

At the height of the Covid-19 pandemic, two beacons of light shone out through the darkness: the good news from our teams in the field of animals embarking on new lives after years of pain and misery - and the enduring loyalty and generosity of supporters like you.

At a time when millions of people all over the world were preoccupied with their own health and safety and that of their families, you didn't stop caring about suffering animals and you were always ready to help them.

The Rescuer is an account of some of the things you have achieved during the past twelve months. It contains some beautiful images of animals thoroughly enjoying life. Some even look as though they're smiling with contentment – and I hope their stories will bring a big smile to your face too!

I do hope you enjoy reading The Rescuer and please never forget that the happy endings and new beginnings it describes are all thanks to you.

Thank you

Alan Knight OBE

President International Animal Rescue





BUILDING A NEW GENERATION OF ORANGUTANS IN BORNEO

WHEN MONTI MET ANGGUN

When our team in Indonesia rescued Monti the orangutan in 2009 she was a scared little baby of only a few months old who was being kept as a family pet.

From the outset, Monti was a very special orangutan – very sensitive and highly intelligent. When she entered forest school she adapted well to her new surroundings and was quick to learn. She was inquisitive, confident and always top of the class. During her years in rehabilitation, she became highly skilled at climbing, foraging for food and making a nest.

So when orphaned baby Anggun arrived at our center in 2017 and was desperately missing the care and comfort of her own mother, Monti was the obvious choice to step in and foster her. Monti surpassed all expectations as Anggun's foster mother. From the very beginning she was gentle and attentive to her. Anggun also played a part in Monti's rehabilitation. As a less 'human dependent'

orangutan, Anggun would spend most of her time in the tree canopy – and encourage Monti to do the same.

On February 11, 2020, together Monti and Anggun made the long journey back to their home in the rainforest.

"Reintroducing Monti and Anggun was one of the most remarkable events of our lives. Witnessing just how caring Monti is to Anggun, helping her, providing for her and teaching her to survive in the wild was amazing for us all. This sad story, which we see all too often, and its happy outcome, mean a lot to us, and remind us of the importance of our rescue and rehabilitation efforts." Dr Karmele L Sanchez. Director, IAR Indonesia.

ORANGUTAN BABIES BRING HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

In the past year babies have been born to four orangutans rescued, rehabilitated and reintroduced into the wild by the IAR Indonesia team. Females Peni, Susi, Desi and Shila suffered years of misery in captivity as pets before they were rescued and brought to our center for treatment and rehabilitation. After years at our center, they were finally returned to the forest and have clearly been completely reintegrated into the wild population.

The stories of these four females began with trauma and tragedy but now they are stories of happiness and hope for the future.

"Orangutan populations are declining rapidly and every single orangutan we can save, every single forest we can protect, is important. That's why seeing Monti and Anggun and the many other orangutans reintroduced into the national park and making a difference, not only to the protection of the forest but also to the survival of the species, makes us very proud."

"We would like to say thank you so much from the bottom of our hearts to everyone who has made this possible." Dr Karmele L Sanchez, Director, IAR Indonesia.



BEARS BORN TO BE WILD

IAR'S LUCY READ VISITS ARMENIA

Rolling hills, stunning landscapes and snow-capped mountains. My first trip to Armenia was full of surprises. Driving for miles through unspoiled countryside, leaving the hustle and bustle of the capital behind, I was awestruck at the beauty of the country. It seemed almost impossible that beyond the beauty, bears were being held captive for tourists and restaurant guests. Trapped for years behind bars, purely for entertainment – it was hard to fathom.

After hours venturing deeper and deeper into the Armenian mountains, I wasn't quite sure what to expect on arrival at the bear sanctuary, run by our partners FPWC. For months I had imagined this moment. Turning the corner to see the beautiful bears, rescued and recovering, hopefully destined for a future wild life. I was full of excitement, yet I was apprehensive. What if the bears were still traumatized from their years of torment?



But as we dropped down into an opening, surrounded by mountains as far as the eye could see, my concerns lifted instantly. We climbed out of the car and my eyes frantically scanned the large enclosures, packed full with fresh green grass, spring flowers and cooling watering holes. I spotted two bear cubs and I was speechless. They were resting together, cuddled up and seemingly unaware of our presence in the distance.

We walked over to the enclosure, stepping carefully so as not to wake them, and kneeled down to their level. At first they were curious, slowly opening their eyes and gently sniffing the air to check for any food that might be hidden in our pockets! But before long they resumed their positions and drifted off into an afternoon slumber.

The sense of calm and peace at the sanctuary was all consuming. As the sun set that day, I sat with my eyes closed and listened to the call of the wild. The native birds of prey silently soared above me. Small rocks tumbled down the mountain side as bezoar goats gingerly navigated the narrow ledges.

Armenia is undoubtedly a beautiful country boasting an abundance of native species, including the brown bear. I feel proud to be a part of International Animal Rescue, raising awareness of the brutality inflicted on such a precious species. Thank you to everyone who has joined us on this journey in ensuring a future for every single captive bear in Armenia.

I hope to return one day soon when the two bear cubs can follow that call of the wild and safely return to their rightful home in Armenia's wilderness.





YOU'VE GOT A FRIEND IN ME...

Did you know you can directly support our work by 'virtually adopting' one of our permanent residents? These special animals stay with us forever and depend on us for lifelong care because they can no longer fend for themselves.

We are thrilled to introduce our new adoptee - the first brown bear from our sanctuary high up in the Armenian mountains - MAX!

"Poor Max spent the first 14 years of his life in a tiny, filthy cage behind a bus depot. When we arrived to rescue him, the sight of that big, beautiful bear living in such terrible conditions reduced me to tears. It's something I will never forget. But now Max's life

has been transformed and he has blossomed into a magnificent brown bear with a lustrous coat and dark brown eyes. Max spends the hot summer days splashing in the pool with his friend Minnie or napping in the shade of his cool den. Max has really learned to enjoy life and it's no more than he deserves after so much cruelty and neglect." Lis Key of IAR.

By adopting gorgeous Max - you'll get a new best friend for life.

When you decide to adopt Max you'll receive six updates a year to make sure you are kept fully up to date on Max's new life at our sanctuary. You will also receive an adoption starter pack, including a special photo of Max, personalized adoption certificate, fact sheet and a gorgeous cuddly toy (optional).

To adopt Max please visit our website – www.internationalanimalrescue.org/max - or give us a call for more information... Or why not adopt Max as a special gift for a friend or loved one?



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A tiny Javan slow loris found all alone in a residential garden in West Java was only about a month old when she was rescued. The little baby was 'weak and in poor condition' according to IAR vet Indri Saptorini, because she didn't have her mother to care for her. Baby lorises usually depend on their mothers until they are six months old. She was also found to have a number of cuts which suggested that she might have fallen from her mother's grasp.

Thankfully, a local resident spotted her and called the authorities who brought the little primate to IAR's rehabilitation center near Bogor. She was placed on a heatpad in intensive care and her condition was assessed every two hours. She was also given a large slow loris toy for comfort and warmth in place of her mother.

The little loris, named Meli by the keepers at our center, is growing into a healthy and active slow loris. Indri says she has a good appetite and has reached an ideal body weight.

Now that she is stronger she has been moved to a bigger enclosure and provided with enrichment to stimulate her natural behavior and prepare her for release back into her natural habitat. Meli's rehabilitation will be lengthy and during the entire period she will be monitored daily by the vets and keepers to make sure she is healthy and developing all the skills she will need to survive back in the wild.



COMING AND GOINGS IN COSTA RICA

There's never a dull moment at Refuge for Wildlife in Nosara, Costa Rica, with daily arrivals of injured animals needing treatment, as well as regular departures of those that have healed and are on their way home to the jungle.

Four delightful white-nosed coatis came in from different locations just as the wet season began in May. It's unlikely that they were abandoned by their mothers but the stormy weather may have caused their separation from their families. They will be kept warm and safe at the Refuge until they are ready to fend for themselves – and until the weather has improved!

Other patients include Penelope, a Mexican hairy dwarf porcupine who was attacked by a dog. Sadly, she lost her eye in the incident and suffered neurological problems and infection from the bite wounds. Nevertheless, after several weeks of care and rehabilitation, Penelope was able to return to the forest.

A beautiful grey fox that had been hit by a car was transferred to the center for treatment and rehabilitation. Although she had no broken bones or external wounds, Christina was unable to walk properly and was diagnosed with a proprioception deficit which is consistent with traffic accidents. Happily, after several weeks of veterinary care, Christina was ready to return home!

Seven young howler monkeys were eager for a taste of freedom after years in rehabilitation. The infants' mothers had died in a variety of sad incidents, including electrocution, a dog attack and a fight between alpha males. Having learned all the skills needed to survive in the wild, the monkeys spent several weeks at the release location inside a large enclosure to give them time to acclimate to their new home. After one final assessment by the vet, the hatch at top of the enclosure was opened and the monkeys were free to leave.

A handsome roadside hawk was transferred to us by MINAE (Ministry of Environment and Energy). His wing was injured and he was unable to fly properly. Thankfully however, it wasn't broken and he was allowed to rest for a while before starting rehabilitation in the flight enclosure.

Thank you for making all this wonderful work possible!







Our partners Wildlife SOS became aware of Rangila back in 2017, when two sloth bears were trafficked out of India to be exploited as dancing bears in Nepal, where, sadly, the tradition of dancing bears persists.

Fortunately, the bear traffickers were caught at the border control and the two bears - Rangila and his female companion Sridevi - were transported to the Kathmandu Zoo in Nepal for temporary housing. The work to move the bears back to India began immediately.

Although getting these bears off the streets was a victory, it wasn't nearly enough as during their stay in the zoo, the female bear Sridevi sadly passed away. This awful tragedy made

everyone work even harder to get Rangila out of Kathmandu Zoo before it was too late.

For Rangila, his story was just beginning. On July 11, 2018 ,Rangila arrived at his new home – the bear sanctuary in Agra, India, funded by our kind supporters. He was placed under mandatory quarantine where he underwent numerous health tests and check-ups. There was some concern about his severe stereotypical behavior such as head bobbing, swaying and pacing. This is a common issue among captive wild animals and is a trait that often takes years to overcome.

As most of these bears come from situations of extreme mental and physical trauma, it takes a while to get used to their

new permanent homes. The sight of new trees, various enrichment and even good food can be daunting at first.

Since his arrival, Rangila's keepers have worked tirelessly to develop a good relationship with him, based on trust and love.

One of the happiest moments since Rangila's arrival has been his growing fondness for the various enrichments.

This is the first time that he has been able to explore the outdoors without being led around on the end of a rope. Rangila enjoys playing with treat-filled enrichment balls, honey-laced logs and digging up mud pits to nap in!

While he loves his hammocks, he can be seen deconstructing them with the same care that his keeper spends constructing them! The hammocks in Rangila's enclosure are replaced more times than any other bear because of his creative streak. Not fond of climbing trees, Rangila prefers spending his time exploring the enclosure for hidden treats. He usually lazes around for hours but will jump up at the sight of his keeper bringing his favorite honey-laced porridge.

It is so heart-warming to see Rangila behaving like a bear and to know that his health has taken a definite upturn.

Years of abuse cannot be reversed in a couple of years, but Rangila's keepers are determined to shower him with all the attention he needs. He is a ferocious foodie who devours honey-laced porridge and fresh fruits like bananas and watermelon. He has become much healthier today, steadily gaining weight and recovering from his pitiable condition. Despite the ups and downs of Rangila's life, his perseverance and determination have been an inspiration to us all.



Did you know?

Bear dancing was a common practice in India for centuries. Sloth bears were caught from the wild and beaten and mutilated to entertain villagers and tourists who would pay to watch the bear 'dance' In order to 'train' the bear cub, a red hot needle was used to pierce its muzzle and a coarse rope would then be threaded through the open wound. The bear's handler would tug and yank on the rope to make the bear stand up on its hind legs and 'dance'. With the help of our partners Wildlife SOS in India. we have rescued more than 620 dancing bears from this cruel trade - and in 2009 we rescued the very last one! Our sanctuaries in India still care for nearly 300 bears, providing them with a lifelong, loving home where they can enjoy a peaceful, pain-free retirement.

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KEEPING MACAQUES OUT OF MISCHIEF

IAR's Patrol Team in Indonesia is part of a Task Force set up in West Java to manage conflict between macaques and people. The team also includes members of the local forestry department, urban area managers, student groups and volunteers.

The team patrols in areas with high potential for conflict and also monitors wild macaque populations in their natural habitat in Jakarta – in Muara Angke Wildlife Reserve and the Protected Forest of Angke-Kapuk. Macaques from these forests often enter residential areas around them to find food. The monkeys are often fed by local residents or by tourists visiting the area which alters their behavior and can sometimes make them more aggressive or dependent on humans. They start rifling through people's rubbish and even enter their homes in search of food which can be frightening.

Our team carries out awareness and education activities in the local community. People are taught not to keep macaques as pets and not to feed wild macaques. We also provide information about the important ecological role macaques play in the natural environment.

Macaques in Indonesia have no legal protection and their numbers in the wild are falling as a result of hunting and exploitation for entertainment.



CATASTROPHES CAT RESCUE

Without Catastrophes Cat Rescue and the ongoing support it receives from IAR, there would be little hope for homeless and unwanted cats in desperate need of food and shelter.

Catastrophes believes every cat's life matters, regardless of age, temperament or behavioral problems, whether feral or domestic. To meet these challenges Catastrophes has had to become a sanctuary as well as a rescue and rehoming organization.

BORIS - A LIFE ON THE STREETS

Now content in a safe, loving home in Catastrophes sanctuary

Boris was living on the streets of East London and scavenging for food. In freezing winter weather and with a terrible open neck wound he had limped into someone's garden. He was shooed away. Boris was then trapped and sent to a vet. He was neutered but still unwanted and was going to be put back out on the streets. We answered the plea for help. He arrived with us needing urgent veterinary attention for his open neck wound and in pain with broken teeth. Our Boris is now very wanted and very loved.

The cats are given a high standard of veterinary care and all cats are sterilized as part of responsible pet ownership. The cats that are difficult to rehome are given the chance to live in a peaceful home environment and to enjoy the country gardens that surround the sanctuary.

DUGONG RESCUE

Our team in Indonesia are experts at rescuing orangutans and other primates but they recently had an unusual encounter with a rare marine mammal – a dugong. The female dugong, estimated to be about two years old, was caught in a fishing net off Cempedak Island in Ketapang Regency. Traditionally, the people of the island eat dugongs or keep them as pets. On this occasion, they had put the dugong in a sea pen but were persuaded to hand it over to the authorities when they arrived with IAR's team and veterinarian

Apart from a few minor cuts from the fishing net, the dugong was unscathed and, after the vet check, the team returned her to the seagrass beds which are perfect dugong habitat.

Dugong facts:

related to the elephant. They can live for up to 70 years. Their languid movement makes them an easy target for hunters and, although now legally protected, they are still listed as vulnerable to extinction. Some believe that dugongs were the inspiration for ancient seafaring tales of mermaids and sirens.



OUR COMMUNITY OF FUNDRAISERS

A THOUSAND THANK YOUS

This year we have been blown away by just how lucky we are to have such incredible, loyal and determined supporters. Our family of fundraisers are the driving force behind our work and your passion has never been more gratefully received than in these hard times.

The global pandemic understandably resulted in many of our important events being cancelled, causing a significant loss of income. However, our fundraisers are unstoppable and found ways to overcome the many challenges to ensure that our projects on the ground had the funds needed to continue saving lives.



CAKES FOR APES

Our annual mass participation baking event usually takes place in April and so unfortunately had to be postponed. However, some supporters who were still able to, kindly hosted socially distanced Cakes for Apes events, including fabulous Frances!

Frances hosted her event at Queen Elizabeth University Hospital in Glasgow, Scotland and raised a staggering \$1,514! We are so pleased that Frances was able to bring some joy and tasty treats to a hospital and all the essential workers, patients and families during such a stressful time. Frances hosted a socially distanced bake sale and raffle which cheered everyone up, as well as raising awareness of the plight of the orangutan.

We hope that more of our bakers will be able to host safe events this year and if not, we are determined to make Cakes for Apes 2021 better than ever before – we hope you will join us!



CRAZY HAIR FOR BEARS

Before the lockdown, Joanne hosted a 'crazy hair for bears' morning and raised \$115! Joanne was moved by our work rescuing bears in Armenia and wanted to do more to support the rescue operations. She held a coffee morning and invited her friends to wear wacky wigs – we think this is a brilliant idea and hope that more people will be inspired to host their own 'crazy hair for bears' events! Thank you Joanne!



GET INVOLVED

If you're interested in fundraising in support of our work, then we would love to hear from you! We have lots of ideas and inspiration and can send you a free fundraising pack to get you started. Please email us at

fundraising@internationalanimalrescue.org or call us at (508) 826-1083.



LEAVING YOUR LASTING LEGACY OF LOVE

Large or small, a legacy is a gift from the heart that will help rescue suffering animals and transform their lives for years to come.

If you choose to remember International Animal Rescue in your Will, your legacy will live on into the future. Your compassion and care for animals will continue to save and support them. A legacy is the ultimate gift of love and trust.

Please call us today for more information or to request your 'Leaving a gift in your Will' information pack. It's quick, easy, completely free and there is no commitment involved. Tel: **(508) 826-1083**.

MAKING A GIFT IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE

Making a gift to International Animal Rescue in memory of a loved one is a very special way to honor and remember them. A gift in the name of a lost loved one – or even in the name of a much-loved pet – not only helps provide care for sick and suffering animals, it can also bring real comfort to the person making the gift.

Our thoughts and grateful thanks go to Helen Porter who has donated \$1,300 in memory of beloved husband Adrian.

If you would like to join Helen and make a donation in memory of a loved one, please get in touch by emailing us at **info@internationalanimalrescue.org** or call us at **(508) 826-1083**. Thank you.

SIR MICHAEL UREN OBE: A LASTING LEGACY TO ANIMAL WELFARE AND CONSERVATION

We learned with great sadness that Sir Michael passed away on August 9, 2019. He had been a dear friend and generous benefactor to IAR for many years. The Michael Uren Foundation has funded many vital areas of our animal welfare and conservation work around the world. Most recently, the Foundation provided funds for the building of a magnificent education center in Ketapang, West Borneo, named the "Sir Michael Uren Learning Center" (pictured below) in his honor, and made a significant grant to protect the future of a vast peat swamp forest in Indonesia, home to more than 1,000 critically endangered orangutans.

We are deeply indebted to Sir Michael and the Foundation for their lasting contribution to the work of International Animal Rescue. Their generous support continues to protect the future of endangered animals and habitats at what could not be a more critical time for wildlife, the natural environment and the planet as a whole.

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The financial summary shown is an extract from the organization's full audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2019. The full financial statements were prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and approved by the Officers.

For further information, please contact the Treasurer at the IAR US office address. International Animal Rescue US's auditors are Michael J. Smeriglio III CPA, Cos Cob, Connecticut.

IAR US Board of Directors
President: Alan Knight
VP/Treasurer: Gavin Bruce
Board Member: Matthew Hough
Board Member: Tyler Dickson
Board Member: Roseann Stewart

Statement of financial activities

For the year ended December 31, 2019

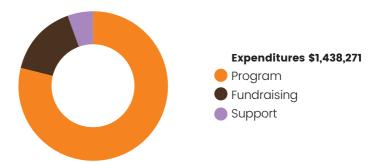
INCOMING RESOURCES	Unrestricted funds 2019	Restricted funds 2019	2019 (\$)	2018 (\$)
Voluntary income				
Donations	909,363	108,552	1,017,915	1,021,090
Fundraising Events	5,130		5,130	133,213
Major Gifts		553,328	553,328	292,900
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	914,493	661,880	1,576,373	1,447,203

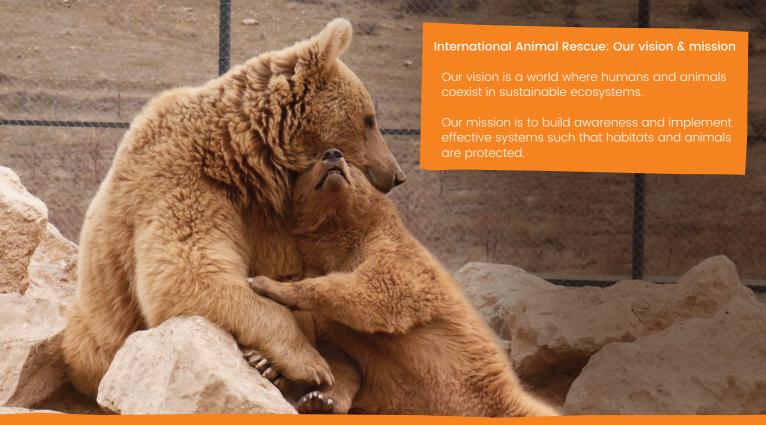
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Program Services	473,552	661,880	1,135,432	1,214,981
Management and General	76,543		76,543	75,128
Fundraising Expenses	226,296		226,296	191,458
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	776,391	661,880	1,438,271	1,481,567
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources	138,102	0	138,102	(34,364)
Fund balances at January 1, 2019	305,308	17,800	323,108	357,472
FUND BALANCES AT DECEMBER 31, 2019	443,410	17,800	461,210	323,108

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In 2019 International Animal Rescue generated a small surplus in the year. Over \$1.1m of our income has been utilized on program expenses with only 16% of expenditure required to cover the fundraising activity. In 2019, we have invested funds into our captive bear rescue project in Armenia as well as the care of the ex-dancing bears in India. We have grown our orangutan and slow loris conservation projects in Indonesia, with a big focus on wildlife trade prevention and habitat protection. Our orangutan release program has grown considerably during 2019. The howler monkey project in Costa Rica has been as active as ever responding to electrocutions and other wildlife emergencies. In 2019, we acquired a small office unit in Massachusetts, some of the unit is now rented out which more than covers the office expenses. We hold modest reserves, which cover working capital and financial risk and will be used to fund future animal protection programs.











FUNDRAISE I DONATE I SUPPORT

Join our growing family from across the world www.internationalanimalrescue.org International Animal Rescue PO Box 137, Shrewsbury, MA 01545 (508) 826-1083

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