Options for Meeting Social Needs of Primates

SOCIAL HOUSING
In most cases, stable social housing with one or more partners of the same species is the simplest and most effective way to meet a primate’s social needs. Having the right companions that allow them to engage in species-typical social behaviors is very important to their overall well-being.

OTHER OPTIONS
When stable social housing with the same species is not possible, you may be able to meet your primate’s social needs in other ways. For example, you can try housing your primate with:

- Protected contact with others, such as through a mesh panel
- Intermittent social contact or scheduled social interactions
- A different but compatible species of primate
- Another type of animal that is compatible

What If a Primate Must Be Housed Alone?
Companionship is very important to most primates, so you will need to consider whether your primate truly needs to be alone. But finding appropriate social partners can be a challenge. Some animals may be too aggressive or debilitated to safely house them with a partner.

Primates that must be housed alone may benefit from human companionship through regular positive interaction.