

LEMUR CONSERVATION FOUNDATION



ANNUAL REPORT 2011



INTRODUCTION



Mongoose lemur, Photo by Nicole Begley

The Lemur Conservation Foundation Mission is CLEAR: Conservation, Lemurs, Education, Art, and Research.

Just as Madagascar is precious and unique, the Myakka City Lemur Reserve is one of the most unique private conservation venues in the United States. Through our programs we support the work of student researchers and established scientists as they contribute to the study of captive lemur populations and conservation. LCF remains steadfast in the belief that lemurs are the iconic image of conservation in Madagascar. Pulitzer Prize winning poet Gary Snyder wrote, ‘...find your place on the planet, dig in, and take responsibility from there...’ For LCF it is CLEAR Madagascar is our place on earth to make a difference.

Our 2011 Annual Report shows how we contributed to the lemur species and advanced knowledge of conservation biology through holding and breeding some of the most endangered prosimians in the world.

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DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

One only needs to fly over Madagascar to understand that urgency is required to ensure the survival of its biodiversity and unique habitats. You can observe the catastrophe of deforestation happening before your eyes. Small fragmented forests are surrounded by agricultural devastation; it is no wonder that lemurs are one of the most endangered primates of the world. Without adjacent forests allowing offspring and family groups to survive their numbers will remain small and their genetic makeup limited. A stable sociopolitical environment is needed so that long term programs which forests, animals, and communities need to thrive can be implemented.

With talk of an election in 2013 you can feel hope in the air for the Malagasy. Regardless of the electoral outcome the future is uncertain for the animals and they face a long road to species recovery. Their forests are now home to armies of loggers, invaders who come with the sole intention of removing the largest, most mature trees. Most working loggers are ordinary Malagasy who need to put food on their table, but the logging cartels organizing the destruction enjoy exorbitant profits at the expense of these laborers, the communities, and the lemurs. Tampolo, our sister forest, though smaller in size compared to other reserves, is feeling the pressure. Even as a permanently protected forest it is not immune to the greed and corruption that the illegal logging industry creates.

With no ebony or rosewood within Tampolo's boundaries it was thought that illegal logging and its consequences would not come to this fragile littoral forest. My recent trip proved that our sister forest is in danger. It is time to employ strategies that have been successful in other logged areas; strategies which will help provide the villagers the resources they need, whether it is food for their families or money to buy life's daily necessities. LCF has assembled a team of people to conduct a rapid needs assessment. The assessment will produce accurate information about the forests and villages. Village families depend on the forest to give them the materials that they need to survive. When the forest was plentiful the balance between taking what was needed and replenishment was intact. Now that dynamic is broken, along with the ability for the forest to recover without intervention.

Our goal is to provide the support needed for this ecosystem to recover through programs that establish an exterior balance, until nature is able to achieve that balance again. LCF does not intend to 'change' Malagasy society. We are in Tampolo at the request of the Malagasy people. Support for, and partnerships with, the villagers is based on the trust we have built throughout, especially during the last 3 years of political unrest. We are ready to move ahead, maximize our opportunities following the elections, and move confidently toward the goal of environmental recovery.

As the new Executive Director and CEO I come into this organization at a unique and important time. LCF is evaluating internal processes, creating efficiencies in scale, and updating

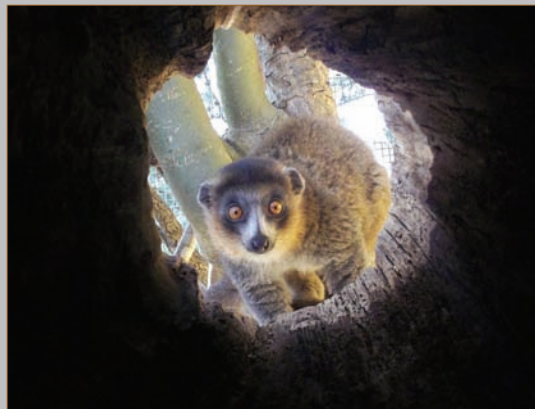
protocols which will allow LCF to remain a small nonprofit with deep focus. We are small by choice, and choice is a powerful word; it is a word of contemplation, evaluation, and action. LCF will maintain its focus through our strategic action plan that identifies specific ways we can work more effectively and maximize the results of our mission.

Our standards of care are high. We provide the endangered lemurs we shelter and breed at the Myakka City Lemur Reserve with a superior diet as well as an environment that is enriching, stimulating, and filled with a natural, complex world including multiple lemur species that mimics their wild home on the island of Madagascar. At LCF we use the acronym CLEAR (Conservation, Lemur, Education, Art, Research) to outline our mission to conserve and protect the primates of Madagascar for future generations.

Lemurs and Madagascar have been prominent in media of all kinds this year. This has helped focus important awareness on the fragile island of Madagascar, and our planet with all of its amazing ecosystems. Thank you for responding to this call to action and supporting our fine

organization. You are invaluable to our existence and to the existence of the lemurs for which our organization is named. The lemur, a prosimian and our ancestor, as well as all the other Madagascar flora and fauna now depend on our intervention for their very survival now that the balance between man and nature has become distorted.

Your support has enabled LCF to be a leader in lemur conservation. At the Myakka City Lemur Reserve we have grown from our 11 initial animals to a prospering collection with a current population of 41 lemurs. Thanks to you the Tampolo reserve is able to provide children in surrounding villages with educational resources about the forest and its delicate balance, and about how rampant logging destroys the trees and will also destroy the animals.



Young male mongoose lemur, Photo by Caitie Homan

You are a leader and champion for our mission. We are delighted to share this publication with you, as an update of our progress over the past year. Since we are all conservation minded I ask that you go to our web site and sign up for our e-newsletter the *Lemur Latitudes* <http://www.lemurreserve.org>. To stay up to the minute with LCF we have a Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/LemurConservation> and an LCF blog <http://lemurconservationfoundation.wordpress.com> where we share information about the Conservation, Lemurs, Education, Art, Research in Myakka as well as the Tampolo Reserve in Madagascar. You are making a conservation choice to support LCF and by doing that you are making a gift that touches many lives with a positive, lasting impact. Well Done!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lee Nesler". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lee Nesler

Conservation

Conservation is Our Middle Name



Infant mongoose lemur, Photo by Caitie Homan

According to the 2012 IUCN Red List lemurs are the most endangered primates in the world. At the Myakka City Lemur Reserve we invest effort and resources in Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) partnerships and colony management protocols that enable us to maintain a stable population of lemur species in captivity through breeding, non-invasive observation oriented research, and conservation education. Captive animals are ambassadors for their species and provide an opportunity for us to learn about one of the most diverse groups of primates ever known.

Our efforts to maintain the highest professional standards of care and scientific practice were acknowledged by LCF's recertification by AZA in 2011.

"Myakka City Lemur Reserve is one of the best in the world because it has met the highest standards in the world," said AZA President and CEO Jim Maddy. *"It takes hard work and dedication to meet Association of Zoos and Aquariums Accreditation Standards."*

To be designated a Certified Related Facility, the Myakka City Lemur Reserve underwent a thorough inspection to ensure it has met, and will continue to meet, ever-rising standards within the zoo community. The areas of evaluation include animal care, veterinary programs, conservation, education, and safety. AZA requires zoos and aquariums to successfully complete this rigorous accreditation process every five years in order to be members of the Association. The Reserve was first granted certification in 2006.

"As a member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, Myakka City Lemur Reserve is a true leader in wildlife conservation," Maddy added.

The Lemur Conservation Foundation continues to invest in partnerships to advance the Protected Area of Tampolo in northeastern Madagascar. Our goal through partnerships with organizations like Essa Forêts: The Department of Waters and Forests of The School of Agricultural Sciences, the Madagascar Fauna Group, Missouri Botanical Gardens, and Peace Corps Madagascar, is to protect and study the unique biodiversity of the Madagascar wilderness habitat.

To protect the lemurs' indigenous habitat LCF and our partners strive to identify solutions to the

socio-political and economic challenges of the region. Local village communities, ecosystems, and species are on parallel tracks for success or implosion.

While we are engaged on the ground in Madagascar, the LCF captive breeding program in Myakka City focuses on gaining knowledge of lemur behavior. In a complex and natural environment, like the one at the Myakka City Lemur Reserve, lemurs born on the Reserve show advanced instinctual responses and complex social behaviors because they are housed as close to living in the wild as possible.

Because of LCF's refined focus we are able to provide exemplary care including enhanced nutrition, free-range foraging in protected forests, attention to socialization and family groups, extensive prenatal care, and medical monitoring appropriate to the life cycle and species of each animal in our lemur collection.



Infant collared lemur with mother, Photo by Caitie Homan

Lemur

Fauna, Flora, Habitat



Free-ranging mongoose lemur group, Photo by Caitie Homan

Many of our lemurs are in the forest, free ranging and foraging. This is the best environment for them because it mimics the setting of their natural habitat in Madagascar. An additional benefit is that more lemurs can be housed together. In 2011 we housed 41 lemurs representing six different species at the Myakka City Lemur Reserve. Often other AZA facilities contact our animal care team to learn about husbandry and management techniques that allows LCF to keep lemurs in multi-species exhibits, as they would live in their natural world.

Unlike other primates lemurs breed in a season rather than throughout the year. Lemur offspring are born in the spring—March to June is ‘baby season’ at the Reserve.

In May 2011 a female mongoose lemur (*Eulemur mongoz*) was born from successfully breeding Estella and Merced. The healthy baby was named Monica, in honor of LCF team member Monica Mogilewsky. LCF is a world leader in mongoose lemur reproduction; through our breeding efforts we have lifted their captive numbers to the designated population size. As Monica matures she will be sent to another zoological facility to be paired with a male. Right now she is thriving and growing at the Reserve.

The second baby of 2011 was born in June to first time ‘mom’ Emelia. The baby, named Andres, had a low birth weight of 41 grams compared to the normal mongoose birth weight of 55 grams. Andres responded well to supplemental care and daily weighing. Although Emelia did not like her baby being taken from her for short times each day, they both responded well to the additional care each received. Today both mother Emelia and baby Andres are doing well.

Our free-ranging forest lemurs are fed each day in specially designed domes equipped with misters to cool them when necessary. The domes are ‘home base’ for our lemurs. For extra protection from the heat, misters set on timers have been installed in the forest. They are activated when most needed.

Through donations from Whole Foods Market the lemurs receive juicy fruits like citrus, watermelon or grapes, leafy organic greens, and vegetables. Cuttings from our browse garden, “Primate Maintenance” and “Monkey Crunch” biscuits keep them in optimal health.

The Lemur Conservation Foundation collection is particularly successful managing ‘orphan’ species like the common brown lemur (*Eulemur fulvus*), mongoose lemur (*Eulemur mongoz*), and collared lemur (*Eulemur collaris*). Our successes have opened expanded breeding possibilities for LCF. In 2012 we will utilize our expertise to improve breeding success of the collared lemurs at the Reserve. Attention to these species has averted a demographic crash of the collared lemurs and helps to ensure that the great diversity of captive lemur species continues.

What we learn from our lemurs through our research, observation of their interactions in these naturalistic enclosures, and what we teach through our education and outreach programs will be the key to their survival in captivity and, more importantly, in the wilds of Madagascar.



Pattie Walsh with lemurs at their forest home base, Photo by Monica Mogilewsky

E ducation



Dr. Natalie Vasey and class

In 2011 LCF trained future scientists by partnering with Girls' Inc. of Sarasota to provide hands on learning experiences for young conservationists. We participated with the University of South Florida STEM workshop. STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. It provides girls an opportunity to explore careers and advanced education in these disciplines. We hope to build on these partnerships as we encourage young people to explore the world of science through LCF programs.

The LCF forested lemur habitats provide private conservation venues for field training students at several education levels that are unique in the United States. Programs in primate adaptations and habitat, careers in research and basic conservation principles are available for classrooms via distance learning modules. Conservation and field biology programs are also available for teachers and educators through our onsite 'Teachers' Institute' program, which is registered on the ED Explorers of SRQ (Sarasota) website.

'The Teachers' Institute for Conservation Ecology' helps middle and high school educators learn how to incorporate field methods in their classrooms. We create a platform where the necessary scientific background, specialized tools, techniques and inspiration are all located in one working science environment. This collaboration produces stimulating conservation curricula educators take back to their classrooms and share with their colleagues. Participants at the 'Teachers' Institute' work side by side with leading national scientists who share their expertise and provide hands-on activities designed to excite and motivate young science students. Using the Reserve's lemur colony and the native habitat as a resource, they practice living day-to-day science through a field-training program that demonstrates proper fieldwork techniques under the guidance of conservation biology professionals.



Field training, Photo by Larry Roberts

In addition to field training for middle and high school educators, LCF provides field training opportunities for university students. The Field Training Program for university students is our most unique education program and conservation initiative. This program sets LCF apart from other facilities by giving participating students the opportunity to contribute to lemur research as a whole.

The Ako Project

While the Ako Project, an environmental education program, has been active in Madagascar and England, in March the first Ako Workshop in the United States was held at the University of Michigan's School of Education at Dearborn. The workshop sought to explore environmentally-based online learning in the classroom, especially in connecting Michigan to the Madagascar rainforest. The two-day pilot program focused on Detroit area school teachers. It combined the use of Ako materials (books, posters and teaching manuals) and work on tele-conferencing from field sites. The goal was to design a comprehensive program that can help teachers teach conservation education principles. One of the overarching messages is that lemurs can be seen as representatives of all that is rare and beautiful in the world and that we have the responsibility to save them for our future and the future of our children's children. The conference was presented by Drs. Alison Jolly, Francine Dolans, and Jacob Napieralski.

The Ako Project began humbly with the LCF publication in 2005 of a bi-lingual children's book (English and Malagasy) titled *Ny Atay Ako (Ako the Aye-Aye)*, written by Dr. Alison Jolly, noted primate biologist and lemur biologist, illustrated by Deborah Ross and translated into Malagasy by Hantanirina Rasamimanana. It was originally intended to be used by teachers at and around LCF's sister reserve, the Protected Area of Tampolo, to teach local children about their own amazing environment, of which the majority are completely unaware. Its success, however, extended beyond the community of Tampolo giving birth to a six-book series with accompanying posters and teaching guide. The Ako book series represents a convergence of art and fine story telling to convey the lives and environments of different lemur species while illustrating Madagascar's fragile environment. The book series ultimately developed into the Ako Project.

Art

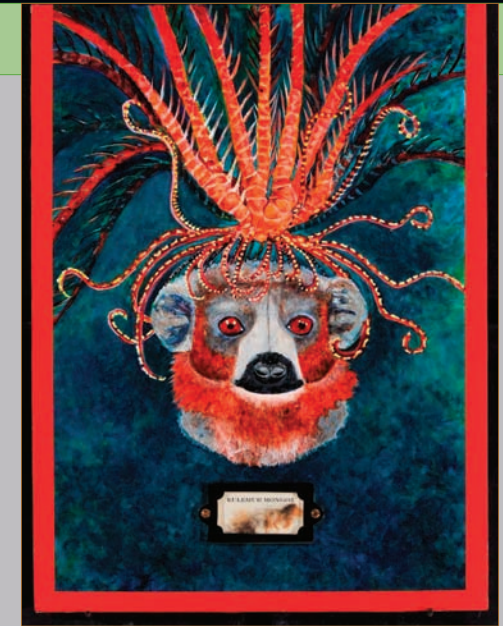


Details of Kathy Ruttenberg artwork on LCF's Lemur bags

Art is central to the mission of the Lemur Conservation Foundation in Tampofo and Myakka City. As it becomes more obvious that Madagascar is in crisis and lemurs are in crisis, Dr. E.O. Wilson's words resonate more than ever. He has written that "global conservation of biodiversity cannot succeed in purely utilitarian terms. It can succeed, however, by appeal to the deepest wells of human aesthetics and moral concern."

We at LCF believe that art (in all its forms - decorative, plastic, performing arts, and literature) is essential to the human experience, not merely a luxury or something nice to experience, because it interprets how we relate to the world around us and creates empathy and a deeper understanding in ways that words and statistics cannot. Art stimulates our minds and emotions by using our senses in creative ways. It completes the "story" started by facts and empirical evidence. LCF embraces art as one of the most effective and vital vehicles for conservation because it creates an emotional link between lemurs and people living in the villages of Madagascar, the urban/rural centers of the United States, and indeed, the entire global community. As such, art informs everything we do at LCF from the design and decoration of our facilities and lemur enrichments, to our publications, to our education programs, and to our creation and production of lemur merchandise.

Of special note regarding LCF's art imperative in 2011, in addition to exhibiting pieces from the LCF art collection at the Rubin Museum of Art in New York, the year marked the establishment of the Lemur Art Ltd web store to reach a global audience. The site features original works of art, signed and numbered limited addition prints and posters of pieces in LCF's collection, art from Madagascar, original "paintings" by the lemurs, and stationery.



LCF's 2012 calendar image. Artist P. Bodry-Sanders



Guests enjoying lemur art in the Rubin Museum, Photo by Roderick Mickens

Research

In 2011 The Lemur Conservation Foundation welcomed scholars to the Myakka City Lemur Reserve. Research at the Reserve in 2011 included:



Dr. Ben Freed

Dr. Ben Freed visited the Reserve in May from **Eastern Kentucky University** to assess the Reserve's suitability as a field training program and research site for his undergraduate

and graduate students. Dr. Freed teaches a number of anthropology courses at ECU, including Primate Conservation and Primate Ecology and Sociality.

While visiting the Reserve, he had an opportunity to observe our Sanford's brown lemurs (*Eulemur sanfordi*), one of the lemur species that he studies in Madagascar. We were delighted to host Dr. Freed and look forward to meeting his students when he returns for a field training course, tentatively scheduled for the 2013 winter session.

Dr. Francine Dolins, Dr. Jacob Napieralski, and Christy Steffke, from the **University of Michigan-Dearborn**, spent two weeks in June 2011 conducting a pilot study comparing GPS equipment for monitoring and plotting the ranging behavior of the Reserve's semi-free ranging lemurs. The goal was to determine what equipment provided the most accurate data, to establish an accurate and detailed map of the enclosures, and to prepare for future studies to enhance our understanding



Christy Steffke, Dr. Francine Dolins and Dr. Jacob Napieralski

of the interaction between spatial knowledge and social decision making in foraging. Dr. Dolins and Dr. Napieralski hope to apply the techniques perfected at the Reserve to field research in Madagascar. Christy used her considerable skill and knowledge of GIS technologies to create several maps of the Reserve for use by staff and other researchers. Like Dr. Freed, Dr. Dolins will be conducting field training courses at the Reserve for her own students in the future.

In April 2011 the Reserve was pleased to host some colleagues of **Dr. Alison Jolly** -- **Dr. Julie Hagelin** and **Jen Crick** of **Swarthmore College** and **Amber Walker-Bolton** of **Roehampton University** in London. Dr. Hagelin, Ms. Crick, and Ms. Walker-Bolton



Amber Walker-Bolton, Monica Mogilewsky, Jen Crick, Julie Hagelin, Penelope Bodry-Sanders

study olfactory communication, most recently with ring-tailed lemurs in Berenty Reserve, Madagascar. Staff enjoyed learning about their interesting research and we look forward to possible collaborations in the future.

The Myakka City Lemur Reserve welcomed research intern, **Alison Zak**. A native of Tampa, Florida, Alison recently graduated from the **University of South Florida** with a Bachelor's degree in Anthropology. In her final year she participated in the Anthropology

Research continued...



Alison Zak collecting data, Photo by Monica Mogilewsky

Honors program and completed a thesis on Thai Buddhism. While she is interested in human culture, she is most passionate about wildlife conservation and believes that the two fields should be considered together in order to understand the complex issue of protecting primates and their habitat. In her time at the Reserve she learned the basics of field research and gained valuable experience that will contribute to her pursuit of a career in primatology.



Jenny Botting, Photo by Monica Mogilewsky

Jenny Botting came to LCF from Scotland and served as our first international research assistant. Jenny is a recent graduate with an MSc in Evolution and Behaviour from the **University of Stirling** (Scotland). She earned her BSc (hons) in Psychology from the **University of St Andrews**.

Jenny arrived in Myakka City in April 2011 for a three-month stint as a research assistant. Using the data she collected Jenny compiled an extensive database on habitat use and activity for the Reserve's long term research goals. Jenny also designed and conducted her own project to investigate social cognition in lemurs.

Anne and Walter Bladstrom Library

The Anne and Walter Bladstrom Library and LCF's collection of original lemur art hanging on the stark white walls are what visitors see when they walk into the Mianatra Center for Lemur Studies. The library's collection naturally is focused on everything to do with lemurs and also includes resources on conservation, Madagascar, animal behavior, primates, biology, anthropology, and Florida flora and fauna. The library is used by the staff, researchers, interns and visitors.

Its mission is to be a centralized information resource for lemur studies, with materials, both print and electronic, freely accessible to anyone. Providing information resources to LCF's sister reserve at Tampolo through the Centre EnviroKidz Tampolo is part of this mission. Reliable internet access, providing equipment, language barriers and determining the information needs of the local community are challenges in making this larger goal a reality.

By subscribing to electronic journal databases, purchasing e-books and digitizing rare books and archival materials the Bladstrom Library broadens its user base beyond the Reserve. Identifying our users' needs is critical to the success of the library and is ongoing. The library's resources are accessible via the library website: www.lemurreserve.org/bladstromlibrary.



Dr. Vasey's class in the library

EVENTS

Mifohaza (Wake Up!) A Benefit to Help Madagascar Survive



Razia Said performing with her band,
Photo by Roderick Mickens

On January 27th, 2011, LCF presented its first benefit to bring attention to the crisis gripping Madagascar. Held at the Rubin Museum of Art in New York City, the event comprised a concert, an art exhibit, a silent auction, food and libations, and brief words about LCF and its mission. Deborah Rush, a television, film and Broadway actress best known for her Tony Award-nominated performance in *Noises Off*, graciously served as Master of Ceremonies delivering her dry and quirky-witty humor throughout.

Razia Said, Malagasy performer and environmental activist, with her band performed their original material. Malagasy heritage informed every note of their music delivering tough messages about Madagascar's plight through the wonderful and sensuous rhythms of their island home. LCF's Executive Director, Dr. George Amato eloquently discussed LCF's mission and efforts in Madagascar.

In spite of a regional blizzard, hearty LCF donors and friends braved the elements to produce a crowd of about 130 guests motivated to support the LCF mission. It was an entertaining, informative and celebratory evening. In addition to Razia's marvelous performance, participants also appreciated selections from our LCF unique art collection and the silent auction, which was an art exhibit in and of itself and quite successful.

The Mifohaza benefit netted almost \$40,000. Of this amount LCF sent \$13,000 to Madagascar for three different projects: Tampolo - to pay the salaries of two foresters and one part-time gendarme for one year (\$5,000), LCF scientist Erik Patel's Makira project to build a small research cabin (\$4,500), and Razia Said's tree planting project - a grass roots reforestation endeavor (\$3,500). The hope is that through LCF's support of these very specific causes we may at least help slow the mind-numbing speed with which Madagascar's biodiversity is draining away. Its fragile ecological footing reminds us that Madagascar's biodiversity belongs to the global family - a point reinforced by the designation of six UNESCO World Heritage Sites on the relatively small island on Madagascar.

The Mifohaza Benefit would not have been possible without the extraordinary generosity of our sponsors: John and Emily Fisher Alexander, Mark Braunstein and Katharine McKenna via *markertek.com*, William and Elizabeth Pedersen, Penelope Bodry-Sanders and Mackarness Goode, Stephanie Guest and Richard Ellis, Jean Martin, Vivian Pan and Mark Norell, and Razia Said and Jamie Ambler. Special Thanks to Zana Briski, Coastal Printing, CUMBANCHA, Lemur International, Inc., Nature's Path Organic Foods, Nancy Elizabeth Raposa, Alexis Rockman, Deborah Ross, Kathy Ruttenberg, Ian Tattersall, and Catherine Laur White. We are especially grateful to the Rubin Museum of Art.



LCF Trustee Judy Rasmuson at the Mifohaza auction,
Photo by Roderick Mickens



Lemur art on display, Photo by Roderick Mickens

EVENTS continued...

Misaotra Myakka! Thank You!

On October 1st, we welcomed 150 guests for our first annual 'Misaotra Myakka' Misaotra means "thank you" in Malagasy, a most appropriate name for an event where guests and staff celebrated 16 years of Conservation, all things Lemur, Education, Art and Scientific Research.

The guests, who have generously supported LCF and welcomed us to the Myakka City community, had the rare opportunity to see the lemurs housed at the Reserve.

When guests weren't busy enjoying the refreshments or dancing to the music played by the SoulRcoasters, they were invited to join staff members in the two lemur enclosures. They had a chance to ask questions about the facility and learn more about some of the species we are working to conserve.

Guests were able to make a difference in the world by planting a tree on the Reserve in the Red Dog Woods,



Guests arriving for Misaotra Myakka, Photo by Eileen Cohen

where the next forest enclosure will be built. Every tree our guests planted in Myakka City represented one also planted at our sister reserve in Madagascar.

LCF would like to thank all of our guests, the SoulRcoasters, and our sponsors: EnviroKidz, Myakka Technologies, McKeithen Growers, Inc., and Madécasse Chocolates for their support of our mission.

The event would not have been possible without the assistance of many volunteers who helped with our first annual open house. We are grateful for the support from The Girl Scouts of Sarasota, the Florida Gulf Coast University's Wildlife Club, the Society for Conservation Biology Club of Gainesville, the University of South Florida -Tampa pre-veterinary students, and several individual volunteers who all helped make the day a glowing success.



Erica Howe volunteer, with Patricia Petruff, Photo by Monica Mogilewsky



Dancing on the deck, Photo by Monica Mogielwsky

LCF MANAGEMENT TEAM

Lee Nesler, CEO & Executive Director

Lee Nesler joined the Lemur Conservation Foundation staff as Executive Director and CEO in October 2011. Ms. Nesler came to LCF after an extensive search to fill this critical executive position. While earning a degree in Animal Science, with a specialization in animal behavior from the University of Illinois Champagne Urbana, Ms. Nesler completed a two-year internship at the Lincoln Park Zoo in her home town of Chicago. Her career includes participation in field studies around the world from Siberia, Costa Rica, India, Mexico, and Africa among other wild and exotic destinations.

Ms. Nesler brings a range of zoological experience to LCF. As General Curator at the Pittsburgh Zoo and Aquarium, Lee implemented enrichment and operant conditioning programs for all 3,000 of the zoo's animals, and served on the design and building team for several multi-million dollar projects. She worked with the AZA as the institutional representative for accreditation and certification, co-chaired the AZA Ape Advisory Group, coordinated the Gibbon Species Survival Plan, and was the institutional representative for all mammal SSPs.

In addition to SSPs and extensive work with AZA programs, Lee developed special expertise by working with the New World Primate TAG group and the Bush Meat Crisis Task Force, as well as hosting and organizing several meetings including an AZA Annual Conference. She has published several times on topics from animal behavior to population management.

Since arriving in Myakka City Ms. Nesler has attended the Madagascar Fauna Group meeting in Zurich, and spent three weeks in Madagascar working with the Tampolo Protected Area team. As the Lemur Conservation Foundation moves into our second decade, Ms. Nesler's experience and leadership will provide the vision to meet the challenges faced as LCF expands our success breeding lemurs and managing our growing colony, and engages with communities near the Tampolo Protected Area, our sister reserve in Madagascar.



Lee Nesler and red ruffed lemur Photo by Nicole Begley

Pattie Walsh, Director of Research & Operations

Pattie Walsh was promoted to the key position of Director of Research and Operations in October 2011. Ms. Walsh brings a unique depth of experience to this crucial role at LCF. She served as the Animal Care Manager at LCF after a career working with primates at three other AZA accredited facilities and has hands-on experience working in Madagascar as a Peace Corps Volunteer.

Ms. Walsh began her two years of service in the Peace Corps by teaching English to the local guides and helping build on their ecotourism skills by translating Malagasy folklore and identifying medicinal plants in the park. During her time there she lived in a rural village in a grass hut with no electricity or running water. Ms. Walsh sees her role at LCF as a way to thank the people of Madagascar for the generosity and hospitality they extended to her during her Peace Corps service and helping her feel at home in a foreign land.

As Director of the Research Program, Ms. Walsh is the acting liaison with the LCF Scientific Advisory Committee, the IACUC- Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (an external committee that oversees the animal welfare policies at the reserve) and supervises researchers from around the globe that come to the



Pattie Walsh (l) and Alison Hunt Hodge (r) Photo by Monica Mogilewsky

unique LCF campus. As Director of Operations, Ms. Walsh ensures that LCF is in full compliance with all state and local regulatory requirements throughout the year. Although she misses the daily contact with the lemurs she enjoyed as the Animal Care Manager, Ms. Walsh knows that by supporting the LCF mission she is helping the future scientists and animal care professionals save these precious animals before it is too late.

Alison Hodge, Animal Care Manager

Alison Hodge assumed the responsibilities of Animal Care manager in October 2011, taking over the role from Pattie Walsh. As Animal Care Manager, Ms. Hodge ensures that all lemurs in our care are nourished with an appropriate diet for their individual needs and are provided with optimal habitat and medical care.

Ms. Hodge's experience as a veterinary technician helps LCF provide more comprehensive on site medical care, helping to minimize the stress associated with transporting to clinics, as well as directly providing more efficient routine and PRN care.

Because her responsibilities are so closely connected with our lemurs' wellbeing, Ms. Hodge and her family have the unique experience of living on the Myakka City Lemur Reserve. Each day she supervises keepers and interns who walk the property to inspect fences and canopy. Her team also visits the newly installed forest domes to provide the daily care and maintenance our lemurs require. Her experience and dedication helps LCF meet the highest professional standards, ensuring that we are in compliance with AZA protocols.

Monica Mogilewsky

Monica Mogilewsky spent the last ten years at LCF beginning as a New College of Florida student working on her thesis and progressing to assistant animal care person, Manager of Lemur Care, Director, Research and Operations, and finally Assistant Executive Director. She performed her successive duties with grace and aplomb. We at LCF are grateful to Monica for her hard work, insight, passion, and commitment to the Foundation throughout her tenure. Now Monica has moved on to Portland State University to pursue her Ph.D. in the School of the Environment, working with the research group, Conservation Biology and Ecology. We know she will achieve great success at the university and beyond and while we will miss her on a daily basis, she will continue to make us proud and maintain her place in our LCF family forever.



Monica Mogilewsky

Dr. Thomas Lovejoy

Thomas E. Lovejoy became the first recipient of The Heinz Center Biodiversity Chair in August 2008. Previously he served as President of the Heinz Center effective May 2002. Before coming to The Heinz Center, he was the World Bank's Chief Biodiversity Advisor and Lead Specialist for Environment for Latin America and the Caribbean and Senior Advisor to the President of the United Nations Foundation.

Dr. Lovejoy has been Assistant Secretary and Counselor to the Secretary at the Smithsonian Institution, Science Advisor to the Secretary of the Interior, and Executive Vice President of the World Wildlife Fund-U.S. He conceived the idea for the Minimum Critical Size of Ecosystems project (a joint project between the Smithsonian and Brazil's INPA), originated the concept of debt-for-nature swaps and is the founder of the public television series *Nature*.

In 2001 he was awarded the prestigious Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement. Dr. Lovejoy served on science and environmental councils or committees under the Reagan, Bush and Clinton administrations. He received his B.S. and Ph.D. (biology) degrees from Yale University. For nearly 30 years, Tom has operated the Amazon Basin Camp 41, a facility in Brazil that has provided critical baseline information on the state of this critical environmental resource.



Dr. Thomas Lovejoy

Dr. Jeff Wyatt

Director of Animal Health and Conservation
Seneca Park Zoo, Rochester NY
Associate Professor and Attending Veterinarian
University of Rochester School of Medicine & Dentistry



Dr. Jeff Wyatt

Dr. Wyatt is specialty board certified by the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine (ACLAM), licensed to practice veterinary medicine in New York State and is accredited by the NYS Division of Animal Industry. Dr. Wyatt earned his DVM from The Ohio State University in 1982, completed a residency in laboratory animal medicine at the University of Rochester in 1986 and earned his MPH from the University of Rochester School of Medicine in 1995. Dr. Wyatt is a member of AAALAC, International Council and has twenty-eight years of experience in laboratory animal medicine. Dr. Wyatt is responsible for all aspects of the animal care program at the University of Rochester.

LEMUR CONSERVATION FOUNDATION | STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31, 2011



Red Ruffed lemur, Photo by Caitie Homan

We have audited the accompanying statements of financial position of the Lemur Conservation Foundation, Inc. (Foundation), as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, and the related statements of activities, functional expenses and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Foundation's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statements presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Lemur Conservation Foundation, Inc. as of December 31, 2011 and 2010, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Bobbitt, Pittenger & Company, P.C.

Bobbitt, Pittenger & Company
 Certified Public Accountants
 September 24, 2012

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 90,080	\$ 112,257	\$ 202,337
Investments	2,219,137	100,000	2,319,137
Inventory	1,500		1,500
Accrued interest receivable	15,564		15,564
Prepaid expenses	5,776		5,776
Property, plant and equipment, net	1,820,271		1,820,271
Collections	17,750		17,750
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>\$ 4,170,078</u>	<u>\$ 212,257</u>	<u>\$ 4,382,335</u>
LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable	\$ 7,102		\$ 7,102
Accrued expenses	7,259		7,259
TOTAL LIABILITIES	14,361		14,361
NET ASSETS			
Unrestricted - operating	1,936,580		1,936,580
Unrestricted - board designated	2,219,137		2,219,137
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS	4,155,717		4,155,717
TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS		212,257	212,257
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>4,155,717</u>	<u>212,257</u>	<u>4,367,974</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	<u>\$ 4,170,078</u>	<u>\$ 212,257</u>	<u>\$ 4,382,335</u>

LEMUR CONSERVATION FOUNDATION | STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

December 31, 2011



Brown lemur, Photo by Nicole Begley

Volunteers

Art & Rita Aughey	Gregory Kosik
Kris Becker	Gladys Lippincott
Eric Brusilow	Rebecca Long
Sarah Calabrese	Mary Lueder
Eileen Cohen	McEvoy Associates
Katie Dean	Debbie Machamer
Elizabeth DeGaetano	Greta Man
Disney Animal Kingdom	Helga Man
Cathy Downey	John Mogilewsky
Amanda Dubour	Jan Munsell
Eckerd College students	Sarah Nemet
Patricia Emrich	New College of Florida students
FGCU Wildlife Club	Cathy Page
Maggie Filson	Portland State University
Cathy Flanagan	students
Beatrice Florence	Deborah Rush
Florida Native Plant Society	Luke Santore
Nilah Ford-Burrell	Diana Shih
Rick Fowler	Maya Silberstein
Karen Fraley	Phil Sirois
Deb Furness	Katie Smith
Girl Scout Troop 416	Elizabeth Spaulding Titus
Allison Grand	University of Miami students
James Hall	University of South Florida,
Laura Heath	pre-vet club students
Caitie Homan	Ashlee Van Schyndel
Marjorie Horn	Bucky Wetherell
Erica Howe	Phil Whitman
Ellen India	Henrietta Wiley
Jon Jarrett	Ken Wilson
Jerry Karnas	Patricia Woodruff
Ian Kavanaugh	Allison Zak

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
REVENUES			
Contributions	\$ 379,569	\$ 72,500	\$ 452,069
Operations	(250)		(250)
Unrealized and realized gain on investment	126,649		126,649
Interest and dividends, net	112,729		112,729
Released from restriction	<u>33,670</u>	<u>(33,670)</u>	
Total revenues	<u>652,367</u>	<u>38,830</u>	<u>691,197</u>
EXPENSES			
Program services	329,779		329,779
Management and general	194,717		194,717
Fundraising	<u>81,505</u>		<u>81,505</u>
Total expenses	<u>606,001</u>		<u>606,001</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	46,366	38,830	85,196
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>4,109,351</u>	<u>173,427</u>	<u>4,282,778</u>
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 4,155,717</u>	<u>\$ 212,257</u>	<u>\$ 4,367,974</u>



Mongoose lemur, Photo by Nicole Begley

VOLUNTEERS AND HUSBANDRY INTERNS

A very special thanks to our 2011 Volunteers and Interns

Volunteers



Volunteers

Volunteers helped to advance our mission and goals from special events in the community to constructing lemur enrichment tools:

Maya Silberstein came to the Myakka City Lemur Reserve from Long Island. She volunteered with the animal care team for 3 months from November 2010 until January 2011. During her time with LCF, Maya was accepted as a graduate student at the **University of Melbourne** in Victoria, Australia, where she is currently studying Zoology.

Rebecca Long came to LCF while a student at **Western Kentucky University**. She spent two weeks in June 2011 volunteering at the Myakka City Lemur Reserve. Rebecca learned basic husbandry and helped prepare diets and enrichment.

Disney's Animal Kingdom

With help and organization from **Kris Becker**, LCF's Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee Chair, keepers from Disney's Animal Kingdom came several times throughout the year to volunteer. For example, on February 27th, 2011 they helped re-branch cages and provided enrichment for our lemur collection.

Florida Gulf Coast University

Members of FGCU's Wildlife Club volunteered several times throughout the year helping with projects from planting trees to tearing down old structures. A large group also came out to help with "Misoatra Myakka," an open house event in October 2011.

Husbandry and Research Interns

Our busy husbandry interns provided intensive support while completing challenging research and training projects: Special thanks to our dedicated husbandry interns.

Caitie Homan served as an animal husbandry intern beginning in August 2011. She was a recent graduate from **University of Maine** with Bachelors in Wildlife Ecology and Psychology. She performed a six-week research project in addition to her duties as an Animal Husbandry Intern. The goal of her study was to determine lemur inhibition of object retrieval when facing transparent barriers. In short, do lemurs know they can't reach through clear plastic? She was elevated to the position of Animal Care Specialist for the last few months of her internship. Caitie will be attending the **University of Portsmouth** to obtain her PhD in Psychology starting September 2012.



Caitie Homan, Alison Zak and Ashlee Van Schyndel

Cathy Flanagan started a six-month husbandry internship in August of 2011. She graduated from **Columbia College** with a Bachelors degree in Psychology. She trained one of our female mongoose lemurs to accept injections. Cathy is the first LCF intern to write and publish an article for the AAZK (American Association of Zoo Keepers) titled 'Training Tails.' Her paper is available to other zookeepers throughout the US who are working to help lemurs in their care accept injections. After finishing her internship at LCF, Cathy was accepted as a research intern at the National Zoo in Washington D.C.

Jon Jarrett arrived in September of 2011 to complete a 3 month Research Assistant Internship with LCF. Jon, a native of Wales in UK, has a BSc in Psychology and an MSc Animal Behavior. LCF cannot thank Jon enough for all the contributions he made to the LCF research program and for continually offering his help to other researchers. Jon was an asset to the LCF team and a pleasure to have at the Reserve as he tried to explain English cuisine to the staff and housemates.



Cathy Flanagan, Photo by Caitie Homan

Library Intern

Erica Howe completed her library internship at the Anne and Walter Bladstrom Library in the spring and earned her Master's degree in Library and Information Science from the **University of South Florida**.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS | JANUARY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 2011

*Listed below are actual contributions received between January 1 and December 31, 2011.
We apologize for any omissions or errors and request that you please inform us of any oversights.*

\$100,000 +

John & Emily Alexander (partially
via the Stewart Foundation)
Judy Rasmuson

\$20,000 +

Anne & Walter Bladstrom
Nature's Path Foods Inc.

\$10,000 +

Penelope Bodry-Sanders &
Mackarness M. Goode
Mark Braunstein & Katharine
McKenna
The Felburn Foundation
Natalee L. Quay
Scott Riviere

\$5,000 +

Virginia Cunningham
Clay Hamlin III (via the Hamlin
Family Foundation
Mary Ellen Johansen
Charlotte Lovejoy & Martha Kiser
Joyce & Ed McDowell
One Family Foundation
William & Elizabeth Pedersen

\$1,000 +

Stephanie Guest & Richard Ellis
Margherita Harris
Susan E. & Neil M. Kurtz
Carol R. Levy

William C. & May F. Louie
Jean Martin
Marie Martinez
The Owen Family Foundation
Vivian Pan & Mark Norell
Nancy Elizabeth Raposa
Judith E. Rubin
Robert & Martha Rubin
Julie Seeley
Mary D. Starr
Ginny & Lane Taylor
Allan R. Wagner
Charlene & Phillip Wolff

\$500 +

Nathaniel & Jewelle W. Bickford
Elizabeth DeGaetano & Jeffery
Gillers
Dorothy J. & Joseph Geno
Charles & Karen Goetz
Marcia & William Levy
Keith Loring
Priscilla McKenna
Nancy & Robert Petersen
Beau & Pearl Pinkerton
Dr. Mabel Purkerson
Connie & Ted Roosevelt
Janet Ruttenberg
Andrew Sabin
Russ & Sharon Stephens
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans
Elizabeth Spaulding Titus

\$300 +

Emporia Friends of the Zoo
Dianne Engleke
Victoria S. Ferenbach
Ann E. Fries
Mary Fussell
Louise M. Johnson
Dina A. LaReau
Julie Rees
C. Sidamon-Eristoff
Mary Vann Hughes
Cynthia Wilder
Kenneth B. & Vicki J. Wilson
Linda Winkler

\$200 +

Laura E. Carlson
Diane Charlap
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Anna J. Stuart
Natalie Vasey
Lalia Williamson

\$100 +

Hermine Aborn
Eileen & Brice Alber
Ann B. & Steven G. Anderson
Jane B. Baisley
Gordon Bauer
R. Scott Beard
Diane Beatty
Ashley Beckers
Byron & Susan Bell
Fiona Brady & Carl Meling
Susan Brainerd & Alan Quinby
Sharon K. & Ronald M. Burde
Sheree & Jerry Cade
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CAP Associates
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\$100 + continued...

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0 - \$99

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 Scott G. & Dr. Lisa A. Fitzwilliams
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 Sharilyn Walters
 Peter & Susan Ward
 Carl White
 Doug Wilkie
 Thomas Wilson
 Phillip Wittman
 Stuart Wurtzel
 Elda Rae Yoshimura

A personal recollection

Animal ER of Lakewood Ranch.....	discounted veterinary services
Art and Rita Aughy.....	wood chipper
Penelope Bodry-Sanders.....	Deborah Ross painting
Zana Briske.....	Mifohaza auction item
Dr. Terah Browning.....	veterinary services
Ray Burnett.....	enrichment items
Cambuncha.....	Mifohaza gift bags
Al Cacchiotti.....	3.5 tons of shell
Steven Carlisle Thunderbird Editions.....	reduced printing costs
Dr. Anne Chauvet.....	veterinary services
Coastal Printing Corp.....	discounted printing
Catherine Craig.....	Mifohaza auction item
Paul Dent.....	50 oak trees
Daniel DeSantiago.....	enrichment materials
Disney's Animal Kingdom Primate Team.....	enrichment materials
Disney's Animal Kingdom Veterinary Hospital.....	veterinary supplies
Allison Elgart.....	enrichment items
Wendy Foldes.....	enrichment items
Georgie Hammond-Chambers.....	enrichment items
Madeline Hammond-Chambers.....	enrichment items
Lauren Highfill.....	enrichment items
Dr. David Holifield.....	veterinary services
Annie Lovejoy Jenkins.....	enrichment items
Mopsy Lovejoy and Martha Kiser.....	enrichment items
McKeithen Growers.....	37 five-gallon trees
Katharine Mc Kenna.....	Mifohaza auction item
Madecasse.....	chocolate bars
John Mogilewsky.....	catering
Monica Mogilewsky.....	catering
Jan Munsell.....	bamboo, enrichment materials
Myakka City Fire Rescue.....	50 rolls of fire hose
Nature's Path.....	Mifohaza gift bags
Annie Petty.....	enrichment items
Emily Petty.....	enrichment items
Pfizer Pharmaceuticals.....	pharmaceuticals
Nancy Elizabeth Raposa.....	auction and Malagasy Shop items
Judy Rasmuson.....	hosting board dinner
Eva van Rijn.....	painting
Deborah Ross.....	several paintings
Judy Rubin.....	enrichment items
Kathy Ruttenberg.....	art work & Mifohaza auction item
Ian Tattersall.....	Mifohaza auction item
Linda Taylor.....	water purifier, housewares
Natalie Vasey.....	enrichment items
Catherine White.....	Mifohaza auction item
Phil Whitman.....	canopy supplies
Whole Foods Market.....	produce
Ken Wilson.....	mowing

In 1998, Reed and his wife Barbara, were fossil hunting in Jamaica with a couple of my American Museum of Natural History colleagues when one of my friends happened to mention that we were starting a lemur reserve in Florida. The Toomeys were longtime residents of Florida and Reed's curiosity was tweaked. He tracked me down and asked if we could meet on the reserve. The reserve barely existed at that time, consisting of a pump for irrigation, the poured foundation for the lemur shelter and my A&K tent sent over from Kenya so I would have shelter while developing the property.



Reed and Barbara Toomey 1998, Photo by P. Bodry-Sanders

Reed met me for dinner at the tent. We spoke of the vision for LCF as we walked the grounds, imagining the fences and facilities yet to be built. When I was next in Myakka, Reed came again – this time with Barbara and their son, Jim. Again, we shared a meal consisting of elegant provisions brought from Gourmet Garage in NY - kept fresh in a cooler.

Once more, we spoke of the vision for lemur conservation and what we needed to realize that aspiration. Reed was a witty, playful, and charming man, much given to practical jokes. He had attached a plastic spider to a string of monofilament behind his back, moving the creature in and out of his pocket as he spoke. As I remember it the scene was quite surreal as there was also a lot of whispering going on among the Toomey family as the sun faded beneath the horizon. Finally, Reed said to me "We are thinking of giving you \$100,000. Would that be alright?" I was genuinely stunned and began to blubber, hanging my head over my plate while everyone sat in embarrassed silence.

At that moment I knew that the reserve would in fact become a reality. They suggested that we use the money as a matching gift and indeed we did, attracting serious donors, including Emily Fisher Alexander without whom we could not have enjoyed the growth we have experienced.

Next, we completed the "Reed and Barbara Toomey Lemur Pavilion." Along with Jim, the senior Toomeys were among the caravan on that emotional and exciting night in late 1999, when we brought the original eleven lemurs to the reserve from the Tampa airport. Jim went on to lead LCF through an important growth period as Chairman of the Board. Reed and Barbara also granted LCF \$50,000 for our work in Madagascar which helped finance a guest house. Now, "The Reed and Barbara Toomey Tranosoa Tampolo" is used by visiting scientists, researchers, and dignitaries.

Reed was indefatigably curious about all places, people and creatures he encountered during his and Barbara's prolific travels. Together they supported many noble and worthy causes. We will be forever grateful that he settled his sights on us because he and Barbara made a tremendous difference in the life of LCF. Reed lives on in our hearts and in the reserve to which he gave so much belief and support.

Penelope Bodry-Sanders, Founder

MISSION STATEMENT

The Lemur Conservation Foundation is a not-for-profit publicly supported organization dedicated to the preservation and conservation of lemurs through captive breeding, non-invasive scientific research, and education.



Infant ring-tailed Photo by Caitie Homan

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Director of Animal Health and Conservation, Associate Professor and Attending Veterinarian University of Rochester School of Medicine & Dentistry

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Lee Nesler Executive Director and CEO
Patricia Walsh Director of Research and Operations
Alison Hodge Animal Care Manager
Catherine Olteanu Development and Communications Manager
Nancy Hendrickson Office Manager
Kate Lippincott Bladstrom Librarian
Paul "Pete" Shover Maintenance Manager
Dr. David Holifield LCF Veterinarian
Dr. Cathy Williams Consulting LCF Veterinarian

LCF Annual Report

Designed by Kate Lippincott & Penelope Bodry-Sanders

Cover photograph: Jan Munsell



LEMUR
CONSERVATION
FOUNDATION

MYAKKA CITY LEMUR RESERVE
P.O. Box 249
Myakka City, FL 34251
(941) 322-8494
www.lemurreserve.org
www.facebook.com/LemurConservation

LCF is a 501c3 tax-exempt publicly supported organization (Federal ID 59-3359549) founded in 1996.