

Orang Utan Republik Foundation



2025 Annual Report
Education. Conservation. Community.

"The challenges ahead are real—but so is our collective capacity to meet them".

— GARY
SHAPIRO



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A Year Defined by Commitment and Compassion

by Dr. Gary L. Shapiro, President & Co-Founder

2025 was a year that reminded us—again—that conservation is not a straight path. It is a living process shaped by uncertainty, resilience, and the deep interdependence between people and nature.

This year, OURF's work unfolded against a backdrop of **climate-driven flooding** in Sumatra, rising pressures on forests, and increasing demand for educational opportunity among young Indonesians committed to conservation. In response, we leaned into what we do best: **supporting people on the ground**—students, educators, researchers, and community partners—who stand at the front lines of change.

Through the **Orangutan Caring Scholarship Program**, we continued to invest in the next generation of conservation leaders—students studying biology, forestry, veterinary science, and environmental management. These scholars are not abstract beneficiaries; they are individuals with names, families, and futures rooted in the landscapes we are working to protect.

2025 also reaffirmed the importance of **rapid response and solidarity**. When devastating floods struck communities in North Sumatra and Aceh, OURF mobilized emergency fundraising to support local partners already embedded in these regions. These efforts underscored a simple truth: conservation cannot be separated from human well-being.

Equally important was the continued strengthening of OURF's **supporter community**—members, donors, volunteers, and partners around the world who make this work possible. Your trust enables us to stay nimble, responsive, and deeply connected to our mission.

As we look toward 2026, we do so with gratitude and resolve. The challenges ahead are real—but so is our collective capacity to meet them.

Thank you for standing with the Persons of the Forest—human and orangutan alike.

With appreciation,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gary".

Dr. Gary L. Shapiro



2025 AT A GLANCE

- 🎓 20+ years of scholarships sustained through OCS
- 🌱 Continued support for Indonesian conservation NGO
- 🚨 Emergency flood-relief fundraising activated
- 🌐 Global supporter base engaged through newsletters & campaigns
- 🤝 Strengthened collaboration with local NGOs and educators



Annual Report 2025



Organizational Impact at a Glance (2025)

Even after two decades, our impact continues to grow. In 2025, OURF's education and outreach initiatives touched more lives and areas than ever before:

- **Scholarships Awarded in 2025:** 30 new Orangutan Caring Scholarships were granted to Indonesian students this year (in addition to 30 in 2024), supporting the next generation of conservation leaders.
- **Total Scholarships Since 2006:** 334 scholarships awarded cumulatively (across five key orangutan-range provinces in Sumatra and Borneo), reflecting OURF's sustained commitment to capacity-building.
- **OCS Graduates to Date:** 210+ young Indonesians have completed their degrees through OCS support (with dozens now working in conservation careers nationwide). These alumni include park rangers, field researchers, wildlife vets, and environmental educators giving back to their communities.
- **Conservation Educators in the Field:** Sumatra-based YSHL transitioned from Community Education & Conservation to Community Conservation Mentorship Initiative in 2025 expanding their mission to enroll local leaders, particularly women's groups, to deliver education programs to increase their efficacy and sustainability enhancing orangutan and rainforest protection by local villagers.
- **Geographic Reach:** OURF scholars and programs are active across North Sumatra, Aceh, West Kalimantan, Central Kalimantan, and East Kalimantan, covering major orangutan habitats in both Sumatra and Borneo. Local outreach projects and scholarship recipients now span over 25 villages and towns within these provinces (extending awareness and goodwill for orangutan conservation at the grassroots level).

Where OUR programs are based





Orangutan Caring Scholarship Program (OCS) – *Empowering Future Conservationists*

The Orangutan Caring Scholarship Program (OCS), now in its 20th year, continues to demonstrate how education can save wildlife. By funding Indonesian students in environmental fields, OCS produces skilled professionals who champion orangutan conservation in their careers.



Highlights of 2025:



20th Anniversary Milestone

OCS marked two decades (2006–2025) of impact. By the end of 2025, the program has supported **334 students** at **10 universities**, with more than 200 graduates now serving Indonesia as scientists, wildlife advocates, and community leaders. Alumni gatherings and media features celebrated this legacy, inspiring new supporters and applicants.



New Scholarships Awarded

30 new multi-year scholarships were awarded to top-performing applicants from in 2025 in all orangutan-range provinces through our partner implementing organizations and universities in Sumatra and Borneo. Award ceremonies were held in locations such as Banda Aceh on the tip of Sumatra, to partner universities in Pontianak (West Kalimantan), Palangka Raya (Central Kalimantan), and Samarinda (East Kalimantan), drawing local press and community pride.



Focus on Quality and Mentorship

OURF leadership and volunteers conducted site visits to each partner campus to **mentor OCS**

students and engage faculty. Supported implementing NGOs also continued mentoring and encouraged scholarship recipients to lead conservation and education activities in local communities, creating a peer network of care and academics.





Orangutan Caring Scholarship Student Profiles

Salsa Tania – Discovering Conservation Through Technology

Salsa's growing confidence was evident during her participation in GIS and Primate classes. She used RStudio and QGIS to map orangutan habitat distribution and helped survey orangutan nests on her first forest field trip. One of her favorite moments was helping kids paint at the Sebangau Children's Festival, where she connected science with creative outreach. With top grades in forest ecology, wildlife, and hydrology, Salsa is poised to become a tech-savvy conservationist of the future.



Yohana Sinamo – Voice for Nature, Mentor for Children

Yohana's leadership blossomed during her fifth semester. She volunteered at multiple community events, including the Sebangau Children's Festival, where she served as emcee, and Gibbon Day, where she helped teach preschoolers about endangered species. On a field trip with BNF and OCS, she helped locate 12 orangutan nests and even sampled wild forest fruits. Her advocacy for orangutan conservation blends science, outreach, and education—bringing a fresh voice to the conservation community.





Orangutan Caring Scholarship Recognition by the Government of Indonesia

The Government of the Republic of Indonesia officially recognized and extended its heartfelt appreciation to the Orang Utan Republik Foundation (OURF) and its Indonesian partner organizations for their pivotal role in orangutan and forest conservation through education. In a formal Statement of Recognition issued by the Embassy of Indonesia in Washington, D.C., the government acknowledged the Orangutan Caring Scholarship (OCS) Program's transformative impact over the past two decades.

KEDUTAAN BESAR REPUBLIK INDONESIA
EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA
WASHINGTON, D.C., 20036



CHANCERY
2020 MASSACHUSETTS AVE, NW
TELEPHONE (202) 775 5200

Washington D.C., June 3, 2025

No. : 0441/DM/06/2025
Re : Appreciation Letter

Statement of Recognition

On the Occasion of the 20th Anniversary of the Orangutan Caring Scholarship Program

WHEREAS, the conservation of Indonesia's natural heritage—including the critically endangered orangutan species—remains a national and global priority;

WHEREAS, the Orangutan Caring Scholarship (OCS) Program has, since its inception in 2006, played a vital role in educating and empowering hundreds of Indonesian university students, especially in the fields of forestry, biology, veterinary science, and conservation;

THEREFORE, on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia, and in honor of the 20th Anniversary of the Orangutan Caring Scholarship Program,

We extend our heartfelt appreciation and official recognition to the Orang Utan Republik Foundation and its Indonesian partner organizations for their enduring contributions to orangutan and forest conservation through education.

Ida Bagus Made Bimantara
Chargé d'Affaires of the Republic of Indonesia



Community Education & Conservation - 2025 Highlights

Empowering Communities for Conservation

Through the first half of 2025, our Community Education & Conservation Program (CECP) continued to empower villages near Gunung Leuser National Park. Working alongside YSHL, we provided sustainable livelihood training, helped plant thousands of trees, and taught environmental lessons to children. In mid-2025, CECP evolved into the **Community Conservation Mentorship Initiative (CCMI)**, expanding our impact and shifting from direct education to mentoring grassroots conservation leaders.

2025 Highlights for CECP in 2025:



Sustainable Livelihood Training

140 rural women and farmers in 3 villages learned to create organic lessons to children.



Forest Restoration & Tree Planting

1,500 trees planted in priority areas, and 6,000+ seedlings cultivated at a community nursery for further habitat enrichment.



Environmental Lessons for Kids

250 youngsters in 3 villages attended interactive conservation classes to learn about orangutans and protecting forests.



Transition from CECP to CCMI →

In the summer of 2025, CECP successfully transitioned into the Community Conservation Mentorship Initiative (CCMI). Through CCMI, we will empower local conservation advocates to lead and teach, establishing a sustainable model for grassroots environmental efforts.



Community Conservation & Mentorship Initiative (CCMI) - Program Highlights 2025

Empowering Women. Restoring Forests. Building Futures.

The Community Conservation and Mentorship Initiative (CCMI), launched in 2025 by OURF and field partner Yayasan Sumatera Hijau Lestari (YSHL), empowers women-led and youth-driven environmental action in communities bordering Gunung Leuser National Park, North Sumatra. This program equips local leaders to protect forests, restore degraded land, and educate future generations.

Key Achievements (July–December 2025)



Villages Involved:

Batu Jongjong & Ujung Bandar
(Langkat Regency)



Ecological Restoration:

10 ha of degraded land cleared
(former oil palm area)



6,000+ seedlings propagated
(e.g. *Shorea sp.*, *Agathis dammara*)



Environmental Education:

34 children (22 girls, 12 boys) reached
Weekly lessons on climate, waste, fire prevention, greening.



Women's Groups Formed:

KPPA (Kelompok Perempuan Peduli Alam, Batu Jongjong)
KOMPPAK (Komunitas Perempuan Peduli Alam dan Konservasi, Ujung Bandar)



Sustainable Livelihoods:

Vegetable gardens started with 10 families
3 farmers trained in semi-organic rice and chill cultivation



Trainings Conducted:

Conservation basics, forest restoration, leadership, TNGL collaboration





Sumatran Flood Relief Appeal

Protecting orangutans and supporting communities impacted by disaster



Severe flooding in North Sumatra in late 2024

Emergency Response to Flooding

In late 2024, severe flooding impacted communities in North Sumatra near the Leuser Ecosystem.

More than \$5,000 was raised through OURF's emergency appeal, allowing rapid deployment of essential relief supplies to affected communities.

Our field partners from YSHL implemented these relief efforts with our funds.

-  Food and clean drinking water
-  Hygiene and emergency household supplies
-  Immediate assistance to vulnerable families

Looking Ahead

-  Tree planting to reduce future flood risks in orangutan habitat
-  Training local villages in disaster preparedness





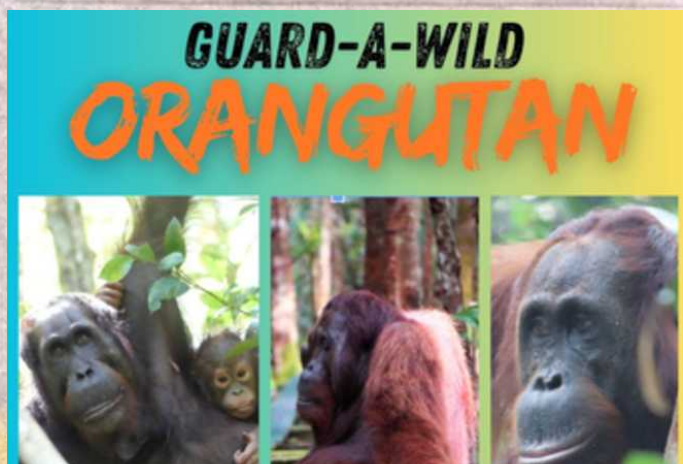
Innovation in Conservation – 2025 Initiatives

OURF is piloting new, exciting conservation initiatives in 2025

Guard-a-Wild Orangutan Program

A new symbolic adoption model piloted in 2025 that connects supporters with wild orangutans living in community protected forests.

- Digital Certificate of Guardianship
- Updates with photos and stories
- Personal details on your wild orangutan



5 wild orangutans (*Gismo*, *Mindy*, *Marii*, *Mario*, and *Milo*) are part of the pilot adoption program

Project ROCKET

(Rainforest Orangutan Conservation Knowledge & Education with Technology)

An **initiative** to integrate drones, GIS, AI, and robotics into conservation education. In 2025, we are developing **ROCKET** with select Indonesian universities to bring advanced technology to forest and biodiversity monitoring.

Initial planning launched a collaborative, forward-thinking effort to modernize conservation in greater orangutan habitat.



“Using drone technology is a game-changer for our conservation efforts.”

—Indonesian biologist

The Orangutan Project Achievements

TOP-USA



OURF also serves as The Orangutan Project-USA, thus embracing a larger portfolio of projects and programs implemented by dozens of other organizations. Through the efforts of The Orangutan Project (TOP), OURF is able to raise significant funds that are applied to conservation and education projects that align with our values.

In 2025, OURF aka TOP-USA distributed \$80,615 to organizations including:

Orangutan Information Centre, International Animal Rescue, HaKA, Frankfurt Zoological Society, Centre for Orangutan Protection, Borneo Nature Foundation, Borneo Orangutan Survival Foundation, PT HOPE, FOTO, PT-ABT, PT SSL, Hutan, International Animal Rescue, Orangutan Foundation UK, Pro Natura, Sumatra Rescue Centre, BTP Reforestation Jambi III, Forum Konservasi Leuser, Scorpion, Sumatran Orangutan Conservation Programme



Florida Fundraiser – Expanding OURF’s Reach

Building Community Support for Orangutan Conservation

In June 2025, the Orang Utan Republik Foundation expanded its outreach efforts with a special fundraising event at the home of our board member, **Cheryl Parrish**, in Florida, bringing together supporters, conservation advocates, and new audiences to share in OURF’s mission.

This gathering provided an opportunity to connect with donors and community members, while highlighting the urgency of protecting orangutans and their rainforest habitat through education and grassroots conservation programs.



🤝 Building Connections

The Florida event emphasized the importance of personal connection in conservation fundraising. Through storytelling, dialogue, and shared experiences, attendees gained a deeper understanding of how education-based conservation creates long-term impact in Indonesia.

Supporters were inspired to take part in OURF’s mission—whether through donations, advocacy, or ongoing engagement.

🌱 Looking Ahead

Events like this demonstrate OURF’s growing ability to reach new audiences beyond its traditional base, building a broader network of supporters committed to protecting orangutans and their forest homes.

By continuing to host community-based events, OURF strengthens the foundation for sustained conservation impact through education and engagement.



2025 Fundraiser

During Orangutan Caring Week (November 9–15, 2025), the Orang Utan Republik Foundation (OURF) successfully hosted the **Rock the Rainforest Online Auction**, a dynamic celebration of music, art, and conservation that brought together supporters from around the world.

Over the course of one exciting week, participants engaged in spirited bidding on a diverse collection of exclusive items and experiences. The auction featured an extraordinary array of offerings, including signed guitars from legendary musicians, rare vinyl records, fine art, books, film memorabilia, sports collectibles, and curated travel experiences. From wine tasting in Tuscany to eco-luxury retreats in Bali and wildlife safaris in Africa. Each item connected donors to meaningful experiences while advancing OURF's vital cause.



*OURF President Gary Shapiro
interviewing Photographer Henry Diltz
during the exclusive gathering*

At the close of the week-long auction, OURF held an exclusive gathering at the Record Surplus featuring famed photographer of rock, Henry Diltz, who signed photographs of iconic rock stars and shared stories to the attendees about intimate moment in rock history



Orangutan Caring Week

OURF has been a leading force in establishing and promoting Orangutan Caring Week (OCW) since we transformed Orangutan Awareness Week to Caring Week in 2004. This was done in recognition of the need to move beyond awareness to action. Bringing about positive change only takes place when people care.



Orangutan Caring Week starts with a theme to focus our efforts. In 2025, our theme was "Focusing on Hope and Positive Action," which highlights the continual need of remaining optimistic and engaged, taking meaningful steps—both large and small—to support orangutan conservation and empower the communities working to protect them.



Volunteer Engagement

From its inception, the Orang Utan Republik Foundation has been powered by the dedication, creativity, and commitment of volunteers. In 2025, that spirit remained stronger than ever, with individuals contributing their time, expertise, and energy to advance OURF's mission while building meaningful connections within a global conservation community.

Throughout the year, volunteers played an increasingly strategic role across the organization. From supporting digital outreach through the Google Ad Grant program and strengthening data analysis and reporting systems, to expanding OURF's social media presence and assisting with fundraising campaigns, their contributions helped elevate both visibility and impact. Others continued to engage in hands-on support at outreach events, donor activities, and special programs, bringing OURF's mission directly to the public.

Volunteers also contributed to the growth of key initiatives, including the promotion of Orangutan Caring Week, the Rock the Rainforest online auction, and emergency response efforts such as the North Sumatra flood relief appeal. Whether working behind the scenes or on the front lines, their efforts helped OURF respond with agility, creativity, and purpose.

The contributions of our volunteers are not only valuable—they are essential. Their passion and generosity strengthen OURF's ability to protect orangutans and their forest habitats while advancing conservation education across Indonesia and beyond. We extend our deepest gratitude to every volunteer who contributed in 2025. Their ongoing support ensures that our mission continues to grow with resilience, impact, and hope.



Field Volunteer Sophia Schmidt during training session in Pontianak



Volunteer at Earth Day event at the Los Angeles Zoo



OURF Volunteer Todd Cravens at Earth Day event in Indianapolis



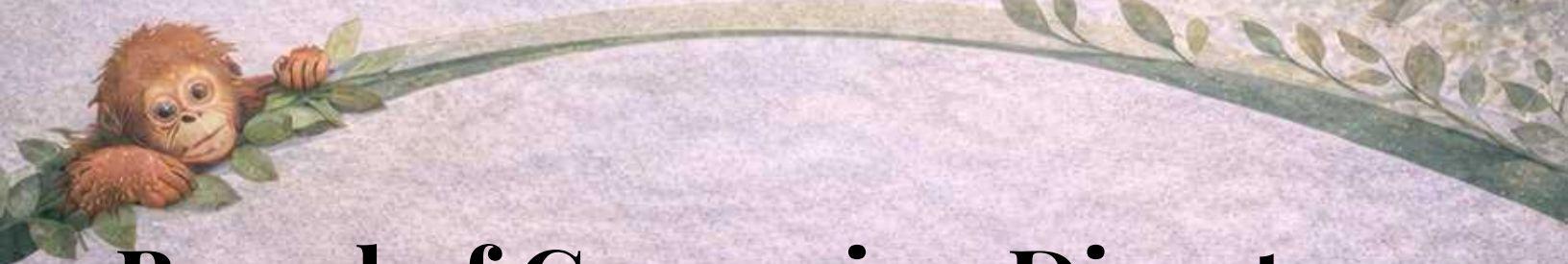
Impacting Policy on the RSPO

OURF became a member of the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) in 2011 to engage with an important multi-stakeholder platform working to improve practices across the palm oil sector. While we recognize that replacing diverse tropical forests with plantations is not sustainable, we also believe that constructive engagement is necessary to address the harm already done to orangutans and their rainforest habitat.

Through our RSPO membership, OURF supports efforts to reduce the negative impacts of palm oil production, encourage responsible land-use practices, and promote stronger protections for orangutans and the ecosystems they depend on. By working with others inside and outside the industry, OURF hopes to help move the sector toward a future that better balances economic needs with environmental responsibility and the survival of wild orangutans.

As a voting member of the RSPO and part of an environmental NGO coalition advocating for vulnerable species such as orangutans, OURF uses its voice to encourage stronger accountability and more responsible practices within the palm oil sector. We remain committed to working collaboratively while also pressing for meaningful improvements that protect wildlife, safeguard critical habitat, and support a more sustainable future for forests, orangutans, and local communities.





Board of Governing Directors for 2025



Gary Shapiro, PhD- President

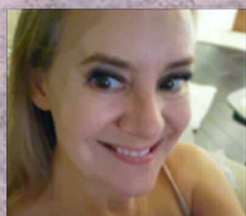


Liz Varnhagen- Secretary



Leif Cocks- Vice President

Eric Raymond- Director



Cheryl Parrish- Director

Robert Kounang, MD- Director



Max Tramboo- Director



Board of Advisory Directors for 2025



Hyla Douglas - Financial



Parvene Michaels- Productions



John Stimson- Legal



Erin Vogel - Scientific



Thank You to OUR Supporters

While we appreciate all supporters of OURF, we are pleased to recognize those listed below who contributed at the Orangutan Guardian level (\$1,000) and above during 2025.

Andrew Sabin Family Foundation
Anne Nacey and Jeffrey Maggioncalda
Buckmaster Foundation
Cheryl Parrish
Elwell Miller Fund of the Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundation
Gary and Inggriani Shapiro
Greenhagen Charitable Fund
John Piacentini and Carolyn Pataki
Lindsay Foley
Magge Sollers
Richard Baker
Ruthie Garaventa
SEI Giving Fund, a program of the Renaissance Charitable Foundation
Shared Earth Foundation
Siva Yenneti
Soedomo Mergonoto, Kapal Api Coffee
Terilynn Langsev

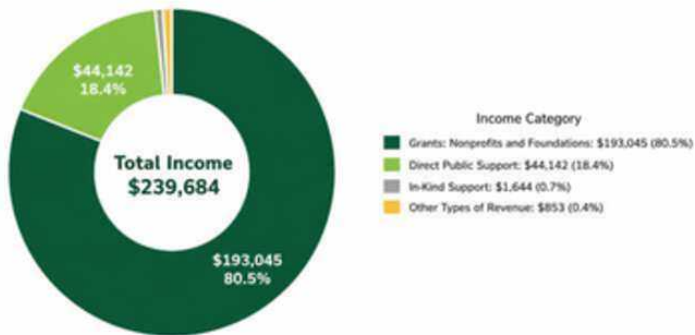


Financials

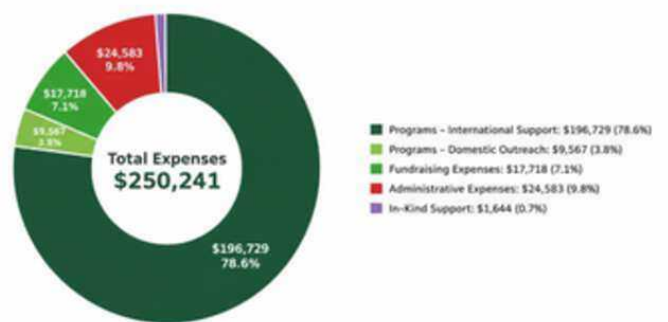
Fiscal Year January 1, 2025 —December 31, 2025

Statement of Financial Position

2025 Income by Category



2025 Expenses by Category



Assets — as of December 31, 2025, in US\$

Change in Net Assets: \$(1,506)

Net Assets, Beginning of Year: \$326,836

Net Assets, End of Year: \$325,330

Total Current Assets: \$325,330

Liabilities and Net Equity — as of December 31, 2025, in US\$

Total Liabilities: \$65,478

Net Equity: \$259,852

Total Liability and Net Equity: \$325,330

International Support in US\$

Orangutan Caring Scholarships (OCS) \$46,819

Community Education and Conservation Program (CECP) \$53,541

The Orangutan Project (TOP) Programs \$81,241

International Program Oversight and Support \$15,128

79%
of expenses goes
directly
to International
Programs

