



NONHUMAN RIGHTS PROJECT

The Nonhuman Rights Project is a tax-exempt organization as described in Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code; our EIN number is 043289466.

Our Mission: To secure legally recognized fundamental rights for nonhuman animals through litigation, advocacy, and education.

Our Objectives:

1. To change the common law status of great apes, elephants, dolphins, and whales from mere “things,” which lack the capacity to possess any legal right, to “legal persons,” who possess such fundamental rights as bodily liberty and bodily integrity.
2. To draw on the common law and evolving standards of morality, scientific discovery, and human experience to consider other qualities that may be sufficient for recognition of nonhuman animals’ legal personhood and fundamental rights.
3. To develop local, national, and global issue-oriented grassroots campaigns to promote recognition of nonhuman animals as beings worthy of moral and legal consideration and with their own inherent interests in freedom from captivity, participation in a community of other members of their species, and the protection of their natural habitats.
4. To build a broad-based coalition of organizations and individuals to secure legally recognized fundamental rights for nonhuman animals.
5. To foster understanding of the social, historical, political, and legal justice of our arguments and the scientific discovery of other species’ cognitive and emotional complexity that informs them.

Our Values:

1. We communicate truthfully, authentically, respectfully, and in a dignified manner with the courts, the legal profession, lawmakers, the media, and the public and make available and accessible all our legal documents.
2. We give credit generously and unfailingly to anyone who assists with achieving our mission.
3. We work in harmony with any individual or organization that assists in advancing our objectives.
4. We treat our coworkers, donors, and volunteers with the greatest respect and gratitude for their efforts on behalf of nonhuman animals.
5. We deeply value all donations and administer them with the utmost responsibility with an emphasis on practical effectiveness.

The only civil rights organization in the United States working to secure legally recognized fundamental rights for nonhuman animals.

NhRP 2017 Projected Operating Budget

A. Administrative & Operating Expenses	
Business Registration Fees	2,000.00
Accounting Services	16,000.00
Contract Services & Payroll Processing Fees	10,000.00
Website Development & Maintenance	19,000.00
Insurance Expenses	2,000.00
Office Expense	7,000.00
Operations Fees & Supplies	3,000.00
B. Program Expenses	
Department: Campaigns	10,000.00
Department: Public Policy & Education	130,000.00
Department: Litigation Expenses	17,000.00
Travel - Transportation, Hotels & Meals	60,000.00
C. Fundraising Expenses	
Fundraising Fees	5,000.00
Donation Payment Processing Fees	4,000.00
D. Payroll & Payroll Taxes	605,000.00
Total - 2017 Budget	\$890,000.00

Budget Narrative

In line with our mission, objectives, and values, we determine our budget based on how our relatively small staff can be most effective now and in the long term. Since our founding, we have focused on organically building our operational capacity while still maintaining high standards for how we plan and implement our programs, compensate employees, and engage with and mobilize volunteers.

A. Administrative & Operating Expenses

We do not currently have a physical office space, not only because working remotely minimizes overhead, but also because it allows us to recruit talented staff from across the US and around the world, which in turn allows us to develop NhRP outposts in their respective locations as we proceed with our state-by-state litigation and legislative campaigns and continue to collaborate with international NhRP legal working groups. Working with contractors on accounting and contract services allows staff to devote more time to programming instead of administrative

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projects. The complete overhaul of our website—a one-time expense of \$19,000 with anticipated maintenance costs of approximately \$2,000 a year—has radically improved our capacity to retain and engage supporters and update and educate the media and the public at large on our court cases, campaigns, and related issues. We’ve seen a dramatic increase in the number of page views and time spent on pages since the launch of our new site. Because it will take time and an informed public to secure the fundamental changes to the legal status quo we aim to secure and inspire, these aspects of our work are vital.

B. Program Expenses

It has become clear to us that the public and legal conversations about nonhuman rights that we have catalyzed are perhaps more important than the litigation itself; in many ways, everyday people are more willing to engage in a mature public policy debate about nonhuman rights than are many judges. And so, while we continue to put forth comprehensive, highly refined legal arguments, we have also deepened our commitment to educating the public about nonhuman rights, turning everyday people into engines for change. This commitment has driven the expansion of our mission and work beyond the courtroom (in the form of our new Campaigns and Public Policy & Education departments) and beyond the US (in the form of international legal working groups that arise in part from connections made at conferences and other gatherings of animal advocates).

C. Fundraising Expenses

We have found that spending funds on programming delivers its own fundraising returns, organically driving donations from people who recognize the uniqueness of our mission and want to invest in our work to achieve it. In contrast to many other organizations, we spend very little, if any, funds on solicitation donations. The budgeted funds for fundraising are allocated for the cost our database software that allows us to secure and track donations from our supporters.

D. Payroll & Payroll Taxes

As ACE has touched on in its previous review of the NhRP, we consider a diverse, experienced staff our number one asset in terms of helping nonhuman animals. As such, we have made it a priority to well compensate them in contrast nonprofits that are notorious for relying on employees working for low salaries out of devotion to the cause. We want our trained staff to feel comfortable remaining with us for a very long time in line with their own professional goals and because it helps to ensure the long-term success of our mission and work.

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