World-Class Care • Leading Conservation Engaging Education





CONNECTING AWESOME HUMANS TO THE AWE OF WILD ANIMALS





	OUR MISSION
	Secure a better world for animals through human understanding
PROTECT	We passionately commit our expertise and resources to saving animals.
HONOR	We treat people, animals and nature with respect.
INNOVATE	We strive to discover creative solutions.
ENGAGE	We connect people with animals by creating life-changing memories.
EMPOWER	We provide people the knowledge and tools to take positive action for all species.
SERVE	We deliver exceptional service to our guests, animals and one another.

DENVER ZOO AT A GLANCE

Home to more than 3,500 animals representing 550 species Denver Zoo is a critical player in the fight to save wildlife. We help our guests as well as communities around the globe connect to wild animals and wild places. Denver Zoo is the most visited cultural destination in Colorado, committed to helping animals by bringing science education to life and providing extraordinary experiences that foster human and animal connections. Located in Denver's City Park, Denver Zoo is a nonprofit organization accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), which assures the highest standards of animal care. With the mission to secure a better world for animals through human understanding, Denver Zoo commits nearly \$2 million annually to field conservation programs helping wildlife around the world.





DEAR DENVER ZOO **SUPPORTER**,

Last year marked a period of remarkable transition and progress for Denver Zoo. We took significant steps towards ensuring the Zoo is in the right position—and hands—to achieve its significant potential, and enable us to improve every aspect of the organization, from animal care to guest experience.

We started the year by reorganizing our Board into two entities—a Board of Governors and a Leadership Council—in order to improve our governance effectiveness and fundraising efficiency. The Board of Governors consists of 13 highly engaged members, who serve as the fiduciary board and oversee all aspects of Zoo operations, while the Leadership Council represents a broader cross section of the community, and works to support the Zoo as goodwill ambassadors in the community.

Later in the year, our nationwide search for a new President/CEO came to a successful conclusion with the hiring of Bert Vescolani, who came to Denver Zoo with more than 25 years of experience in executive positions at leading zoological and scientific institutions. I know my fellow Board members and the entire Zoo staff share my confidence in Bert's ability to uphold our position as a world-class cultural and conservation organization, and to provide strong, steady leadership through this exciting and pivotal period for the Zoo.

While we experienced a lot of change, the most important things remained the same. We continued to provide exceptional care for our more than 3,500 animals and made significant contributions to global wildlife conservation. We also had the great privilege of educating, entertaining and inspiring nearly 1.9 million people, who experienced the Zoo through visits and outreach programs, and enabled us to carry out our mission of securing a better world for animals through human understanding.

The fruits of our efforts over the past year will come to bear in 2019. We are in the process of constructing a new, state-of-the-industry animal hospital. Once complete in 2020, the Helen and Arthur E. Johnson Animal Hospital will advance our ability to care for our animals and offer visitors an unprecedented look at the amazing work our veterinary medical team does every day. We will also celebrate the grand opening of a new, improved grizzly bear habitat, which will give visitors a unique, two-fold learning experience about bears in the wild and in their backyards, and how we can coexist.

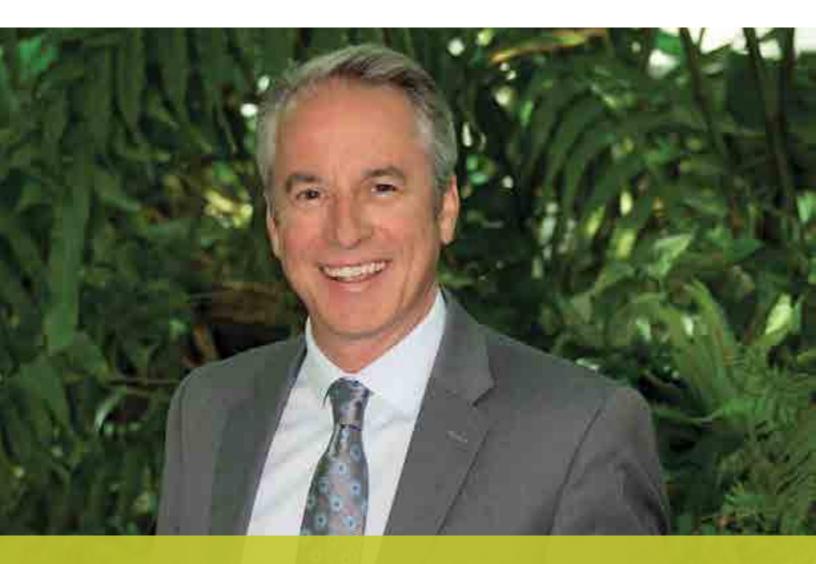
We extend our deepest gratitude to our staff, volunteers, guests, donors, community partners, Board of Governors and Leadership Council members for their continued support!

Sincerely,

Shernth & Yallel

Sherri Koelbel Chair of the 2018 Board of Governors

A VISION TO FIND NEW WAYS TO CONNECT **PEOPLE WITH WILDLIFE AND WILD PLACES**



"IF YOU'RE A PESSIMIST, THE FUTURE IS BLEAK FOR WILDLIFE. IF YOU'RE AN OPTIMIST LIKE ME, YOU GET EXCITED ABOUT THE ROLE ZOOS PLAY IN HELPING BRING THE DISCUSSION FORWARD AND THINKING ABOUT HOW WE CAN ALL MAKE A DIFFERENCE. DENVER ZOO ALREADY CONTRIBUTES NEARLY \$2 MILLION EACH YEAR TO MANAGE FIVE CORE FIELD CONSERVATION PROGRAMS AROUND THE WORLD, INCLUDING RIGHT HERE IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN/GREAT PLAINS REGION."

- BERT VESCOLANI, PRESIDENT/CEO DENVER ZOO



INTRODUCING OUR NEW **PRESIDENT/CEO, BERT VESCOLANI**

This year we were thrilled to welcome Bert Vescolani to our Denver Zoo family. He came to us with big plans for Denver Zoo, both within our gates and beyond, and we are excited to see his vision already coming to life.

Vescolani was most recently the CEO of the Saint Louis Science Center and brought with him his passion for animals, science and the need for the Zoo to be so much more than just a fun place to visit.

"Each day, I walk around Denver Zoo so I can watch our guests connect with animals they will likely never have the chance to see in the wild. Seeing their excitement and knowing they'll walk away from the Zoo with a greater appreciation and love for wildlife is the most fulfilling part of the job," explains Vescolani.

Vescolani says he believes Denver Zoo should be an integrated ecosystem that is wholly dedicated to animal welfare, conservation and creating awe-inspiring experiences for guests.

To accomplish this, he asks everyone working with him at Denver Zoo to consider these important questions:

How can we create the most enjoyable experiences for guests?

How can we be the catalyst for change that allows people and wildlife to live symbiotically?

How do we build and improve habitats for our animals that allow them to live happily and provide our guests with the best possible experience?

How can we, as humans, be the species that helps?

Denver Zoo is so important to the next generation. It is up to us to make sure young people connect with the animals we love.

Vescolani is committed to finding meaningful ways to engage young visitors. Studies have shown that when kids have safe, engaging experiences with animals their appreciation for wildlife increases. Zoos offer a chance to connect those kids to the natural world in some very positive ways.

As we head into the next year, Vescolani says his immediate focus is on animal care and husbandry, improving guest experience and repairing aging infrastructure. We look forward to exciting growth and more inspiring experiences in 2019 and beyond.





ANIMAL CARE

WE CARE FOR ONE OF THE LARGEST AND MOST DIVERSE COLLECTIONS ON EARTH.

550 SPECIES 3,500 ANIMALS

ECONOMIC IMPACT & EMPLOYMENT

THE ECONOMIC BENEFITS OF ZOO OPERATIONS TOTAL MORE THAN

\$116 MILLION ANNUALLY IN THE SCFD REGION. IT TAKES 378 FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES AND HELP FROM AN ADDITIONAL **670** VOLUNTEERS

TO HELP OPERATE THE ZOO.

* "The Economics of Denver Zoo", August 2017, Development Research Partners.

ACCESS & VISITATION

298,000 ENJOYED FREE ACCESS TO THE ZOO THROUGH FREE DAYS AND OTHER GUESTS FREE ACCESS PROGRAMS.

Denver Zoo partnered with Denver Human Services to provide \$1 admission for those receiving benefits through the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

MORE 46,000 ENJOYED REDUCED **ADMISSION** THROUGH THIS VISITORS NEW ACCESS PROGRAM.

A UNIQUE CONNECTION BETWEEN NATIVE SPECIES, CULTURE AND CONSERVATION

RIO MORA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE AND CONSERVATION AREA

While the world can sometimes feel like a divisive place, there are moments that restore our faith in the power of collaboration and what humans can accomplish when they work together. Case in point is the Rio Mora National Wildlife Refuge. Established in 2012 in the heart of the globally important Rio Mora watershed, this effort came from the vision and generosity of Eugene and Clare Thaw. They donated the land to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to establish the Refuge and their funding brought in Denver Zoo and our creative and talented team of scientists.

Working together over the past seven years, we have nourished an amazing conservation and education partnership and have seen important results:

- Transformation of a degraded former cattle ranch to a natural state
- Return of iconic bison to the landscape
- Restoration of essential ecological and hydrological functions of the native shortgrass prairie
- Renewal of a native culture

The partnership between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Denver Zoo has been further enriched by New Mexico Highlands University and the Pueblo of Pojoaque. We are so proud of this unique and powerful collaboration between a federal government agency, our own premier zoological institution, a respected university, and a Native American people. It is an inspiring example of how we can protect and conserve wild animals and habitats, restore native species and preserve native culture, and educate and inspire a new generation of conservation-minded global citizens.

We hope this collaboration will help serve as a powerful example of cooperation and the American spirit of community and collaboration. Eugene and Clare Thaw have passed away, but their rich legacy lives on in the Rio Mora National Wildlife Refuge and Conservation Area and their generosity is reflected in the work of volunteers, and the continued philanthropic donations to support this partnership. Their vision endures and expands with the herd of native bison and other animals that call this place home.



ROCKY MOUNTAINS/ GREAT PLAINS

PERU

BOTSWANA

DENVER ZOO IS AMONG THE WORLD'S VERY BEST ZOOLOGICAL INSTITUTIONS. I'M PROUD OF THE ZOO'S ROLE IN THIS AMAZING COLLABORATION, AND I HOPE IT WILL BE A MODEL FOR AN ENTIRE GENERATION OF ZOO-PARK PARTNERSHIPS.

> - DAN ASHE FORMER U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE DIRECTOR CURRENT CEO OF THE ASSOCIATION OF ZOOS AND AQUARIUMS (AZA)

MONGOLIA

VIETNAM

FIVE BIG BACHELORS MAKE AN IMPORTANT CONNECTION

JAKE AND CHUCK JOIN THE HERD AND CONNECT WITH THE HEARTS OF OUR VISITORS

In September, Denver Zoo gained two big residents. After months of coordination, planning and discussions, Jake and Chuck had finally arrived from Ontario, Canada. With their arrival, we officially became home to the largest bachelor herd of Asian elephants in North America. Jake, age 9, and Chuck, age 10, joined Groucho, Bodhi and Billy in Toyota Elephant Passage.

Denver Zoo is uniquely qualified to offer this herd of big boys an incredible home and world-class care.

Our Toyota Elephant Passage habitat is one of the largest and most complex elephant exhibits in the world with two miles of interconnected trails, more than 1.2 million gallons of water for swimming and bathing, and various other features that ensure their physical, mental and behavioral well-being.

Our herd is especially important for the preservation of this giant species. With a global population estimated at fewer than 35,000, Asian elephants are classified as "endangered" on The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, primarily due to habitat loss and increasing conflict with humans.

With their arrival, we are now conducting groundbreaking research on sociality in male Asian elephants, the results of which could have implications for the wellness of elephants in managed care and in the wild. Once considered to be solitary, we now know that bull Asian elephants are more social than previously thought. Recent data confirms that Asian bulls often associate in small bachelor groups in the wild. With no formal studies to date on the management of bachelor herds in zoos, Denver Zoo is working to fill knowledge gaps surrounding social aspects and reproduction of these intelligent and social creatures.

DENVER ZOO PLAYS A UNIQUE AND CRITICAL ROLE IN THE LONG-TERM VIABILITY OF THE SPECIES BY CONNECTING MILLIONS OF VISITORS EACH YEAR WITH THESE MAJESTIC GIANTS, AND BY HOUSING ONLY MALES, WHOSE GENETICS ARE VALUABLE TO THE ASSOCIATION OF ZOOS & AQUARIUMS' ASIAN ELEPHANT SPECIES SURVIVAL PLAN.

OUR WORLD-CLASS CARE NOT ONLY HELPS OUR 3,500 ANIMAL RESIDENTS TODAY, IT HELPS TO PRESERVE, PROTECT, AND RESTORE SPECIES FOR THE FUTURE.

DENVER ZOO EDUCATORS DEVELOP PROGRAMS THAT ENGAGE AUDIENCES WITH DIVERSE ABILITIES

OUR PROGRAMS RESPECT, ACKNOWLEDGE AND ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF PARTICIPANTS WITH A VARIETY OF BACKGROUNDS, LEARNING STYLES AND ABILITIES

In 2018, Guest Engagement staff worked with the Animal Care team to prepare Tensing, our female greater one-horned rhino, for an Up-Close Animal Encounter with a guest who used a mobility device. At first, Tensing wouldn't come near the practice wheelchair. Her zookeepers held multiple desensitization sessions to positively associate the wheelchair with food and treats, and by the day of the program, Tensing was fully participating and able to be touched and scratched by program participants who called their encounter "unforgettable." Additionally, a mother contacted us requesting an animal encounter for her daughter with physical and communication disabilities. Working with the Animal Ambassador team, staff developed a program using a low-sensitivity space, and accessible animals for the daughter to see at her own comfort level. The team is excited to offer this program to guests of all abilities who want a specialized animal encounter experience.

Learning Experiences staff welcomed students from the Rocky Mountain Deaf School and Denver Public Schools for *Exploring Through Senses*, which provides visceral learning opportunities for students with hearing-and-visual impairments. The program offers immersive tactile experiences as students investigate how different senses help animals survive.

Exploring Through Senses uses biofacts to help children learn and discover by feeling the feathers and feet of a bird with their fingertips, or by smelling and touching the thick fur of an Amur tiger. Interactions with carefully selected animal ambassadors provide awe-inspiring highlights. Students encounter a prickly hedgehog (a class favorite), a raucously laughing kookaburra, and a snake that 'hears' through vibrations, and are able to compare their own senses to those of their newfound animal friends.





OUR EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES CONNECT DENVER'S DIVERSE COMMUNITIES TO ANIMALS AND FOSTER APPRECIATION FOR SCIENCE, DISCOVERY AND NATURE.



Denver Zoo Railroad circa 1950 with Bear Mountain visible in the background.





ALLABOARD! UNION PACIFIC RAILROAD IS BACK AT DENVER ZOO

There's something magical about trains. The familiar whistle promises exploration and the pulse of the rails sets a rhythm of anticipation and excitement.

For more than 70 years, the Denver Zoo Railroad has taken guests on a journey through history. From aboard the ruby red C.P. Huntington train, riders can see several animal exhibits dating back to the early 20th century. Some of Denver Zoo's exhibits are even designated as National Historic Places. Then there is Monkey Island, constructed during the Great Depression, in an effort to get men back to work. Oh, the sights you will see!

Like Denver Zoo, Union Pacific Railroad enjoys a long history in the American West. The railroad opened up avenues for sharing different cultures and played a pivotal role in driving economic growth to improve the quality of life for millions. In the 1860's Union Pacific construction crews pushed into high elevations without benefit of modern tools – all to build the first transcontinental railroad. They called it the work of giants.

Denver Zoo is thrilled Union Pacific Railroad is once again sponsoring our Denver Zoo Railroad so our guests can continue to enjoy this fun tradition. On your stroll across campus, look for the clock tower marking the train depot. The train features three covered cars, including an accessible coach. You'll also now find train and railroad crossing tips that help us stay safe at the Zoo and around town. There is always something wonderful to discover at Denver Zoo!



A THOUSAND CHEERS, CHIRPS AND ROARS FOR OUR AMAZING VOLUNTEERS

Each and every day Denver Zoo staff, animal residents, and guests count on the passion and dedication of our incredible volunteers who truly help make Denver Zoo a world-class organization. In 2018, 670 volunteers donated more than 75,000 hours making a difference in the lives of our animals and connecting our community with the awe of wildlife.

AS A BELOVED COMMUNITY ICON, WE CONNECT THE PURE JOY OF VISITING THE ZOO WITH A DEEPER MESSAGE ABOUT CARING FOR OUR PLANET AND POSITIVE ACTION WE ALL CAN TAKE ON BEHALF OF THE ANIMALS WE LOVE.

DENVER ZOO RECEIVED CRITICAL SUPPORT FROM

•

VOLUNTEERS WHO DONATED MORE THAN

MORE THAN HALF OF ALL 2018 ZOO GUESTS RECEIVED **REDUCED ADMISSION** AND NEARLY

300,000 GUESTS ENJOYED ACCESS TOTALLY FREE OF CHARGE

2018 ANNUAL REPORT

THANK YOU FOR BEING **A FORCE FOR GOOD!**

YOUR SUPPORT FOR DENVER ZOO CREATES CONNECTIONS BETWEEN PEOPLE AND THE PLANET, AND SAVES WILD ANIMALS IN WILD PLACES. **YOU IMPACT THE WORLD.**

DENVER ZOO

Thank you for making a difference for the nearly 3,500 animals that call Denver Zoo home. You strengthen our work to preserve and protect wildlife across the globe. Your generosity and passion allows us to provide expert care for our animals, share science education across Colorado, and advance decades of conservation leadership. All donors listed have made cash contributions of \$1,000 or more to the annual fund in 2018. Our deepest appreciation for being part of our Denver Zoo family.

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445 DONORS RAISING \$70,157 GIFTS

ON COLORADO GIVES DAY NOT ONLY HELPED PROVIDE CARE FOR OUR NEARLY

3,500 ANIMALS,

BUT ALSO DELIVERED HIGH-IMPACT SCIENCE EDUCATION EXPERIENCES TO MORE THAN

106,000 STUDENTS

FROM MORE THAN

1,100 SCHOOLS ACROSS OUR REGION

THESE GIFTS ALSO ADVANCE MORE THAN **20** YEARS OF **FIELD CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP** IN COLORADO AND AROUND THE GLOBE. TO MAKE THIS DAY EVEN MORE SPECIAL, OUR 2018 BOARD CHAIR, **SHERRI KOELBEL**, MATCHED ALL DONATIONS ON COLORADO GIVES DAY DOL-LAR-FOR-DOLLAR UP TO **\$50_000**

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We are forever grateful to the following members who have added Denver Zoo to their wills or other financial plans. For generations to come, your legacy will change the world for wild animals and wild places, both locally and globally. Thank you for sharing our passion for animals and helping to ensure our work will continue to secure a better world for animals through human understanding.

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Donna E. Hamilton Marilyn Hampton Kitty and John Hasche Jan and Clark Hastings Ronald C. Hill Bobbi J. Hoerter Kathleen and Walter Hoessle Barbara D. Hoffman Dr. and Mrs. Richard E. Holman M.J. Hooper Susie Betts Hotz Jacqueline Hudson and Richard Rapier Judith Husbands Damas Madeleine L. James Sharon and Mack Johnson Gloria E. Johnston **Deborah and Mark Jones** Patricia Jung Margaret A. Kaufmann Ms. Carole Keller D. Lance King **Mike Kinsey Bill and June Kistler** Cyndy Klepinger Keri Kugler William Kuhn Katharine Kurtz **Beverly Hamilton Kyle** Judith P. and Kevin T. Landon Mel LaRue Susie and Bill Lathrop Arlene Lebsack Kathryn and Bryan Lees Ms. Sheri Levine Vikki Lindenmuth-Disney Carol and Mick Lippincott **Clifford Lushbough** Bennett I. Machanic, M.D. Neil A. Mackie Marcia J. Malone and Jose F. Velazquez Leslie and Dr. George Mamalis Michael P. Marotta **Brian Martin** Elisabeth J. Maus Rod Maxon Suzanne and William McCarthy Beth McCorkle and Kris Schledewitz Beth and Pat McCrann Carla McCray Richard McCray Jeanne and Martin McCune John and Marianne McKiernan Bonnie J. McLaren

Sally McMahon **Rosemary Jayne McManis** Marsha and Jim McNally Todd J. McNamara Edward J. and Gwen E. Meserko Marilynn Miciek Betty Miller and Mia Johnson Ray A. and Deborah J. Moody Dr. Ron and Alys Moubry **Cindee Moyer** Jan and James Mulstay Grisillgen Munyan Mike Nabhan Jeff and Michelle Neely Kris Nelson Lynda Rae Nelson **Ben Nesbitt Deborah Neumann** Noah's Ark **Bonnie Noble** Patricia V. Northup Katie Oberlander and Martin Schnitger Dr. and Mrs. James S. Ogsbury III Marilyn Oliver Denny and Denise O'Malley Anita and Bill Ondr Christina Orlikowski **Ronald Palumbo** Ms. Natalie Parks **Brenda Parsons-Hier** Fred* and Karen Pasternack Foundation Julie Mackay Percy and Michael Percy Katherine Leith Porter **Gilford and Susan Priemel** Pat and David Pringle Geraldine Puchalski Jack R. Quinting **Ellen Saltz Rabinowitz** Sharon Rae Maryann Ray **Dolores** Reid **Beverly Rennie**

Mark and Nancy Rinker Annet M. Robben and Michael C. Heber Carol A. Robbins Susan and Eddie Robinson Mindy Robinson and Kim Clark Mary Ann Rondinella Mary Noteman Rosenberger Bee Ross Joann and Delbert Roupp Mr. and Mrs. Pat Russell **Maxine Sandoval Barbara** Jean Saunders Carolyn R. Scharf Dr. Barbara Scheer George J. Schmitt **Betsy Schutte** Kai W. Scott **Elizabeth Searle and Michael Branham** Larry and Kathy Sellon Martin and Jo Ann Semple Connie R. Shea Stephanie Sherberg Lynn Sites **Rebecca Sloan Barbara and Terry Smith** Jacque M. Southern **Marilyn Sprowles** Terry and Linda Stevinson Josie and Chapman Stewart Michael and Linda Stone Jenene and Jim Stookesberry Nancy K. Storer Janis and Steven Straley **Blake Sullivan** Susan Sulsky James P. Sutton Ellen Tasset-Maistryk and Wally Maistryk Jacque and Glenn Taylor Debra and John Taylor Patricia Taylor **Christine** Telea Liz Telea

Tracy Tempest Sheila Trader Pamela and Brian Tuerffs D. and Mark Turner Kristen and Manfred Uebelhoer Marilyn and Dick Veazey Scott Vickrey and Michael Baughman Heidi K. Wadas Marianne and Joseph Wagner Kathy and James Wahlberg Erin Walker Sandra and Jack P. Walmsley Katie Rutz Walter Ann and Dean Weaver Linda Weiss Patricia Wellinger Alden M. Whittaker **Richard Wicker and Mary Zang** Dr. Joy Wilson Gayle and Bill Witmer **Charlie and Anne Wright** Hannah Yaritz **Genevieve Young** Toni Zagarella Linda and Robert Zaparanick Karen M. Zarlengo In memory of Joe and Louise Zaro, Ms. Gina Zaro and Mr. Guy Ohl Jan Zinkl Kathleen M. Zipp

ESTATE GIFTS IN 2018

Beth Archibald Estate Mary J. Armstrong Estate Walter and Jaynn Emery Estate Judith Ann Fontius Estate Ruth A. Lutz Estate MaryAnn Stack Estate Candace J. Taylor Estate

*Deceased





018 ANNUAL REPORT

DENVER ZOO'S ACCESS-TO-AWE SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED \$210,000 TO MORE THAN 27,000 RECIPIENTS

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2018 ANNUAL REPORT

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OUR LEGACY OF WORLD-CLASS CARE CONTINUES WITH THE HELP OF SUPPORTERS OF OUR NEW VETERINARY HOSPITAL

FROM AROUND-THE-CLOCK SUPPLEMENTAL FEEDINGS, INCUBATORS CONTINUOUSLY MONITORING THE CONDITION OF CRITICALLY ILL ANIMALS, PLASMA TRANSFUSIONS, AND EVEN MOUTH-TO-SNOUT RESUSCITATION, OUR TEAM HAS SEEN IT ALL. BECAUSE OF YOUR SUPPORT, WE WILL HAVE THE NECESSARY RESOURCES TO NAVIGATE OUR NEXT MEDICAL CHALLENGE.

INSPIRED BY HEARTWARMING STORIES THAT HIGHLIGHT HOW DEDICATED DENVER ZOO IS TO CARING FOR OUR ANIMALS DURING ALL WALKS OF LIFE,

199 PASSIONATE DONORS

HAVE GENEROUSLY CONTRIBUTED TO HELP FUND NECESSARY EQUIPMENT FOR OUR NEW VETERINARY HOSPITAL.

WITH COMPLETION AIMED FOR SUMMER OF 2020, MANY OPPORTUNITIES STILL EXIST TO SUPPORT THIS IMPORTANT ADDITION TO OUR CAMPUS.

POLAR BEARS TEMPORARILY **DEPART DENVER ZOO**

CRANBEARY AND LEE MOVE TO SUPPORT SPECIES BREEDING NEEDS AND TO MAKE WAY FOR HABITAT REDEVELOPMENT

Cranbeary and Lee, Denver Zoo's resident polar bears departed this fall to be paired with new mates in the hopes they produce offspring, and so their current exhibit can be repurposed as a new and improved home for the Zoo's two grizzly bears. Cranbeary, headed to her new home at the Alaska Zoo while Lee, moved to the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium at the recommendation of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums' (AZA) Species Survival Plan[®] (SSP). Currently, there are only 44 polar bears in North American zoos with the species facing increasing threats in the wild.

"Polar bears are an iconic species and have a long and storied history at Denver Zoo, and we know they'll be missed by our staff, volunteers, donors and the community. Denver Zoo is committed to all of our animals, and while our polar bears receive excellent care, it's important that they are paired with mates who may prove to be better breeding partners. The decision to relocate Cranbeary and Lee will benefit the welfare of both polar bears in the long run. "

-- Hollie Colahan, Vice President for Animal Care

Denver Zoo's two grizzly bears, Kootenai and Tundra, will move from Bear Mountain into the existing polar bear exhibit in May 2019 which will serve as a more suitable and improved habitat following necessary updates and renovations. These and other campus developments around the Zoo are part of implementing the vision of the "A New Denver Zoo" Master Plan, which was approved by the Denver City Council in 2015 and will ensure the Zoo remains a model for animal care, conservation and sustainability. Starting in 2019, guests will see a number of other improvements around the Zoo, including upgrades to existing animal habitats including the construction of a new animal hospital.

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"THE ZOO HAS GROWN AND EVOLVED DRAMATICALLY THROUGHOUT ITS 122-YEAR HISTORY, AND WILL ALWAYS DO SO AS WE CONTINUOUSLY WORK TO OPTIMIZE THE WELLBEING OF OUR ANIMALS AND THE EXPERIENCE FOR OUR GUESTS. WE HAVE CARED FOR POLAR BEARS FOR MORE THAN 80 YEARS, AND REMAIN FULLY COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING THE SPECIES AND ENHANCING GUEST EXPERIENCE. AS WE LOOK TO THE FUTURE, WE ARE EXCITED TO RETURN POLAR BEARS TO A NEW, STATE-OF-THE-INDUSTRY EXHIBIT, AND FURTHER OUR EFFORTS TO PROTECT THIS IMPORTANT SPECIES."

- BERT VESCOLANI, PRESIDENT/CEO

FINDING NEW WAYS TO CONN OUR DENVER ZOO TEAM WIT

A DENVER ZOO FOR ALL

Denver Zoo is committed to ensuring we are always focused and equipped to honor diversity, equity and inclusion in all that we do. In fact, our PRIDE behaviors (Passion, Respect, Innovation, Diversity and Inclusion, and Excellence) are at the core of who we strive to be. These values drive how our Zoo team interacts with each other and our guests every day.

To advance our community relationships, we are reviewing our current programs, relationships, and outreach and determining how we can strengthen each.

ECT H THE COMMUNITY

Our project has three main components: analysis and assessment, learning and education, and developing an equity blueprint.

In the first phase, we conducted key informant interviews with staff participants. In these interviews and focus groups with staff and volunteers, we asked for their perspectives about wins, opportunities and challenges we might be facing in the areas of diversity, equity and inclusion. We compiled this important data, shared our findings and are now developing phases two and three. In the second phase, we are focusing on "learning for all." The topics of diversity, equity and inclusion can be complex but by providing multi-faceted learning opportunities, staff and volunteers will share an understanding of the power of words and how it impacts our work every day.

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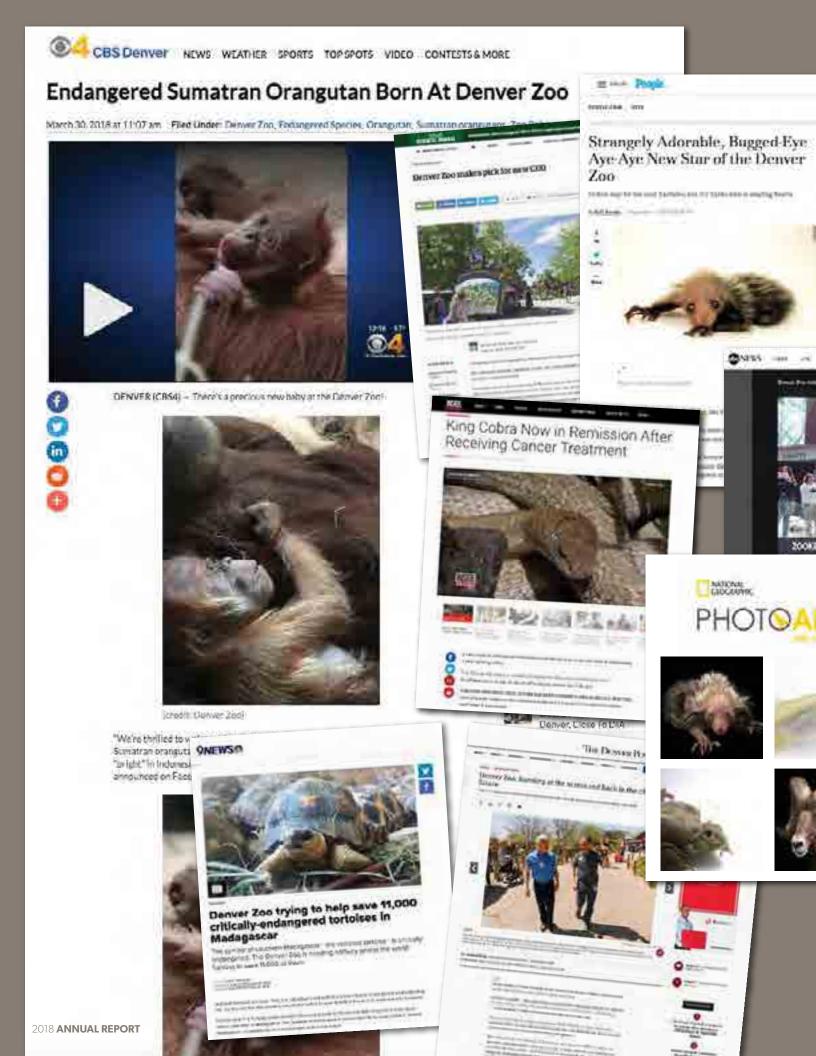
DENVER ZOO RESPONDS TO DISTRESS CALL IN MADAGASCAR AND HELPS RESCUE CRITICALLY ENDANGERED RADIATED TORTOISES

When police in Madagascar discovered nearly 11,000 critically endangered radiated tortoises starving in an abandoned house in a remote region of Madagascar, Denver Zoo immediately responded by sending two staff members to help with the international rescue effort. Sending a Tropical Discovery keeper and reptile expert was an obvious choice, but we also chose to send a carpenter from our maintenance department to help build a new shelter and other needed structures to store food and water, house aid workers, and accommodate other necessities. They utilized their respective skills to aid these tortoises who had most likely been collected for sale on the illegal pet market in Southeast Asia.

In this case, the Madagascan government had been in dire need of assistance to triage and care for the tortoises and they had called upon Turtle Survival Alliance (TSA) for help. Although TSA manages several rescue centers in Madagascar, they needed additional aid to save and rehabilitate such an enormous number of animals. They reached out to fellow Association of Zoos & Aquarium (AZA) members to join the rescue mission and that's how Denver Zoo became involved. This important work is an example not only of our dedication to conservation, but our commitment to collaboration as well.

WE LEVERAGE THE WIDE VARIETY OF EXPERTISE AT OUR ZOO TO HELP WILDLIFE AND WILD PLACES IN ONGOING AND EMERGENCY PROJECTS AROUND THE WORLD.





IN 2018, DENVER ZOO WAS FEATURED OR MENTIONED IN MORE THAN

6,000 MEDIA STORIES REACHING 6.3 BILLION ONLINE USERS AND 73 MILLION TV VIEWERS & NEWSPAPER/MAGAZINE READERS







THE DENVER POST

DENVER ZOO, BURSTING AT THE SEAMS AND BACK IN THE CITY'S GOOD GRACES, RETOOLS FOR THE FUTURE



DENVER ZOO TRYING TO HELP SAVE 11,000 CRITICALLY-ENDANGERED TORTOISES IN MADAGASCAR



STRANGELY ADORABLE, BUGGED-EYE AYE-AYE NEW STAR OF THE DENVER ZOO



DENVER ZOO CELEBRATES DOBBY THE GIRAFFE'S 1ST BIRTHDAY



ENDANGERED SUMATRAN ORANGUTAN BORN AT DENVER ZOO



KING COBRA NOW IN REMISSION AFTER RECEIVING CANCER TREATMENT

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

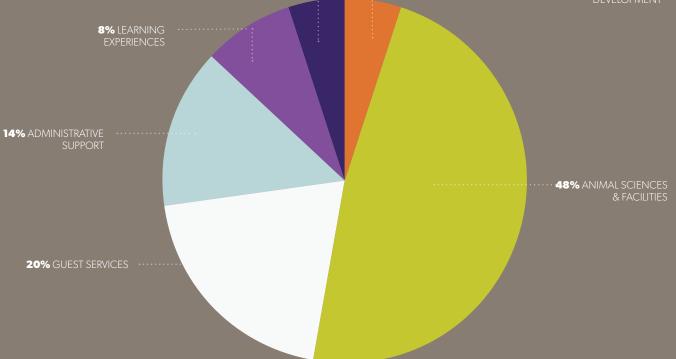
2018 Year-end

	Denver Zoo			Colorado Zoological Trust			
	WITHOUT DONO RESTRICTIONS	R WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	TOTAL	WITHOUT DONC RESTRICTIONS	R WITH DONOR RESTRICTIONS	TOTAL	2018 TOTAL
SUPPORT AND REVENUE							
Admission revenue	\$ 9,508,181	\$ -	\$ 9,508,181	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,508,181
Scientific and Cultural Facilities	9,251,446	¥	9,251,446	Ф	Ψ	Ψ	9,251,446
District revenue	5,251,440	-	5,251,440			-	5,251,440
	C 104 005		C 104 00F				C 104 005
Memberships	6,184,985	-	6,184,985	-	-	-	6,184,985
Concessions commission	3,812,378	-	3,812,378	-	-	-	3,812,378
Donations, gifts, and grants	1,012,832	1,606,438	2,619,270	1,252,531	1,500	1,254,031	3,873,301
ZooLights	2,195,401	-	2,195,401	-	-	-	2,195,401
City and County of Denver support	2,210,542	-	2,210,542	-	-	-	2,210,542
Sponsorships and corporate events	1,935,911	-	1,935,911	-	-	-	1,935,911
Learning experiences revenue	1,416,364	-	1,416,364	-	-	-	1,416,364
Attractions	893,644	_	893,644	-	_	-	893,644
Do at the Zoo, net of expenses	364,301	_	364,301		_	_	364,301
Transfers from CZT to the Denver Zoo				(154,000)	(559,000)	(752 200)	-
		-	753,200	(134,000)	(559,000)	(753,200)	-
Net assets released from restrictions	5,094,111	(5,094,111)	-	-	-	-	-
Total support and revenue	44,633,296	(3,487,673)	41,145,623	1,098,531	(597,700)	500,831	41,646,454
EXPENDITURES Program expences Animal sciences	19,884,646	-	19,884,646	_	_	_	19,884,646
Guest experiences	8,206,709	_	8,206,709	-	_	-	8,206,709
Learning experiences	3,179,425		3,179,425	_	_	_	3,179,425
Field conservation	1,889,136	-	1,889,136				1,889,136
		-		-	-	-	
Total program services	33,159,916	-	33,159,916	-	-	-	33,159,916
Support services							
Management and general	5,929,739	-	5,929,739	131,070	-	131,070	6,060,809
Fundraising and development	2,070,927	-	2,070,927	-	-	-	2,070,927
Total support services	8,000,666	-	8,000,666	131,070	-	131,070	8,131,736
Total expenditures	41,160,582	-	41,160,582	131,070	-	131,070	41,291,652
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	3,472,714	(3,487,673)	(14,959)	967,461	(597,700)	369,761	354,802
NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES							
Capital campaign contributions	-	15,000	15,000	-	_	_	15,000
Bond Proceeds		2,029,041	2,029,041	-			2,029,041
Investment Return	215,598	2,023,041	215,598	(951,121)	(1,379,385)	(2,330,506)	
		-		(331,121)	(1,379,303)	(2,330,500)	
Master Plan design and construction	(3,493,672)	-	(3,493,672)	-	-	-	(3,493,672)
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS FROM NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES	(3,278,074)	2,044,041	(1,234,033)	(951,121)	(1,379,385)	(2,330,506)	(3,564,539)
NON-OFERALING ACTIVITES		-					
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	194,640	(1,443,632)	(1,248,992)	16,340	(1,977,085)	(1,960,745)	(3,209,737)
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	14,284,929	8,509,477	22,794,406	10,308,389	12,835,774	23,144,163	45,938,569
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$ 14,479,569	\$ 7,065,845	\$ 21,545,414	\$ 10,324,729	\$ 10,858,689	\$ 21,183,418	\$ 42,728,832

2018 ANNUAL REPORT

SUPPORT & REVENUE

\$41,646,454 **4%** LEARNING EXPERIENCES 5% CITY & COUNTY OF DENVER 2% ATTRACTIONS 9% DONATIONS **IN-KIND & OTHER 23%** ADMISSIONS 9% CONCESSIONS 11% EVENTS 22% SCFD **15%** MEMBERSHIPS **OPERATING EXPENSES** \$41,291,652 5% FUNDRAISING & MEMBERSHIP 5% FIELD CONSERVATION



2018 DENVER ZOOLOGICAL FOUNDATION INC. BOARD OF GOVERNORS, LEADERSHIP COUNCIL & EXECUTIVE STAFF

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> *Executive Director of Parks & Recreation **Mayoral Appointees









