



Dear valued friend and supporter,

Never let go.

I can't think of a better message to epitomize the Duke Lemur Center's passionate commitment to our mission, which guides our decisions every day.

From our notable achievements in 2023 listed on the next page, to the 57 years of history and progress since the Duke Lemur Center was established in 1966, we have continued to hold strong to our extraordinary purpose and ambitious goals. We have evolved and grown in our mission of increasing our impact through research, conservation, and public outreach and education. We have broadened our scope to teach and inspire the next generation of environmental stewards and to lead the protection and conservation of lemurs, Earth's most endangered mammals.

Your support is vital, and it makes a meaningful impact to our work, now and in the future.

The support that we receive from Duke University is very important to us, but it does not fully fund our annual operations. We receive nearly 50% of our operational budget from other sources, including revenues from tours and merchandise, as well as donations and grants from businesses and individuals like you.

We invite you to make a donation today! Enclosed is a gift form and reply envelope, or we encourage you to **give securely online at lemur.duke.edu/donate**. This year, there is an increased need for unrestricted donations to support expenses normally funded by tour revenues, which have been impacted due to extensive storm damage to the DLC in August. Repairs are ongoing. For more information on the storm damage, visit **lemur.duke.edu/microburst**.

Thank you for your support and friendship. I hope that you share the pride that we have in our accomplishments. Likewise, I hope that you *never let go* of the Duke Lemur Center as an important way that you can make a difference in the world.

Warmest regards,

Greg Dye
Executive Director

Questions about your gift? Contact Mary Paisley at (919) 401-7252
or **mary.paisley@duke.edu**.

GIVE ONLINE:



Our "Never Let Go" artwork was inspired by Pia, a Coquerel's sifaka known for the especially tender way she enfolded her infants in her arms. Our thanks to DLC friend and illustrator, Natasha Mutch, for creating a frame-worthy portrait.

Examples of our Impact in 2023



ANIMAL CARE AND WELFARE

- Our remarkable colony of lemurs grew by a total of 25 animals in 2023!
- We had a near-record birth season for our mouse lemur colony, with 14 babies this year. We attribute this success to some modifications to our animal care and welfare program for that species.



VETERINARY MEDICINE

- The DLC recognized Dr. Cathy Williams for 23 years of service and welcomed Dr. Julie Ter Beest to lead our veterinary team.
- Our veterinary team made great strides in optimizing the new spaces, equipment, and opportunities to collaborate and share their expertise in the Anna Borruel Codina Center for Lemur Medicine and Research.
- We resumed externships and rotations for veterinary students and began plans with North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine to begin working with students in 2024.
- With support from the FS Foundation, we will resume the Malagasy Veterinary Internship program in 2024.



FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE

- Two new mini free-ranging enclosures were created for lemurs who would not normally have access to the forest, and we're seeing great success with its impact on their welfare.
- On August 16, the DLC was hit by a microburst weather event that took the Durham area by surprise. Thankfully, all lemurs and DLC staff were unharmed. The strong winds and fallen trees damaged three buildings and all 11 natural habitat enclosures were unusable. Repairs are ongoing, and our goal is to have lemurs back out in the forest by the spring.



SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY

- Our new field station in Anjavavy, Madagascar is open for use as the DLC's hub for hibernation research programs in the heart of the Anjavavy forest! The station will further our comparative research between wild dwarf lemurs and the DLC's lemurs and allow us to engage more students and scientists in our work.
- As of October, the DLC has contributed to more than 20 scientific manuscripts published in peer-reviewed journals in 2023.
- The DLC Museum of Natural History in Durham, NC opened its doors to a brand-new exhibit of the DLC's priceless fossils collection. Museum staff also explored caves in southwestern Madagascar this summer, searching for the remains of giant lemurs and other now-extinct species.



CONSERVATION

- In Madagascar, the DLC's SAVA conservation team (DLC-SAVA) engaged 1,150 Malagasy farmers in learning sustainable living strategies including vegetable farming, agroforestry, chicken husbandry, rice agriculture, vanilla, pisciculture, and nutrition education.
- In the remote rainforests, DLC-SAVA searched for and monitored the area's threatened lemurs, and disarmed lemur traps and reported other illegal activities like deforestation and logging.
- DLC-SAVA reached 3,000+ people through environmental education programs like tree planting events, visits to the New Generation School Garden and Marojejy National Park, and town-hall presentations.
- DLC-SAVA planted more than 21,000 trees in 2023 and checked and evaluated 100,000 trees that have been planted since 2021.
- More than 1,000 women in the SAVA region received free family planning consultation and subsidized contraceptives through our partner, Marie Stopes International.
- 100 families in the SAVA region received fuel-efficient cooking stoves, which reduce the amount of fuelwood and charcoal they use, thereby reducing pressure on the environment and household budgets.
- The DLC's conservation breeding program, in collaboration with Tierpark in Berlin, Germany, successfully transferred mongoose lemurs with the goal of strengthening breeding outcomes for mongoose lemur populations in Europe.



OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

- Thus far in 2023, we have hosted 13,521 visitors for educational tours and events at the Duke Lemur Center.
- For the first time, the DLC's internship program provided all seven summer interns with a salary to engage students across all socio-economic lines.
- 126 volunteers served a total of 8,800 volunteer hours as of October. This is over 1,000 hours more than at this time last year, and 44 of our volunteers are high school, undergraduate, or graduate students.
- Our friends from around the world have tuned in to our new podcast, Aye-Aye Pod, and our social media audiences connected with our work through hundreds of videos, photos, and updates featuring the DLC's lemurs and our work in Durham and Madagascar. Our Instagram and Facebook accounts have a combined 87.9k followers!



How Your Support Helps



YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

Every gift to the Duke Lemur Center is an investment in furthering our mission. Your generosity makes so much possible:



CARE AND WELFARE

We provide world-class care, daily enrichment, and high-quality food for all 200+ animals in our care.



VETERINARY MEDICINE

The DLC is a global authority on lemur medicine. We share our expertise with veterinarians, students, and zookeepers around the world, improving the care and health of lemurs everywhere.



FACILITIES AND MAINTENANCE

Our lemurs live on 100 acres in Duke Forest, with indoor/outdoor housing and access to naturally forested free-ranging enclosures.



SCIENTIFIC DISCOVERY

The DLC is an internationally renowned center for scientific research. Studying lemurs' health, reproduction, and social dynamics informs their care in captivity and conservation in the wild. It also has implications for understanding ourselves and other primates.



OUTREACH AND EDUCATION

We're proud to nurture the next generation of scientists and environmental stewards through tours, educational programs, internships, and research opportunities in Durham, in Madagascar, and beyond, thanks to virtual and social media platforms.



CONSERVATION

For almost 40 years, the DLC has partnered with the people of Madagascar to protect lemurs in their natural habitat while improving the lives of local people. In Durham, we've celebrated 3,400+ births through our conservation breeding program for lemurs, Earth's most endangered mammals.

WE'LL NEVER LET GO of our quest and responsibility to learn from, care for, and protect these extraordinary primates and their natural habitat. Thank you for your friendship and support!



lemur.duke.edu/donate



Never Let Go