

## Annual Report 2014







# Foster Parrots, Ltd. & The New England Exotic Wildlife Sanctuary

"Providing place, peace and protection for captive parrots; working from the belief that parrots and all wild animals should be free."











### Mission & History

Foster Parrots, Ltd. is a non-profit organization dedicated to the rescue and protection of unwanted and abused companion parrots and other displaced captive exotic animals. Working on many levels to bring critical services to birds and animals in transition, we offer life-long sanctuary care for unadoptable parrots and other exotics at our permanent care sanctuary facility, The New England Exotic Wildlife Sanctuary. and provide adoption services for wellsocialized parrots who desire human companionship. Our educational initiatives seek to connect children and adults alike to animal and environmental issues, to nurture empathy, and to inspire a sense of personal responsibility and accountability toward the care of our earth and our animals. A staunch advocate for parrots as wild animals, Foster Parrots' village based conservation work in Central and South America helps keep parrots and other animals safe in their natural habitat, and also embodies our ultimate message: parrots and all wild animals should be free.

Founded in 1989 and formally incorporated in 1999, Foster Parrots, Ltd. is the largest avian rescue organization in the northeast. We are accredited by The Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries and are a founding member of the country's leading avian advocacy and information organization, The Avian Welfare Coalition. One of the most widely recognized and reputable parrot rescue organizations in the country, Foster Parrots has worked collaboratively with organizations like The Jane Goodall Institute, Born Free USA and The World Society for the Protection of Animals in our quest to bring assistance to captive parrots who have long suffered the consequences of pet trade exploitation and public misinformation.

In 2007 Foster Parrots established the **New England Exotic Wildlife Sanctuary** on 15 acres of rural land in Hope Valley, Rhode Island. With 8 additional acres acquired in 2013, the facility now encompasses 23 acres and serves as the permanent sanctuary arm of the organization and the center for our local and national educational outreach initiatives, student internships, and adoption program. Over 400 parrots representing more than 50 different avian species currently reside at the sanctuary.

With nearly two decades of service to parrots under our belt, Foster Parrots, Ltd. has cultivated a dedicated contributor base of continued support. The majority of our supporters have been with us for many years.

Foster Parrots organizes 3 major fundraiser initiatives each year. Our Annual March Matching Fund Drive kicks off the year with a matching fund of \$25,000. Many of our supporters anticipate and plan for this mail-based drive. It is our most profitable fundraiser, supporting close to a third of our budget annually. Our "Fall Fundraiser Extravaganza" is on on-site event taking place each September and is just as much about "giving back" to our supporters as it is about generating funding. At the close of each year our "Year-End Mini-Match" typically yields about \$25K in support

#### 2014 High Donors

#### **MAJOR CONTRIBUTORS**

#### \$1,000 - \$5,000

Ahimsa Foundation - \$5.000 Herbert Baer - \$2,000 Cornell Bialicki - \$3,000 Paule Brennan - \$1,000 Carries Reels - \$2,000 Malinda Pennoyer Chouinard - \$1,000 Trevor Coates - \$5,000 Marilyn Comb - \$1,000 Craig Cowles & Irene Sinteff - \$1,000 Lynn Donovan - \$1,000 Rita Eisman - \$1,200 Meredith Garmon - \$2,580 Jon and Andrea Gruber - \$5,000 Lothar and Sarah Hoess - \$1,130 Randi Hoffman - \$2,000 Paula Hooper - \$1,000 Ned Hurle - \$1,000 Liz Ickes & Mike Deem - \$5,000 Island Foundation - \$4,333 Pasam & Leanne Jain - \$1,200 LoraKim Joyner - \$1,000 Gloria Junge - \$1,100 Daniel Kemp - \$3,000 A Kinder World Foundation - \$5,000 Ed & Marcia Krempasanka - \$1,000 Susan Lane - \$1,000 Sarah Leonard - \$5,000 Robert Lew & Lee Yang - \$1,550 Ann Mackey - \$1,000 Bob & Elva Mathiesen - \$1.000 William McKee - \$1,000 Martha Morse Foundation - \$4,000 Popsi Narasimhan - \$1,000 Jane O'Donnell & Andy Baer - \$2,125 Carol Parks - \$1,500 Wm & Charlotte Parks Fdn - \$5,000 Annie Lee Roberts Emergency Fund - \$2,000 Sandra Roerig - \$5,000 SeaView Transportation - \$1,000 Muriel Seibert Foundation - \$3,000 Ed and Ann Snape - \$3,000 Phil Wolfson - \$1,000

Allison Thaler - \$1,500 Robert & Sandy Valois - \$1,000 Veterinary Assoc of the North Shore - \$1,500 Richard & Diana White - \$1,000 Brian Wood - \$1,000

#### \$5,500 - \$10,000

Dr. James & Stephen Coady-Hahn - \$6,000 Don and Linda Comb - \$6,500 Alison Fragale - \$5,500 Tracy Grinnell - \$6,000 Juana Ham - \$6,000 Leila McCarter - \$5,500 Barb & Phil Moscato - \$6,000

#### \$10,500 - \$20,000

Joe Brunnette - \$15,000
Donna Burrell & Jane Eggerstedt - \$22,000
Lisa Johnson - \$15,200
Julie Lisk & Tom Hamilton - \$18,300
Ed & Sharon Malley - \$19,000
Dawn McCall - \$15,050
Rhode Island Foundation - \$20,000
M.S. Worthington Foundation - \$14,000
Roland Vieta - \$20,000

#### \$25,000 - \$60,000

The Vincent J. Coates Foundation - \$40,000 Holly Miller - \$50,051 The Pat Palmer Foundation - \$40,000 Susan and Richard Sheridan - \$60,000

#### **INCOME & EXPENSE PROFILE**

#### 2014

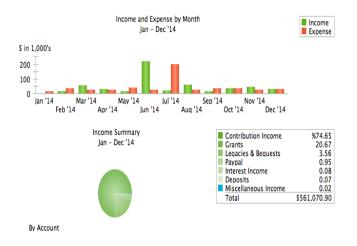
- \$560,260 total income (contributions, grants and bequests).
- 83.42% of revenue was allocated to Program Expenses (rescue, sanctuary, education, conservation, adoption)
- Combined administrative and fundraising expenses at approx. 8.73% demonstrating operational health and outstanding management of financial resources.
- Over \$19,000 in construction and facility development including completion of renovations of 4,000 sq. ft. of interior sanctuary space providing 13 large interior aviaries and prep of open concept spaces.
- Total Net Assets = \$845,804

#### Income and Expense by Month Income Ian - Dec '14 Expense \$ in 1,000's 200 100 Jul '14 Jun '14 Mar '14 May '14 Sep '14 Nov '14 Apr '14 Aug '14 Oct '14 Expense Summary ■ PROGRAM - WILDLIFE SANCTUARY %38.41 Jan - Dec '14 Program-Conservation/Costa Rica PROGRAM MANAGEMENT 35.87 7.07 Administrative 5.01 Insurance PROGRAM- EDUCATION & ADVOCACY 2.07 1.95 Fundraising Payroll Expenses 0.44 Other 0.07 By Account \$543,241.42

#### **NEEWS ACTIVITY PROFILE**

#### 2014

- In 2014 Foster Parrots logged surrender/rescue requests for over 350 parrots in need of services.
- 18 parrots were accepted into the facility and 8 parrots found adoptive homes.
- Parrots not received by Foster Parrots are referred to NEPPCO partner organizations for services, put on our waiting list or remain in their homes subsequent to counseling
- In 2014 our 5 African Crested
  Porcupines were transferred to the
  Wildlife Rehabilitation Center in
  Texas to live out the rest of their
  lives in over an acre of beautiful
  outdoor environment.
- Our current sanctuary population stands at approximately 450 birds.



## Program Highlight:

## Conservation Focus "Hatched To Fly Free" Costa Rica

Foster Parrots kicked off 2014 with a new conservation partnership, joining original Ara Project founder, Chris Castles to establish "Hatched To Fly Free", a new macaw breed & release effort in Costa Rica. Raising nearly \$200,000 to secure 3 hectares (7  $\frac{1}{2}$ acres) on the Osa Peninsula in the South Pacific region of the country, Foster Parrots and Hatched To Fly Free will work together over the next several years to build infrastructure including a series of aviaries, nursery and medical facility, intern quarters and education center.

One of Costa Rica's most reputable conservationists, Chris Castles has been instrumental in perfecting breed & release techniques that emphasize sustained post-release support resulting in an over 98% success rate for released Scarlet and Great Green macaws in Costa Rica over the last decade.

"Understanding the individual macaws and raising them so they have the best chance of adapting to life in the wild means total dedication to each chick – and that includes a lot of love," Chris explains.

"Our soft release approach is structured around the bird's needs relative to climate, seasonal food availability, social ranking, condition and individual confidence level. Every aspect of release work requires careful and close monitoring, and hours of dedication and hard work from staff."





2014 Conservation Partnership Hatched To Fly Free Osa Peninsula, Costa Rica - \$192,159

## **Program Review:**

### Sanctuary, Humane Education & Adoption



**SANCTUARY** 

The focus of The New England Exotic Wildlife Sanctuary is permanent care for parrots who are unwilling or unable to live compatibly with humans. Consequently, it is essential that we provide a high quality of life for resident birds. Over 35 large interior aviaries, 20 outdoor aviaries and several open concept spaces at the sanctuary support natural avian behavior and emphasize social fulfillment as a key element in the psychological health of our parrots. Emphasis on quality veterinary care under our Board Certified Avian Veterinarian, Dr. Hank Wietsma, and highly nutritious diets based in fresh produce are critical, especially for so many parrots who have suffered decades of poor care.

\$208,678 of our operating budget supported our work at the sanctuary in 2014, including over \$19,000 in funding for physical sanctuary development.



**EDUCATION** 

Providing direct care for countless unwanted pets that flood into America's shelter system year after year is not enough. Spreading awareness and working to influence a societal shift in attitudes regarding the roles and responsibilities of humans in the lives of animals is the key to real and lasting change.

Foster Parrots works to link arms and establish bridges with other animal welfare groups regardless of the species they represent. Our Humane Ed programs that are widely sought by regional schools, universities and veterinary groups. All of this has been done with the goal of creating a peaceful retreat for parrots and animals, and a regional center for animal care services and programs that that nurture a culture of empathy, responsibility and respect for all living things. Foster Parrots invested \$11,255 in Humane Education in 2014



**ADOPTION** 

Very often parrots - especially those who have been hand-raised by humans - identify themselves as human and prefer the companionship of people. Locating committed, compassionate human guardians for birds like this is the best way to fulfill their specific social needs. Additionally, providing adoption services enables us to help more unwanted birds. In response to the overwhelming number of parrots in need of services in our area, in 2012 Foster Parrots founded The **Northeast Parrot Placement** Cooperative (NEPPCO), a regional network of parrot rescue organizations, humane shelters, veterinarians and bird clubs working together to share information and expand adoption opportunities for parrots. In 2014 our network partner, Bob Lewis with NEAR launched the NEPPCO website and Facebook page. Our Adoption program operates on the initiative of our amazing volunteers.

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## Foster Parrots/NEEWS Organizational Highlights 2014

#### Foster Parrots Welcomes New Sanctuary Director, Danika Oriol-Morway



Foster Parrots' search for a dynamic new Sanctuary Director came to a close in October when we sat down at the table with Danika Oriol-Morway. Formerly with Mission: Wolf in Colorado and with administrative and management skills to her credit, Danika has the ability to inspire the human component while connecting in a profoundly personal way with the fundamental philosophical issues surrounding wildlife in captivity. With a Masters degree in Animals & Public Policy from The Cummings School at Tufts University, Danika is driven by values and ethics that are not only directly in line with those of Foster Parrots, but also will undoubtedly dictate her path as she makes her impact on the future of the organization.

## Foster Parrots Welcomes New Director of Humane Education, Michele Parrett

It was her background in the retail sale of parrots that reshaped Michele Parrett's views about the suitability of flighted, wild animals as pets - and ultimately compelled her to turn her back on the pet trade. Along this journey, though, she discovered that her real passion lay in educating people about parrots and in helping to shape public perception about the human impact on exotics – and all animals – kept as pets. With a Masters in Italian Literature from the University of Connecticut and an extensive background in administration and human resource management, Michele blends her people and professional skills with her passion for animal welfare as the new Director of Humane Education for Foster Parrots. An animated and inspiring public speaker, Michele offers a compelling variety of programs and presentations as she forges new community partnerships and educational goals for the organization that promise to establish Foster Parrots as a major regional humane education resource in the years to come.



#### **OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

MARC JOHNSON DAVID MORIMOTO, PH.D. ROY DUBS

Founder/Board Chair Biology Dept. Head-Lesley University Business Executive

Foster Parrots, Ltd. Ornithologist, Field Resarch

KAREN WINDSOR MICHAEL SCHINDLINGER, PH.D. JOSEPH CORREIA

Executive Director Conservation Biologist Media & Marketing

Foster Parrots, Ltd. Professor, UC Santa Barbara

HANK WIETSMA, DVM, ABVP VIVIAN WEXLER ANDREA GRUBER

NEEWS Veterinarian Attorney at Law, Harvard University Board Advisor

Harvard University

SUSAN SHERIDAN, MSW JAMES P. HAHN, O.D., PH.D STEPHANIE YOUNG
Key Benefactor & Visionary Harvard Vanguard Ophthalmology Personnel Director/PR

STAFF

MARC JOHNSON KAREN WINDSOR DANIKA ORIOL-MORWAY

Founder/CEO Executive Director Sanctuary Director

MICHELE PARRETT STEPHANIE YOUNG MONICA ARMSTRONG

Director of Humane Education Human Resources Director Sm. Bird Care Manager

RICK VAN TUYL

Direct Avian Care & Enrichment

Direct Avian Care

**Beverly Lewis** 

VOLUNTEERS

Alyssa Christian Linda Lewis Dorian DeSimone Ruth Ribner Abby Locke Gina Louise Sanders **Iackie DeVoe** Leslie MacDougall Marjorie Drew Donna McAdams **Kevin Saunders** Megan Elias Barbara Moscato Eric Shaw Ryan Fairfield Tracy Newell Beth Synder Angel Ferria Tamra Parsons Liz Trupin

Ashley Frye Carrie Pentazelos Christine Valcourt
Brian Jones Matthew Perkins Carol Wills

Pamela Roberts

Michaela Kennedy Zofia Pisulski

Foster Parrots, Ltd. is the sum of all of its parts. It is the Vision and Dreams of its Founders... It is the Faith and Hopes of its supporters... And it is given Wings by the dedication, efforts and emotional investment of its staff and volunteers. Without these people, there would be no happiness or fulfillment in the lives of our birds and animals, and there would be no way to move forward. We are forever indebted to these incredible hard-working and compassionate people.