



## **FUTURE ANIMAL CARE AND EDUCATION CENTER 2020-2021**



**The Animal Care and Education Center is the future of The Wildcat Sanctuary (TWS) and will provide an important platform for our mission to help more animals and educate more people. With your support, this new multi-use building will serve our cats through all stages of their lives. It will also be a place to teach those who can help make a difference in the realities of the captive wildlife crisis.**

### **THE NEED**

We've seen so much in our current sanctuary hospital: from serval Scarlet, whose metabolic bone disease caused fractures to her leg and rib cage due to the poor diet she was fed; to tiger Mohan's crippling arthritis from torn ACL's that went untreated; to tiger Titan's rotting teeth that took four root canals to help; to lynx George's inoperable leg that needed amputation.

I've seen the damage first-hand. Participating in intake exams, scheduling diagnostics and surgeries with specialists, watching dentists perform root canals on rotten teeth, providing comfort care to so many suffering with arthritis from debilitating declaws.

**It's why I'm so passionate about ending the captive wildlife crisis.**

My vision is to create the Animal Care and Education Center to heal the damages to wildcats caused by private ownership. It will also increase teaching opportunities to veterinary students, legislators, our followers and others who can help stop the suffering of animals. At the same time, it's important we share our knowledge and experiences with other facilities to make lives better for all wildcats living in captivity today.



## GOALS

- Continue to provide state-of-the-art medical care to all of our residents, including intake exams, preventative care, wellness checks and geriatric comfort care
- Demonstrate to our followers the damage done by private ownership and life in captivity through closed circuit TV's, videos and live social media posts
- Educate future veterinarians and externs by increasing the size of our veterinary team, creating a pre-veterinary externship program and including a viewing room to the surgery suite for observation and teaching
- Obtain additional technical equipment so more procedures can be performed onsite, allowing specialists to perform procedures at TWS, rather than transporting the animal elsewhere
- Share our programs that ensure physical and emotional health - from our operant conditioning and enrichment programs, laser therapy, Healing Touch and energy work, to our comfort care and pain management programs



## MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING USE

- Veterinary hospital with equipment, lab, pharmacy and surgery
- Rescue Bay for recovery area, transport and rescue equipment
- Surgical observation suite for 12 with closed circuit TV
- Open-space lobby with mission-driven educational displays for use by volunteers and interns, as well as conference space
- Break/Refuel room for staff, interns and volunteers
- Distance Learning Lab for media and outreach team to educate schools and groups off-site via skype and satellite
- Education space for training animal care interns, staff, AmeriCorps and visiting veterinary students and externs
- Quiet room for grieving, 1:1's, mentoring and private space
- Collaboration and workspace for caretakers and animal care interns





- Overnight quarters for emergency animal care staff and veterinarians
- Staff offices and meeting rooms
- Reflection porch for staff, donors and volunteers; includes a catio for office cats
- 2<sup>nd</sup> story viewing window with deck that acts as an overhang for UTV and equipment parking
- Parking for volunteers, staff, interns, donors and vendors

## NEW ANIMAL CARE AND EDUCATION CENTER PROGRAMS

### VETERINARY CARE AND EDUCATION PROGRAM

#### Phased Approach

- Ongoing - Care of the cats
  - 24/7 response time
  - Multiple veterinarians and veterinary technicians
  - Caretakers as veterinary assistants
- 1-2 years - Design and construction of building that meets our needs:
  - Surgical suite with HVAC compliance, separate temperature control, O2 compliance, and sound proofing
  - Surgical observation suite with closed circuit capability
  - Radiology/ultrasound equipment
  - Specialty – Orthopedics to be done onsite
  - Anti-declaw education and documentation, as well as possible reconstruction surgeries
- 2-3 years - Education Program
  - Supports TWS and benefits our cats
  - Priorities:
    - Educate current staff and interns
    - Educate donors and supporters through photos, videos and live Facebook posts
    - External audiences as defined – 1 to 2 externships, scheduled viewing education opportunities for a fee to veterinarians and veterinary technicians



#### Benefits for Ongoing Animal Care

- Fully staffed veterinary department enables 24/7 response



## Veterinary Education Program

- Department lead to fulfill TWS vision for the veterinary education program, meeting requirements of continuing education in the veterinary field
  - Coordinates onboarding of new veterinarians, veterinary technicians and externs
- Priorities:
  - Educate current staff and interns
    - Continue to train caretakers as veterinary assistants
    - Intern and staff access to surgical observation suite during certain procedures/may rotate in the hospital
  - Educate donors and supporters through photos, videos and live Facebook posts
  - External audiences
    - One to two six-month or longer veterinary externships to be trained as wildlife veterinarian, completing captive wildlife crisis education at TWS
      - Full-time, lives onsite
    - Veterinarians, veterinary students and industry adjunct professionals scheduled 4-6 times a year – 12 people at a time
      - Sessions meet Continuing Education requirements for Veterinary professionals
      - Access to surgical observation suite
      - Captive wildlife crisis presentation and case studies, including anti-declawing information
      - Generate revenue with fee for service
  - Share key medical learnings with sanctuaries and zoos in ways that benefit captive big cats elsewhere



## TWS KEY MESSAGES EDUCATION PROGRAM

- Deliver TWS' key messages, vision and mission to extended audiences
  - Captive Wildlife Crisis - No More Wild Pets
  - Say No to Cub Petting
  - Say No to Hybrid Cats
  - Say No to White Tigers
- Education Room #1- Onsite meeting room used for training interns, externs, staff, volunteers, AmeriCorps on TWS educational pillars above
- Education Room #2 – Open-space lobby displaying TWS mission, vision and core messages
- Education Room #3 - Distance Learning Lab with satellite feeds to classrooms around the world.



## PROJECT PLAN AND BUDGET

Phase	Timing	Description	Cost
I – Quarantine Rebuild	Fall 2019 - completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Upgrade of quarantine habitats</li> </ul>	\$100,000
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Secure additional rescue vehicles and equipment</li> </ul>	\$4,500
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meet with architect to develop needs assessment and create preliminary plans for the building</li> <li>High-speed internet brought to TWS</li> </ul>	\$26,000
II – Construction of Building	Summer 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Final plan approval - completed</li> <li>Site preparation and excavation, including all proper permits and infrastructure - includes roads, electric, septic, etc.</li> <li>Construction of building begins</li> </ul>	\$700,000 - \$800,000
III – Furnish building and complete outdoor needs	Fall 2020 or Spring 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction is completed</li> <li>Move hospital equipment, procure additional equipment</li> <li>Staff/interns move in</li> </ul>	\$100,000

## FAQ's

### Why does TWS need a new hospital?

- We have outgrown our 18 x 24-foot hospital room. There's not enough room for staff, recovery crates, or educational opportunities for staff, interns or veterinary students.
- A sterile, organized surgery suite, with its own HVAC system, is needed to continue improving the lives of the wildcats living at TWS.
- Currently, the staff is spread out in offices across the property. This new facility will enable us to have a more efficient and unified team.

### Is the cost worth the benefit?

- Even if we weren't building the new Animal Care and Education Center, a new onsite hospital is needed.
- Zoning only allows TWS to put a certain number of buildings onsite. We are at capacity. The new building serves many needed purposes; including office and training space, overnight quarters and educational opportunities.



- The current Animal Care office, volunteer space and overnight quarters are in an older double-wide trailer with a lot of serious issues, including water damage and mold. This can no longer serve as office, volunteer space or overnight quarters.
- The new building will allow us more educational opportunities both on- and off-site.

#### **How will TWS fund this?**

- Similar to fundraising for the Pride Prairie and Wildcat Pines sections of our sanctuary, we are drafting grant requests to foundations, approaching core donors, as well as our entire donor database for funds.
- We are also interested in approaching corporations who would like to sponsor a portion of the construction but have had challenges securing corporate partners in the past. If you know of anyone, we would greatly appreciate an introduction.

#### **Do I have to donate in a lump sum?**

- No. We accept multi-year commitments up to 3 years, starting in 2019.
- We do request that your transformational gift be in addition to your annual operating giving.

#### **How will TWS staff the new veterinary program?**

- A staffing plan has already been put in place. It includes our current veterinarians and staff, as well as adding additional staff.
- A budget and plan have been approved by the Board of Directors. We will be adding staff strategically and thoughtfully to ensure onboarding and training are successful.

## **GIVING LEVELS**



Thank you for considering a transformational gift toward this much-needed, new Animal Care and Education Center.

Founding member levels begin at \$10,000. Patron supporters range from \$3,000 - \$9,999. We ask this gift be above and beyond your current giving, since annual operating donations are still needed to meet daily sanctuary expenses and rescues.

Supporters giving \$3,000 or more will be invited to celebrate the ground-breaking and enjoy a sanctuary tour. It will be your chance to see the cats your generosity will help so much!

Thank you so much for being part of The Wildcat Sanctuary's future!!

If you would like to donate to this special project, please contact Tammy Thies directly at [cat@wildcatsanctuary.org](mailto:cat@wildcatsanctuary.org) or 320-245-6871.