



# ANNUAL REPORT 2017



# ANNUAL REPORT 2017

Driven by NEAVS' mission to end the use of animals in cruel and unnecessary research, testing, and science education, we continued to strive for tangible, and significant progress through outreach, research, education, collaboration, and legislative policy changes.

For over 25 years, Dr. Theodora Capaldo, a trailblazer within the animal movement, led NEAVS' push for change. Under her tenure, numerous milestones were achieved for animals in labs, including NEAVS' successful campaign, Project R&R, which helped lead to the historic end of chimpanzee research in U.S. biomedical research. In the fall of 2017, Dr. Capaldo stepped down as President and CEO; however, as she so aptly stated, "While I will never say goodbye to my commitment to animals, it is time to say goodbye to my leadership at NEAVS."

During our transition to new governance, NEAVS welcomed Nathan Herschler as Executive Director, and Gina Weishaupt as President of the Board. Both have brought their passion, expertise, and commitment to serving the animals we work so hard for every day. More importantly, they are determined to build on NEAVS' legacy of creating positive change for animals in labs—striving toward the day when millions of innocent lives will no longer be sacrificed in the name of inhumane and outdated science.





## CONNECTING THROUGH COLLABORATION

2017 offered the NEAVS' staff, board of directors, donors, and supporters, exciting opportunities to personally connect with other animal advocates—individuals who inspire action!

NEAVS hosted a reception and presentation by Jill Robinson, Founder & CEO, Animals Asia; and a book signing featuring Jo-Anne McArthur, renowned Photojournalist/Author/Educator, *We Animals*. We were proud to present live webinars prior to each event—highlighting their tireless efforts to promote compassion for all sentient beings.

In addition, we participated in community outreach via tabling events—such as New England VegFest and the NH SPCA Paws Walk—which enabled NEAVS' staff members to answer questions, provide educational materials, and offer the public ways to become directly involved with our mission.

We enjoyed increasing our social network of animal advocates to help spread the word to family and friends about such important issues as promoting passage of the U.S. Humane Cosmetics Act (HCA); educating students and teachers about school dissection choice; advancing science through NEAVS' current fellowship grant recipient, Dr. Sushila Maharjan, working on organs-on-chips and 3-D tissue models as alternatives to using animal models in biomedical research; providing sanctuary support for animals rescued from labs; and growing NEAVS' volunteer opportunities!

We believe that by building strong relationships, and collaborating together, we're working toward successfully achieving NEAVS' mission.

*[Photos in the Annual Report are courtesy: Jo-Anne McArthur, We Animals]*



## ACCOLADES

During the summer of 2017, NEAVS joined in commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Institute for In Vitro Sciences (IIVS), a leader in non-animal testing alternatives. During the commemoration, NEAVS was presented with a certificate of appreciation for funding we provided to support IIVS in its mission to replace animal testing.

We are proud to be part of the formation of IIVS, and look forward to continuing to partner with like-minded organizations, and individuals, in supporting the research, development, and implementation of non-animal alternatives.

And, at NEAVS, we know our work for animals in labs couldn't be successful without our loyal supporters—who speak loudly for those who cannot speak for themselves. We want to share just a few examples of inspirational words, which help us to focus on NEAVS' important mission for the animals...

"Amazing organization, ... I love how you combine science and ethics. Very inspiring!"

*Eileen S.*

"Thank you for the extremely important and compassionate work you do [for the animals]."

*Joy R.*

"A wonderful organization dedicated to ending the use of animals in testing... time to end this barbaric practice!"

*Anne H.*

"Thank you [NEAVS] for the Leaping Bunny program. It guides my purchases... [helping me] to find out if a company does animal testing!"

*Patricia A.*

"As advocates for social justice, our job is twofold:  
to walk together toward injustice when others turn a blind eye.  
And, when the odds seem stacked against us...we do not give up.  
Compassion for the innocent is what drives people like you and me  
to make a difference for animals."

*Nathan Herschler, Executive Director*







# SPOTLIGHT

NEAVS went through some big changes in 2017. But, our focus remains the same —implementing campaigns to maximize our impact for animals in labs. Each campaign is designed to dismantle a rung in vivisection's infrastructure of misery, and open eyes, hearts, and minds to the suffering of millions of sentient beings who remain imprisoned in research labs under the guise of 'science.' One animal in a lab, is one too many!



# 2018 CAMPAIGN INITIATIVES

## SUPPORTING HUMAN-CENTERED SCIENCE ALTERNATIVES

Central to NEAVS' mission is active engagement with the scientific research community. This includes funding of a post-doctoral fellow conducting heart-on-a-chip sex differences research at the preeminent Harvard/MIT Wyss Institute. We are also exploring opportunities to promote research, and development of non-animal alternatives at other leading laboratories to pave the road for potential, future partnerships.

In addition, we are working toward expanding cross-sector collaboration with scientists, regulatory agencies, and the private sector to effectively foster a shift from animal to non-animal alternatives. NEAVS has held many conversations with leaders in the alternatives field—to increase our visibility, and identify gaps. One need we've identified is lack of opportunity for animal alternative advocates to share knowledge, and convene in a collaborative, and dedicated setting to discuss overlap across the field. We look forward to hosting a summit in the fall of 2018 to gather all stakeholders for a facilitated, working session.

By supporting research, which yields groundbreaking scientific models, without the use of animals, NEAVS stands poised to show the world outdated animal experimentation is inferior and unnecessary for increased human health and wellbeing.





# 2018 CAMPAIGN INITIATIVES (CONT'D)

## FEDERAL AND STATE POLICY WORK

We are expanding on, and promoting legislation to increase the transparency of animal research activities. We will ensure NEAVS is aligned with organizations, agencies, and individuals on the forefront of non-animal, cutting-edge alternative developments as well as cultivating relationships with legislators to enlist support in establishing humane policy. Highlights of NEAVS' policy focus includes:

### USDA (APHIS) THIRD-PARTY INSPECTIONS

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), through its Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), is considering new inspection standards to USDA-licensed facilities—including research laboratories. These possible changes come under the guise of decreased regulations—but at the cost of the thousands of animals held captive in labs.

NEAVS has been vocal in strongly opposing these possible changes, which would redirect inspections of USDA-licensed facilities to private organizations, allowing for dangerous self-policing of research labs at the detriment of animals purportedly protected under the Animal Welfare Act (AWA).

In response to the USDA's APHIS proposal, NEAVS has posted expert comments on the Federal Register; participated in the APHIS listening sessions; sent 'Action Alerts' to supporters via email; used social media to actively engage with the public—asking them to be a voice for animals in labs by opposing these possible changes in regulation.

### 21ST CENTURY CURES ACT

The 21st Century Cures Act (designed to accelerate medical product development), requires NIH and other federal agencies that undertake or fund research using animals, to report to Congress highlighting potential areas of de-regulation, which will not affect animal welfare.

Along with our efforts opposing the USDA's proposed inspection changes (above), NEAVS is also taking an active role, in collaboration with partner organizations, to fight the push toward deregulation within the animal research industry .

Activities will include NEAVS posting expert comments on the Federal Register once open; affiliated outreach to supporters to garner public support; and holding a workshop in collaboration with Harvard Law School to convene a coalition of animal protection organizations to draft a rebuttal to a recent report by Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB), which promotes widespread deregulation—putting animals in laboratories at risk of increased harm, and suffering.

## HOUSE AND SENATE APPROPRIATIONS

We recognize many federal agencies, NIH, FDA, and USDA, receive billions of taxpayer money each year to continue animal testing. However, there are many alternative test methods, which do not include harming animals; have increased success; provide higher scientific efficacy rates; and are substantially less costly. But, these same federal agencies cite a low necessity of funding in vitro research and development.

NEAVS will work toward influencing these agencies, and members of the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees, to defund programs that incorporate in vivo test methods, and promote increased funding for development, validation, and adoption of in vitro research methods—moving us one step closer to humane-centered science alternatives.

## ANIMAL WELFARE TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (S.503/H.R.1368)

Update: NEAVS will closely monitor the USDA's compliance with the Congressional order to restore transparency and completeness to the public database of heavily-redacted APHIS records; and intermittently advocate for the Animal Welfare Accountability and Transparency Act, to compel the USDA to restore availability of certain regulatory records relating to the administration of the AWA, including inspections, annual reports and AWA enforcement actions for USDA-licensed facilities and businesses.

## HUMANE COSMETICS ACT (HCA-H.R. 2790)

Our commitment includes promoting passage of the HCA, which will finally end the use of animals in U.S. cosmetics testing—and, instead, use non-animal alternative testing methods, which already exist!

We will expand our outreach and education with consumers to provide information about cruelty-free product alternatives—via direct member outreach, social media, as well as local and national events. Our 2018 calendar of events includes New England VegFest in Worcester, MA; Animal Rights National Conference in Los Angeles, CA; SPCA Paws Walk in Stratham, NH; and Taking Action for Animals (TAFA) in Arlington, VA.

## MASSACHUSETTS PRODUCTS ALTERNATIVES BILL (S459/H2933)

NEAVS is engaged in advocating and lobbying efforts for passage of the Massachusetts Products Alternatives Bill. Once passed, it would require manufacturers, and its contract testing facilities, to use test methods that replace, reduce, or refine animal testing of the product, and ingredients when available, and provide equivalent, or better scientific quality, and relevance for the intended purposes.

These efforts provide an important avenue for NEAVS to build relationships with key stakeholders on a state level, while also increasing our visibility in the Commonwealth. Although we are a nationally recognized organization, this work is critical to leveraging our unique geographic location—as we are situated in one of the world's most cutting-edge, bio-medical hubs.

# 2018 CAMPAIGN INITIATIVES (CONT'D)

## SANCTUARY SUPPORT

We are intent on helping animal sanctuaries, which provide care to the lucky few former lab animals who have been rescued, including dogs, bears, monkeys, orangutans, and chimpanzees.

Through our Sanctuary Support Program, NEAVS works to assist, and empower organizations, which provide care to those lucky few animals rescued from life in a laboratory. The Program is designed to increase the collaborative relationships between NEAVS and recipient sanctuaries.

In addition, due to our long history of taking a leadership role in ending the use of chimpanzees in bio-medical research, we remain committed to providing aid, and being a 'voice' for those chimpanzees still held in laboratories, to be quickly retired to the safety of sanctuary.

Because at NEAVS, our mission does not end when an animal is rescued from a laboratory!

## HUMANE EDUCATION

We will continue promoting humane, superior alternatives to dissection and advocating for a student's right to choose. Many people aren't aware that studies indicate students who use dissection alternatives demonstrate equal or better learning outcomes than those who do not!

NEAVS aims to educate and empower students and teachers with a goal of increasing the numbers of those taking part in ethical science education.

Our 2018 outreach efforts include refreshing humane education materials, attending science teacher conferences, and creation of an extensive database of key teacher and administrator contacts throughout New England for additional opportunities to engage and network!





# LEADERSHIP



## NATHAN W. HERSCHLER, J.D. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

At the New England Anti-Vivisection Society (NEAVS), we fight to end the use of animals in research, testing, and science education. We have fought battle after battle in this war to protect animals for over 120 years now. And in those years, our organization has been blessed to have many great leaders. 2017 was a year of meaningful change in leadership for NEAVS, beginning with the election of new board members, a new board president, and finally with the selection of a new executive director and director of development.

Throughout our leadership transition, we had the honor to look back at the successful tenure of Dr. Theodora Capaldo as Executive Director and President of NEAVS, along with all of her accomplishments for animals in labs. You will have an opportunity to read about a number of achievements led by Dr. Capaldo during 2017 as part of our year in review.

In addition, our staff members and board of directors have developed a relationship based on trust and teamwork—allowing NEAVS to align on key strategies to create real change for animals in labs. It is through the passion, hard work, and partnership of our team combined with you—our key advocates—that will lead us to victory in this long battle to end vivisection.

With your support, we will be the change for animals in labs. We will strike at the underlying causes of humanity's mistreatment of animals in labs while continuing to provide direct support to animals in crisis. We will expose the senseless cruelty, which is pervasive in animal research, and demonstrate the value of investing in meaningful alternatives to animal testing. And, we will work together to find solutions that create a better world for both animals and people.

As our organization takes on one of the most intractable challenges for animals in society, we hope you'll continue to stand with us as we transform ourselves in 2018 and beyond. Thank you for your longstanding support of NEAVS, and for your continued support as we forge ahead into the future!

## STAFF

Anne Mola, CPA, Finance Director  
Nancy Finn, Marketing & Communications Director  
Erinn Larson, Marketing & Communications Associate  
Ed Butler, Development Director  
Christina Papianou, Development Coordinator  
Elizabeth Magner, Ph.D., Program Manager  
Jessica Dickard, J.D., Program Associate

## GINA WEISHAUP

### BOARD PRESIDENT

When I look back on 2017, one word comes to mind: progress.

Although NEAVS marks this past year as a time of leadership transition, the stability of the organization remains strong as we move forward in our mission to end the use of animals in research, and replace this cruel practice with non-animal alternatives.

For the past 25 years, Dr. Theodora Capaldo has provided powerful leadership, which has allowed NEAVS to make historic strides toward achieving our mission. This leadership is highlighted by her tireless efforts to end the use of chimpanzees in U.S. biomedical research, and their retirement to the safety of sanctuary. As the new board president, it is a privilege to succeed such a remarkable animal advocate. I also find it to be a tremendous benefit that she continues to serve as a board member.

2017 was a financially healthy year for NEAVS. The combination of effective oversight of our resources, and generous donations from loyal supporters has allowed us to fund crucial programs to end the use of animals in cosmetic testing, to monitor the transfer of chimpanzees from labs to sanctuaries, to extend our support to organizations aligned with our mission like Animals Asia, and We Animals, and so much other important work.

Our staff, now led by Executive Director, Nathan Herschler, J.D., continues to ensure we are well positioned not only as a key member of the anti-vivisection movement, but also as an organization you can count on to pioneer new strategies that will build on the past successes of NEAVS. Growth and innovation will allow NEAVS to make strides toward creating needed changes in research, education, and policy. We recognize business as usual will not get us to our goal. A true paradigm shift is necessary to change how the world views the use of animals in research and testing.

Alongside a dedicated and talented board of directors, I am taking ownership of my responsibility to support programs, and coalitions, which are consistent with NEAVS' mission. What remains consistent since NEAVS' inception in 1895 thru 2017 and beyond, is our unwavering compassion devotion to animals.

I would like to close by thanking all of you who supported our important work in 2017. It is our collective voices on this issue that will create lasting change for animals in labs.



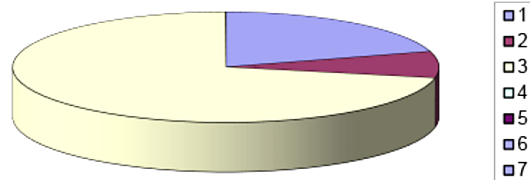
## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Theodora Capaldo, Ed.D., President Emeritus  
Angela Steadman, Corporate Clerk  
Perry Steinberg, Treasurer  
Karen Allen, Director  
Margaret B. Peppercorn, MD, FAAP, Director  
Betsy Swart, MSW, Ph.D., Director



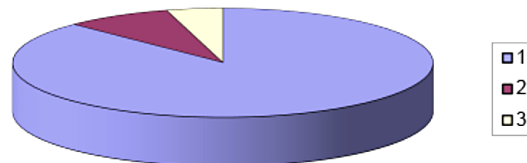
# 2017 FINANCIALS

## OPERATING REVENUES



Bequests	20.43%	\$346,054
Contributions	7.75%	\$131,287
Investment Revenue	71.77%	\$1,215,785
Other	.05%	\$840
		\$1,693,966

## OPERATING EXPENSES



Programs	87.41%	\$1,059,629
Development	8.26%	\$100,105
Administrative	4.34%	\$52,553
		\$1,212,287



## GIVING TO NEAVS

NEAVS' ability to accomplish our mission—ending animals in research, testing, and science education, is bound to the support we receive from our friends and donors. As a team, we're moving toward the day when NO animal will suffer and die in a lab cage. You can contribute to this vital work several ways.

### DONATE ONLINE

You may use NEAVS' secure portal to make a gift or recurring gifts for general support of our mission.

[www.neavs.org](http://www.neavs.org)

### DONATE BY MAIL

Send a donation by check to:

NEAVS

333 Washington Street, Suite 850  
Boston, MA 02108

### DONATE BY PHONE

Please contact Christina Papianou, Development Coordinator at 617-523-6020 to learn about different methods of payment.



A NATIONAL 501(c)(3) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

NEW ENGLAND ANTI-VIVISECTION SOCIETY  
333 WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE 850  
BOSTON, MA 02108

(617) 523-6020