

# Last Chance for Animals 2016 Annual Report

## To all current and future supporters of Last Chance for Animals:

Last Chance for Animals (LCA), known as "The FBI of Animal Rights," is an international nonprofit organization dedicated to fighting animal cruelty. LCA's Special Investigation Unit (SIU), conducts in-depth undercover investigations to expose horrible cruelty and misuse of animals. The SIU team focuses on validating information, detecting suspect activity, exposing illegal or unethical activities and reporting them to local, state and federal authorities for prosecution. The information obtained in LCA's investigations is used to develop campaigns, provide grassroots education and outreach to the public and draft legislation that will bring real permanent changes for animals.

LCA recognizes all animals as sentient beings that should not be subjected to exploitation by humans for food, entertainment, clothing or scientific curiosity and deserve to live their lives free from pain. LCA advocates conscious and informed lifestyle decisions and is committed to disseminating truthful information about societal animal abuse in order to improve the manner in which animals are treated worldwide.



Here are Some of LCA's Investigative Work and Campaigns

**Combatting Animal Abuse in 2016** 



LCA Outfitting Virunga National Park's AirWing

## Help Save the Mountain Gorilla Campaign Moves to Virunga: LCA provided

Virunga's AirWing Program with airplane bush wheels, mobile LED airstrip lighting and tool chests. A functional and modern AirWing program provides the best possible tool to secure the park and reduce threats to Virunga's rangers and wildlife population.

For over a decade, LCA has provided long-standing support to the Ugandan and Rwandan Wildlife Authorities in the conservation of the critically endangered mountain gorillas. In 2016, LCA's campaign turned to supporting war-torn Virunga National Park in the Congo where rangers risk their lives daily to protect the land and the wildlife from poachers and rebel militia. 150 Virunga rangers have been killed in the past decade protecting the park and the wildlife.



Cessna 206 To Be Supplied to Virunga National Park in 2017

In conjunction with the Cindy & Michael Landon Foundation, a Cessna 206 is being outfitted to join Virunga's AirWing support in early 2017.

www.LCASavingGorillas.org



Exposing Abuse of Beluga Whales at Marineland Canada: LCA's five-month undercover investigation into Marineland Canada, that exposed shocking abuse and neglect of beluga whales, was released in early 2016. LCA submitted a complaint to the

Ontario Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals alleging violations of the OSPCA Act. The complaint detailed Marineland's care of whales that falls below prescribed standards in medical treatment, food, protection from elements, water quality and psychological well-being. LCA is urging Canadian Parliament to pass the *Ending the Captivity of Whales and Dolphins Act* (Bill S-203), which would prevent this tragedy from being inflicted upon future whales by banning their capture, confinement, breeding and sale.



LCA photo

History Was Made! Ringing Bros. Circus Finally Ends the Elephant Act: After decades of protests by LCA and other organizations and supporters, Ringling Bros. finally ended its elephant act on May 1, 2016. The two final shows took place simultaneously in Providence, RI and Wilkes Barre, PA. LCA led a widely publicized demonstration outside of the Wilkes-Barre show, which was featured on both local television and in national press. This is a long overdue victory for circus elephants. LCA will keep fighting for the elephants that have been "retired" to "Ringling Bros. Center for Elephant Conservation," where they are being subjected to cancer research, bred for

entertainment, chained up at night and loaned to zoos. In June 2016, LCA co-organized a major protest at Ringling Bros. first elephant-free Los Angeles circus, urging them to become 100% animal-free. LCA continues to put the pressure on Ringling and other circuses until animals are no longer exploited and forced to commit unnatural acts for the sake of entertainment. <u>www.NoCircusCruelty.com</u>



<u>Class B Dealers Finally Out of Business!</u> As part of the 2016 Omnibus Spending Bill, U.S. Congress voted to block all USDA funding of licenses for class B dealers who sell "random source" dogs and cats to medical research, effectively putting them out of business.

This tremendous victory follows more than <u>35 years</u> of LCA's numerous undercover groundbreaking investigations, prosecutions and campaigns against Class B dealers that contributed significantly to their decline. Class B dealers are known for the horrendous cruelty they inflict on animals and routinely violate the law by acquiring them from undocumented sources; many have been proven to be stolen family pets, strays or obtained under false pretenses through "free to good home" ads.

LCA was the first animal rights group to procure state and federal prison sentences for Class B dealers in 1991. LCA's harrowing undercover investigation and bust of the biggest and most notorious Class B dealer, C.C. Baird and Martin Creek Kennels in Arkansas, was the subject of the 2006 Emmy award-winning HBO America Undercover documentary, *Dealing Dogs*. Baird's facility, Martin Creek Kennels, alone supplied thousands of animals for years to research labs. The documentary brought the truth about Class B dealers' cruelty to prime time and spurred a national movement against the Class B dealer industry.

In 2012, the National Institute of Health (NIH), the largest funder of biomedical research in the U.S., stopped funding research that involved cats obtained from Class B dealers. In 2014, the NIH enacted a similar ban on dogs. LCA's undercover investigative work was a key influencer in this historical action and was referenced in the official report.



Stopping the Asian Dog and Cat Meat Trade: LCA's Stop Dog Meat campaign is focused on ending the horrific dog and cat meat trade in China and South Korea. With a full-time investigative team in China, LCA has exposed horrific cruelty at dog meat slaughterhouses, and the notorious Yulin Dog Meat Festival. Working with local authorities, LCA is continually providing documentation to close down slaughterhouses.

LCA organized and led an anti-dog meat protest outside the South Korean Embassy in Los Angeles in July 2016. LCA has been working with key politicians both in the US and South Korea to educate the public and bring an end to the superstitious myth of eating dog and cat meat. <u>www.StopDogMeat.com</u>



Stopping Passage of Unconstitutional "Ag-Gag" Bills: LCA is fighting against freedom-crushing ag-gag laws, legislation that outlaws recording at factory farms and prevents whistleblowers from exposing animal abuse, worker harassment, unsafe working conditions, and other illegal and unethical activities. The more the public is learning about these insidious bills, the more difficult it's becoming for Big Agriculture to get them passed. In 2016, Missouri Bill HB 1414 was introduced. The bill would have created an "information blackout" for factory farms and puppy mills -- blocking you from learning about animal cruelty, toxic pollution and human health hazards like infectious diseases. Tens of thousands signed LCA's petition against HB 1414, and on July 8, 2016, Governor Jay Nixon vetoed the dangerous bill. LCA continues to monitor ag gag bills as they arise and work to stop them from becoming law. <u>www.EndAgGagLaws.com</u>

**Puppy Mill Awareness Day (PMAD):** LCA held the 13<sup>th</sup> annual PMAD in September 2016 in Austin, TX. The event, attended by approximately 500 people, sponsored by LCA, seeks to end the cruel business of puppy mills by educating the public about the deplorable conditions and encouraging people to adopt animals through rescue organizations and shelters.

## Public Education and Outreach:



Animal News Van: LCA and the Animal News Van (ANV), attends special events, conferences, schools and fundraisers. LCA's custom-made, donated ANV is equipped with two large plasma televisions screens, a speaker system and led ticker tape. The ANV uses the powerful medium of video to educate citizens about the current conditions animals live in by showing investigative reports and disseminating breaking news stories. Attendees at each event range from 30-300.

LCA's ongoing educational campaigns include extensive efforts to educate the public about animal suffering and ways to combat it using peaceful and lawful methods such as petition-signing, letter-writing, civil disobedience demonstrations and product boycotts. Special emphasis is given to schools to encourage the younger generation to adopt a compassionate, cruelty-free lifestyle.

Throughout the year, LCA was interviewed for television and radio shows, online news outlets and conducted numerous lectures at educational institutions. LCA also organized

and attended civil disobedience demonstrations, tabling events and conferences with leaflets and petitions, educating the public about animal cruelty and what can be done to stop it.



LCA's President Chris DeRose Inspiring Others to Take Action for Animals

<u>Social Media & Websites:</u> LCA strives to educate the public about animal issues through websites, email alerts and social media. These educational tools are valuable resources for the public as they contain information on a variety of animal rights issues, encourage readers to take action and provide an opportunity to update members about LCA's programs. LCA's network of websites and social media includes <u>LCAnimal.org</u>, <u>StopDogMeat.com</u>, <u>RabbitCruelty.com</u>, <u>FactoryFarm360org</u>, <u>EndAgGagLaws.com</u>, <u>NoCircusCruelty.com</u>, <u>FurFreeFriday.com</u>, <u>BanPuppyMills.com</u>, <u>DealingDogs.com</u>, <u>LCASavingGorillas.org</u>, <u>EatCrueltyFree.com</u>, <u>twitter.com/LC4A</u>, <u>instagram.com/lc4a</u> and <u>facebook.com/LastChanceForAnimals</u>.

High Accreditations from Charity Rating Websites: LCA is highly committed to accountability and financial transparency: <u>Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance</u> - give.org - LCA has met all 20 standards and is an accredited charity. <u>GuideStar</u> - guidestar.org - LCA is a Gold level (highest level) GuideStar participant. <u>Charity</u> Navigator - charitynavigator.com - LCA has received a four out of four-star rating.



**Financial Information:** LCA is a nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c) (3) organization funded by over 170,000 individual donors around the globe. Our annual budget is far below that of many other animal advocacy groups. We are committed to using our funds in the most cost-effective and efficient manner possible. In the fiscal year ending December 31, 2016, LCA received a total income of \$1,789,267 broken down as follows:

Donations and contributions	\$ 1,529,743
Bequests	175,823
Grants	45,000
Books & merchandise	1,914
Loss on sale of securities	(11,107)
Royalties	1,038
Interest & dividend income	 46,856
Total	\$ 1,789,267

#### Year Ended December 31, 2016 Expenses:

Totals	\$ 1,564,499	\$ 658,012	\$ 184,655	\$ 35,477	\$ 2,442,643
Gift Expense	<u> </u>	-	533	-	\$ 533
Staff Recruiting	463	495	-	-	\$ 958
Printing and Reproduction	990	63	-	-	\$ 1,053
Automobile Expense	2,508	802	-	-	\$ 3,310
Telephone Expense	3,726	442	66	44	\$ 4,278
Merchandise LCA Branded	5,250	-	-	-	\$ 5,250
Bank & Interest Charges	1,862	4,130	307	308	\$ 6,607
Film & Video	8,772	-	-	-	\$ 8,772
Office Expense	5,075	2,507	777	1,351	\$ 9,710
Press Conferences	10,904	-	-	-	\$ 10,904
Chartiable Registration Fees	-	-	11,605	-	\$ 11,605
Protest Expenses	12,314	-	-	-	\$ 12,314
Delivery & Postage	8,600	4,363	847	25	\$ 13,835
Investment Advisory Fees	-	-	-	14,406	\$ 14,406
Meals & Entertainment	7,468	9,919	22	15	\$ 17,424
Depreciation Expense	7,644	11,407	918	612	\$ 20,581
Donation Processing Fees	-,	-	23,195	-	\$ 23,195
Animal News Van Expense	23,590	-	-,	-	\$ 23,590
Advertising	18,530	_0,000	8,367	-	\$ 26,897
Contributions/Support	3,955	25,000	-	-	\$ 28,955
In Your Face Book Exp	38,880	-	-		\$ 38,880
Employee Pension Exp	13,000	36,400	1,560	1,040	\$ 52,000
Computer Expense	39,023	13,985	1,967	1,432	\$ 56,407
Travel	46,915	19,225	-		\$ 66,140
Rent	37,523	30,019	4,503	3,002	\$ 75,047
Public Relations	50,514	26,084	-		\$ 76,598
Insurance Expense	54,213	44,057	405	444	\$ 99,119
Professional Fees	94,337	7,985	10,450	8,624	\$ 121,396
Investigations Expenses	-	129,554	-	-	\$ 129,554
Campaigns	389,110	_		_	\$ 389,110
Direct Mail	387,392	-	96,848	-	\$ 484,240

LCA allocates expenditures to Programs, Fundraising and Management/General.

**Programs** include expenses directly related to LCA's work to expose and end animal cruelty and abuse. This includes funding for program activities of undercover

investigations and campaigns, purchasing investigative equipment, working with the media and government entities and creating informational materials to inform people about animal exploitation.

**Fundraising** includes expenses, which have a primary purpose of raising revenue to allow LCA's mission and work to continue. This includes efforts to solicit donations and expenses related to those efforts. 20 percent of direct mail costs is fundraising expense and 80 percent is the program cost of educating our members and calling them to action.

**Management/General** includes expenses for supporting and maintaining the business side of LCA and includes filing paperwork with appropriate agencies to ensure LCA operates as a responsible and legal nonprofit organization. These expenses are not directly related to LCA's work to expose and end animal abuse.

Depending upon the nature of the staff position, salaries vary in their percentage reported as program, fundraising and management/general expense.

Overall breakdown of expense categories as a percentage of total expenses is as follows:

Programs91%Fundraising08%Mgmt/General01%Ending Net Assets: \$1,553,188

LCA's 2016 Board of Directors and Officers: **Ariel Gale** - Board Chairman **Mary Jo Greenberg** - Board Vice Chairman **June Averseng** - Board Secretary/Treasurer **Rikki Rockett** - Board Director, animal activist and drummer for Poison **James R Balesh** - Board Director, Civil Litigations Attorney **Chris DeRose** - Board Director, President & Chief Executive Officer **Cindy Beal**, Chief Financial Officer

LCA was founded in 1984 to expose and end animal cruelty, focusing on ending animalbased experimentation (vivisection) through education and non-violent civil disobedience. For more than three decades, LCA has grown and broadened its focus to include all areas in which animals are abused in society: the fur industry, factory farming industries, wildlife management, stolen pets for research and product testing on animals.

In 2017, LCA will continue to work hard as the "FBI of Animal Rights" through undercover investigations, campaigns and the media.

Thank you for caring enough about your donation and your involvement with LCA to read our annual report. I hope you feel as much pride as I do about Last Chance for Animals, because without your support, none of our work is possible.

For the animals,

Chris DeRose Founder and President Last Chance for Animals

Last Chance for Animals is a nonprofit organization incorporated in the State of California, and since 1985 has been categorized with Federal I.D. # 95-4013155 by the IRS as a tax-exempt 501(c) (3) organization. Donations are deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.



13



## **Mission Statement**

Last Chance for Animals (LCA) recognizes all living beings as possessing intrinsic value and, as such, are entitled to certain basic rights. Non-human animals are sentient individuals and should not be subjected to exploitation by humans.

LCA does not accept that a difference in species justifies wanton exploitation or oppression for any purpose. For this reason, LCA opposes the use of animals for our food, entertainment and scientific curiosity. In addition, LCA recognizes the use of nonhuman animals in experimentation designed to cure human disease as both immoral and of questionable scientific validity. LCA advocates conscious and informed lifestyle decisions and is committed to disseminating truthful information about societal animal abuse.

## **Cost-Effective Fundraising**

LCA is dedicated to helping animals. In the process, we are looking for ways to reduce our fundraising expense while, at the same time, meeting the needs of our donors. We examine ways to increase the amount of donations that go directly to helping animals and provide donors with several convenient and innovative options for gift-giving.

## **Planned Giving**

LCA is available to help you with your estate planning. In addition to leaving LCA in your will, there are other planned giving options that not only benefits the animals, but

14

also <u>benefits you</u> through tax deductions. Planned giving is an important source of financial support for the animals.

#### Non-Cash Gifts

LCA accepts non-cash gifts, and will either use the gift or sell the gift to help fund our investigations and campaigns. Any property of value can be donated to LCA; including, but not limited to, real estate and stock portfolios. By donating stock before selling it, you not only deduct the value of the portfolio, but you also avoid paying capital gains taxes.

#### Autos for Animals – Turning Cars into Care

Help save animals' lives by donating your used automobile, boat or RV to LCA. It's quick and tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law. Click on the link to donate your vehicle at <u>LCAnimal.org</u>.

#### **Gifts of Goods or Services**

In-kind donations of goods and services allow LCA to reduce its expenses. If you have skills that could benefit LCA, or if your company has products or services that could assist LCA in its fight against animal cruelty, please contact us.

#### **Special Investigations Team - Automatic Monthly Giving**

Support LCA's undercover investigations by becoming a Special Investigations Team member by signing up to donate monthly via automatic withdrawals from your credit card or checking account. Recurring donations help LCA establish regular funding that is convenient to donors and helps reduce fundraising expenses.

For more details on any of these programs, please call 310-271-6096, ext. 28.