



May 27, 2025

Lisa Muto, PhD
Executive Dean for Administration
Harvard Medical School

Brian Corning, PhD
Executive Director
Center for Comparative Medicine
Harvard Medical School

Via e-mail: lisa_muto@hms.harvard.edu; brian_corning@hms.harvard.edu

Dear Drs. Muto and Corning:

I am writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) to respectfully urge Harvard Medical School to transfer all monkeys in its laboratories, beginning with those held in Margaret Livingstone's lab, to a reputable sanctuary and to offer our assistance in helping you find an appropriate placement. The recent cancellation of Livingstone's grants to conduct maternal and visual deprivation experiments on infant rhesus macaques offers a unique opening for the school to take meaningful action for the animals who have suffered immensely in her laboratory.

As you know, Dr. Livingstone's practice of permanently removing infant monkeys from their mothers has drawn widespread condemnation from hundreds of scientists, primatologists, and other experts, who have emphasized the profound psychological and physiological harm these procedures inflict. Harvard now has the opportunity to allow these monkeys to heal and to experience a life beyond the lab.

A sanctuary would offer them what they've never had: fresh air, companionship, room to roam, and some measure of peace. It's a chance to let them form bonds with other monkeys, engage in natural behaviors, and begin healing from years of psychological deprivation. It would also relieve the university of the ongoing cost and controversy of housing them in a laboratory.

PETA would welcome the opportunity to collaborate with you in making this happen. We urge Harvard to take this principled step toward compassion and accountability.

Sincerely,

Katherine Roe, Ph.D.
Chief Scientist
Laboratory Investigations Department
People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals
KatherineR@peta.org | 240-893-7292

PEOPLE FOR
THE ETHICAL
TREATMENT
OF ANIMALS

Washington
1536 16th St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20036
202-483-PETA

Los Angeles
2154 W. Sunset Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90026
323-644-PETA

Norfolk
501 Front St.
Norfolk, VA 23510
757-622-PETA

Info@peta.org
PETA.org

Entities:

- PETA Asia
- PETA India
- PETA France
- PETA Australia
- PETA Germany
- PETA Switzerland
- PETA Netherlands
- PETA Foundation (U.K.)