public can help.

NAVS staff were interviewed for the video, in which they talked with the students about the number and types of animals that are used in research, available alternatives and the ways in which young people could help bring about an end to animal testing.

We were pleased to have this opportunity to be a voice for animals and to provide the next generation with valuable information about animal experimentation so that they can be stronger animal advocates.

Fighting for CHOICE—State by State

Last December, NAVS launched the nationwide CHOICE (Compassionate Humane Options in Classroom Education) initiative, a state-by-state effort to ensure that no student would be punished for standing up for their right not to harm an animal.

Legislators in several states showed an enthusiastic interest in student choice bills, and two states—Maryland and Hawaii—introduced legislation in their 2016 sessions that would have given every K-12 student in their states the right to choose a humane dissection alternative in the classroom.

Despite the merits of the two bills, neither state was successful in passing the legislation. Nevertheless, our efforts opened doors and began conversations in statehouses coast-to-coast. It started a movement that didn’t stop with the end of this year’s legislative sessions.

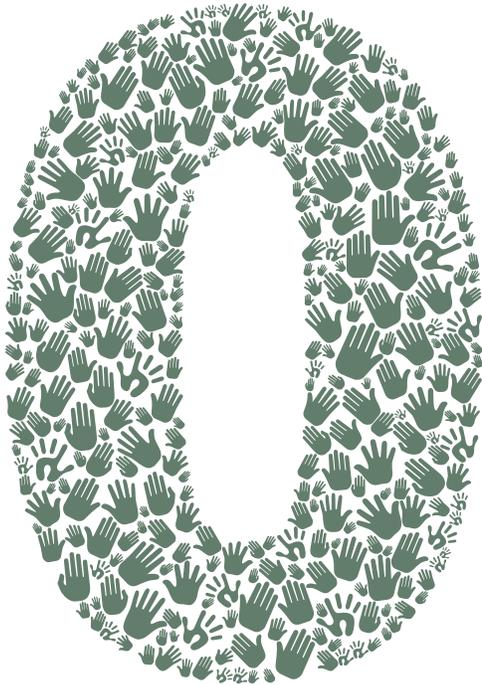
Thousands of advocates joined us in writing, calling and testifying to let legislators know how they felt about giving students the right to a humane science education. The fact that student choice legislation was not only introduced, but *given public hearings*, is a victory in and of itself. And in the coming legislative session, we’ll be doubling our efforts—in Hawaii, in Maryland, and all across the country—to see that student choice legislation is not only introduced, but *passed*.

To learn more about how you can bring student choice legislation to your state, visit www.navs.org/choice.





humaneEDUCATION



Medical schools in the U.S. that still require live animal laboratories as part of their curriculum

“Effective immediately, the University of Tennessee College of Medicine Chattanooga has ceased to provide surgical skills training for medical students using live animal models.”

Robert Fore, UTCMC dean

“The latest task force to examine the pros and the cons and the ethics decided that the bar has to be pretty high to justify doing this.”

Audrey Huang, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine spokeswoman, announcing the end of using swine for surgical training courses at the medical school.

chimpanzees

220

Number of chimpanzees who will be retired from the University of Louisiana’s New Iberia Research Center (NIRC) (two of whom, Hercules and Leo, were formerly housed at the University of New York at Stonybrook) to the new Project Chimps sanctuary in Georgia.

“This long overdue move by the NIRC is a significant milestone in our long-term campaign to change the legal status of nonhuman animals. We’re thrilled these chimpanzees will have their bodily liberty and integrity returned to them at Project Chimps.”

*Steven Wise
President of the Nonhuman Rights Project*



humaneCOSMETICS

156

Number of sponsors for the Humane Cosmetics Act, HR 2858 (as of 7/1/16)

4,246

Number of petitions sent by NAVS supporters earlier this year in support of the Humane Cosmetics Act

All statements below are drawn from the United States Government Accountability Office report, "NIH Chimpanzee Management Program: Consolidation Should Achieve Cost Savings, but a Clear Implementation Plan Is Needed," April 2016.



To learn more, see this issue's cover story, "The Waiting Game," on page 6.



% of NIH-owned or supported chimpanzees:

30

Average age of NIH-owned or supported chimpanzees

27

% INFECTED WITH HIV OR HEPATITIS

39

% CHRONICALLY ILL WITH A CONDITION OTHER THAN HIV OR HEPATITIS.

26

% GERIATRIC (AGED 35 YEARS OR OLDER)

3-57

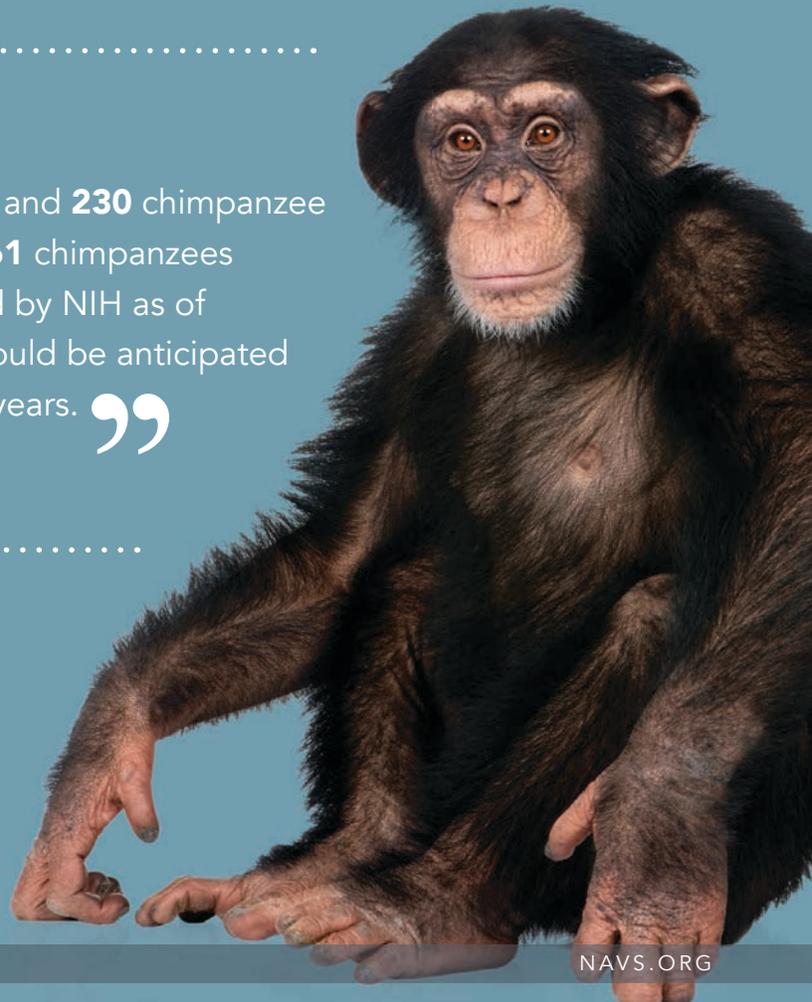
Age range of NIH-owned or supported chimpanzees

“Based on anticipated mortality of NIH-owned and NIH-supported chimpanzees currently housed at other facilities, they [NIH officials] expect that some will never be transferred to Chimp Haven because many of these chimpanzees are geriatric and may die before the transfers can be accommodated.”

5-10%
EXPECTED
DEATH
RATE
OF CAPTIVE
CHIMPANZEES
EVERY YEAR

“Between about 127 and 230 chimpanzee deaths out of the 561 chimpanzees owned or supported by NIH as of January 15, 2016, could be anticipated within the next five years.”

“NIH has established the important goal of maintaining the welfare of its owned and supported chimpanzees in a cost-effective manner and has stated that, as part of its goal, it intends to transfer to Chimp Haven all of its owned then any supported chimpanzees (for which title has been transferred) as space there becomes available. However, it has not developed an implementation plan for achieving this goal that is sufficiently clear and transparent enough to support decision making and has not communicated its plans to the facilities that currently house those chimpanzees, inconsistent with federal internal control standards.”



A photograph of a chimpanzee looking out from a metal cage. The chimpanzee is dark-furred and has its mouth slightly open. The cage is made of metal bars and has a mesh floor. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

THE WAITING GAME

Highlights of NAVS' Role in Retiring Chimpanzees from Research

1995

NAVS joins National Chimpanzee Research Retirement Task Force and testifies before the National Academy of Sciences Committee on the Long-Term Care of Chimpanzees.

1997

NAVS collects, tallies, edits and disseminates a document on Standards of Care for Chimpanzees in Captivity, presented to the National Institutes of Health in 2001.

1998

NAVS grants \$200,000 to help establish Chimp Haven, which becomes the National Chimpanzee Sanctuary in 2002.

2000

In collaboration with other national animal protection organizations, NAVS spearheads the effort to introduce the CHIMP Act, signed into law by President Clinton.

Some are in the twilight of their lives. Born into captivity, they've spent all their days, all their years, all their decades subjected to invasive biomedical experiments or forced breeding—their infants taken away and experimented upon, all at the hands of the U.S. government. But age and illness have taken their toll. And even though they're no longer research subjects, without quick action, they will die never having known freedom.

Others have also spent their lives being exploited in the name of science. But they may remember a time before the laboratory. Captured in the wild when they were young, they now have the opportunity to once again find a life beyond their cages. Unfortunately, the likelihood that they will actually experience that life grows dimmer with each passing day.

Last November, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) made headlines with its announcement that all of its remaining research chimpanzees would be retired to sanctuaries. This followed an earlier NIH decision to retire all but 50 government-owned chimpanzees used for invasive biomedical research. The era of government-supported chimpanzee experiments was finally coming to a close.

As it turns out, however, major challenges remain before they all get the retirement they so richly deserve.

NO PLAN IN PLACE

A report released in April of this year by the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) on the NIH Chimpanzee Management Program revealed that although the chimpanzees were no longer being used for experiments, the vast majority of them were still being confined in research facilities—with no plan to transfer them to a sanctuary.

In fact, of the 301 chimpanzees eligible for retirement, the GAO noted that there are plans in place to transfer only 19

to Chimp Haven, the National Chimpanzee Sanctuary. In its report, the GAO contends that the NIH has failed to develop or communicate a clear plan for the transfer of any of the remaining chimpanzees.

Chimpanzees are generally transferred in small groups; however, this is not the reason for the very slow rate of transfer. The NIH reportedly cancelled several transfers of animals at the last minute, incurring costs in the preparation and underscoring their lack of a working management plan.

A MATTER OF TIME AND SPACE

Even if plans were in place, however, there is another hurdle: capacity. According to Chimp Haven President and CEO Cathy Spraez, the lack of space—and the lack of funding to create additional space—is a major obstacle preventing the retirement of laboratory chimpanzees.

“The Chimpanzee Health Improvement, Maintenance, and Protection—or CHIMP—Act, which was signed into law in 2000, allowed for construction of the sanctuary,” notes Spraez. “[But] when the CHIMP Act was reauthorized in 2013, the clause allowing federal funds to be used specifically for construction was eliminated.”

Chimp Haven currently has room to receive only 50 of the 301 chimpanzees, many of whom will require special medical care and socialization time.

To address this issue, Chimp Haven is embarking upon an ambitious plan to raise 100% of the funds needed to expand its capacity to accommodate an additional 100-150 chimpanzees. As one of the original funders of Chimp Haven, NAVS is proud to support this effort as part of our Assisting Primates Entering Sanctuary (APES) campaign, which will ensure that our Sanctuary Fund can provide critical resources to sanctuaries that are providing retirement and care to animals who were once used in research. (See page 12 for more details.)

For now, however, the chimpanzees wait. But for many, time is not on their side.

The average NIH-owned or supported chimpanzee is 30 years old, and more than one quarter of the chimpanzees now eligible for retirement are considered “geriatric.” Two-thirds of the chimpanzees are either infected with HIV or hepatitis, or are chronically ill with another condition. It is therefore

continued on page 9

2007

The Chimp Haven is Home Act is signed into law, making the retirement of chimpanzees under provisions of the CHIMP Act permanent.

2011

NAVS testifies at the Institute of Medicine (IOM) hearings on the lack of need for chimpanzees in research. Subsequently, the IOM report finds most invasive research unnecessary.

2012

NAVS provides written testimony to the NIH Working Group, which subsequently recommends retiring 310 chimpanzees, keeping a colony of 50 animals for future biomedical research.

2012

NAVS provides extensive comments on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recommendation to reclassify all chimpanzees as “endangered.”

2015

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reclassifies all captive chimpanzees as “endangered,” all but eliminating their use in research.

2015

National Institutes of Health director Francis Collins announces his decision to permanently retire the NIH's remaining 50 chimpanzees to sanctuaries.



The NAVS Sanctuary Fund is a lifeline to animal rescues, shelters and sanctuaries who find themselves in desperate need of financial assistance.

Meet some of the animals who have overcome tremendous obstacles thanks to your support of this life-saving program.

GLORY is a senior Arabian horse who went blind due to cataracts. What's a blind horse to do? Make fast friends with a seeing eye donkey named Jenny! The two met at Forgotten Angels Equine Rescue in Medford, NJ, which recently received a NAVS Sanctuary Fund grant to help expand their sanctuary in order to accommodate more special needs horses like Glory.

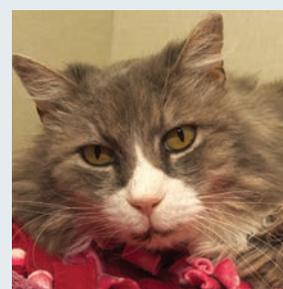
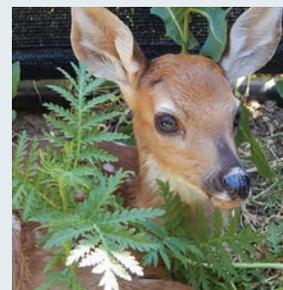
PENELOPE is a lucky survivor of a series of tornadoes that recently ripped through an area so rural there are no local animal shelters to take in displaced animals. That's when Stray Central in Springdale, AZ, stepped in. Thanks to a NAVS Sanctuary Fund grant, Stray Central provided medical treatment and dental care to help get these survivors ready for adoption.

JANE FAWNDA is a former resident of Mystic Farm Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation in Sagle, ID, where she received medical care and treatment before being released back to the wild. Recently, Jane Fawnda's caretakers noticed a bear den near their newly acquired property. Rather than disturb the bear's habitat, a NAVS Sanctuary Fund grant helped Mystic Farm purchase heavy-duty fencing to protect their rehabbing residents.

THUNDER was a non-feral outdoor cat, living with five other outdoor cats when tragedy struck. His caretaker passed away, leaving Thunder and all his friends homeless. Thanks to a NAVS Sanctuary Fund grant, Fort Collins Cat Rescue & Spay/Neuter Clinic in Fort Collins, CO, was able to provide all six cats much-needed dental care and medical treatment. While the other cats have been adopted as barn cats, Thunder is ready for a loving, indoor home.

CROMMY had a very brave mommy. She was en route to a slaughterhouse when she made a daring freeway escape. The next day she gave birth to nine healthy piglets, four of whom went to live at Blackberry Creek Animal Farm in Colfax, CA. A NAVS Sanctuary Fund grant helped build a safe enclosure so that Crommy and his brothers will never suffer the same fear and desperation as their mother.

MARGI may be a yellow-bellied marmot, but she's also a brave survivor. Orphaned as a baby, Margi would not have survived without the help of Yellowstone Wildlife Sanctuary in Red Lodge, MT. A NAVS Sanctuary Fund grant helped them build an enclosure that will simulate Margi's natural habitat, where she'll have plenty of space to dig, burrow, chew and play just as she would in the wild.



Life hasn't been easy for **YASSI**, a blind sheltie/retriever mix who suffered from tremors. When she was approximately three years old, she was abandoned and slated for euthanasia. Luckily, she was rescued by Cochise Canine Rescue in Pomerene, AZ, and brought to stay in their special needs sanctuary, where she has settled into life with her pack. When Yassi recently developed glaucoma, a NAVS Sanctuary Fund grant helped pay for her surgery and treatment.

BONNIE is an elderly donkey who arrived at Amberwood Sanctuary in Leary, GA, in 1997 with her two-month-old daughter, Patty. Bonnie is a sweet but shy girl who appreciates her human caretakers, but prefers the company of other donkeys. A NAVS Sanctuary Fund grant helped Amberwood replace fencing in the main pasture so they can continue providing Bonnie, Patty and their friends with all the freedom and protection they deserve.

SHADOW is a quarterhorse who is described as "a big puppy" by his caretakers at Equine Assist Program (EAP) in San Rafael, CA. When EAP lost some land due to the death of a landowner, several horses in their care found themselves suddenly displaced. A NAVS Sanctuary Fund grant helped pay for the horses' boarding while EAP sought a permanent placement for them.



Grants were also awarded to North American Pot Bellied Pig Association in Gilbert, AZ, to help spay/neuter 16 rescued pigs; to Hooved Animal Humane Society in Woodstock, IL, to purchase fencing to expand their pastures; to Critter Camp Exotic Pet Sanctuary in German Valley, IL, to offset costs from taking in three abandoned rats and one pregnant mouse (who had 10 babies!); and to Shepherd's Green in Cookeville, TN, to help pay medical bills for rehomed pigs. 🐾



Carlos at a research facility before finding permanent sanctuary at Save the Chimps.

continued from page 7

anticipated that many of these animals will die before they ever reach their promised sanctuary, or soon thereafter.

In 2015, for example, 13 chimpanzees were transferred to Chimp Haven from the Michale E. Keeling Center for Comparative Medicine and Research. Most were of an advanced age or chronically ill. Five died within a year of arriving at the sanctuary. It is expected that 5-10% of the current population of NIH chimpanzees will die each year because of disease or old age. And while this attrition will ultimately reduce the capacity needed to house the NIH chimpanzees, each day they spend waiting for retirement is one less day these long-suffering animals will experience freedom from their laboratory cages.

A WIN-WIN FOR ANIMALS AND TAXPAYERS

Not only is expediting the transfer of these government-owned chimpanzees to a sanctuary good for the chimps, it's also good for the government—and for the U.S. taxpayers who fund it.

For its report, the GAO evaluated the status of the chimpanzee management program, as well as the costs for the care and transfer of these chimpanzees and the potential savings in making the transfer to Chimp Haven. The report concluded that consolidating the remaining chimpanzees at Chimp Haven would result in an overall savings for the government. This is due in part to the economy of scale that arises from sharing resources among chimpanzees living in a single facility, but also because Chimp Haven receives 25% of its funding from private donations, which lessens the government's financial contribution for their care.

AN END IN SIGHT?

The good news for the chimpanzees is that the NIH is finally in the process of developing an implementation plan for the transfer of the chimpanzees—a plan based primarily on the well-being and safety of the chimpanzees and secondarily on cost savings to the government by housing chimpanzees at the sanctuary rather than at any of their research facilities.

It is anticipated that the transfer of all NIH chimpanzees will move forward more quickly once Chimp Haven's expansion is in place.

"These chimpanzees deserve retirement," says Spraez. And with NAVS'—and your—support, it will happen. 🐾



**HUMANE
SCIENCE
TAKES
CENTER
STAGE
AT
INTEL
ISEF**



(from left) NAVS Science Advisor Sherry Ward, Ph.D.; NAVS Director of Legal/Legislative Programs Marcia Kramer; NAVS Corporate Counsel Kenneth Cunniff; award recipients Meghana Rao, Ralph Lawton and Rama Balasubramaniam; and NAVS Executive Director Peggy Cunniff

What do e-cigarettes, breast cancer cells and a 3-D brain model have in common?

They're all subjects of projects by students who received the NAVS Humane Science Award at the 2016 Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) in Phoenix, AZ, in May.

After 15 years at Intel ISEF, the NAVS Humane Science Award is no longer the outlier it once was. While NAVS remains the only animal advocacy group presenting an award at Intel ISEF, much has changed in the administration and in the rules themselves. Students, for example, are no longer allowed to experiment on live animals—except for limited behavioral projects that do not harm the animals.

Unfortunately, this does not mean that students at Intel ISEF no longer use animals in their research projects. While the fair's rules restrict direct student involvement in the experiments conducted on animals, they do not restrict student participation in research that stems from the invasive and harmful use of animals. Because the principal researchers' projects—from which students may obtain tissues, cells, etc.—have been screened by a scientific review committee or Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, it is presumed that the primary research meets the very minimal ethical standards applied to such reviews. But is this review sufficient to address ethical criteria that should be applied to high school students in the laboratory?

The answer, says NAVS Executive Director Peggy Cunniff, is a resounding "no." A long-time judge at Intel ISEF, Cunniff noted that, "While the rules applying to the use of animals for the science fair have improved greatly during the past two decades, it is very disturbing to see projects whose design began with

inflicting great harm on animals, even if the student was not directly involved with that part of the project. When a student's research relies on a project that starts with animal suffering, the results of that research are tainted by its origins."

There is clearly more work to be done. But even with concerns regarding the ethics of some projects, the vast number of Intel ISEF finalists do not rely on animal research in their project design, even those in areas of study that traditionally

“ I knew that I would not like to see animals harmed — that is something that I actually don't enjoy. ”

use animals—and it was NAVS' honor to recognize three of those projects this year.

For our 2016 awards, NAVS' judges—Dr. Sherry Ward, Dr. Pam Osenkowski, Peggy Cunniff, Marcia Kramer and Kenneth Cunniff—sifted through hundreds of potential winners in search of that special combination of excellent project design and ethical consideration.

This year's first place winner, Ralph

Lawton, investigated the toxicological effects of electronic cigarettes on human lung cells. You may recall that Ralph received a second place NAVS Humane Science Award last year for this project, which he has extended into a second year. Ralph decided from the beginning to forgo animal research, unlike a fellow Intel ISEF finalist who relied on an invertebrate model for research into the safety of e-cigarettes. Ralph submitted his project's findings to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, which relied, in part, on that non-animal data in its recent decision to regulate e-cigarettes the same way as tobacco products in the marketplace.

Meghana Rao, the recipient of this year's second place award, was interested in studying the effect opioids have on breast cancer cell survival after chemotherapy. She thought this was an understudied area of research and was able to choose a mentor who was working on human cells. When asked about her choice not to work with animals, Meghana replied, "I knew that I would not like to see animals harmed — that is something that I actually don't enjoy."

Third place winner, Rama Balasubramaniam, developed a 3-D model to study glioblastoma, a deadly brain cancer. She chose her project because of her interest in brain cancer and nanoscience,

and stated that "the whole purpose of this project was to create an alternative to the animal model, so animal models weren't even a thought." After receiving the NAVS Humane Science Award, Rama thanked the NAVS judges profusely, stating, "In the future I hope to develop my model and hopefully create a permanent alternative to using animals for testing."

That will be thanks enough. 🐾



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Photo of Jean courtesy of Save the Chimps

Assisting Primates Entering Sanctuary

The good news is that invasive research on chimpanzees has come to an end, and laboratories are finally starting to release their chimpanzees to the care of ethologically-appropriate sanctuaries.

The bad news is that the majority of these facilities are at capacity, just as the need to place these individuals in permanent sanctuary becomes more urgent.

Your donation to the NAVS Sanctuary Fund's Assisting Primates Entering Sanctuary (APES) campaign will help us provide the funds needed to get these sanctuaries ready for new residents and to provide the care these chimpanzees - and other primates released from labs - will need.

Finally, they will have sky above their heads, sunshine on their shoulders, grass beneath their feet, and - most importantly - companions to enrich their lives.

Donate today and know that you did your part to change the lives of chimpanzees forever and for better.

Visit www.navs.org/APES

GO APES!