

# FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO



2016 ANNUAL REPORT





# FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO MISSION

*To inspire wonder of our natural world, provide an engaging learning environment, and create a passion for conservation.*



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**On the front cover:** African lion cub, Kijani. Photo by Heather Davis.

**On the back cover:** Vietnamese box turtle. Photo by Ryan Gruber.



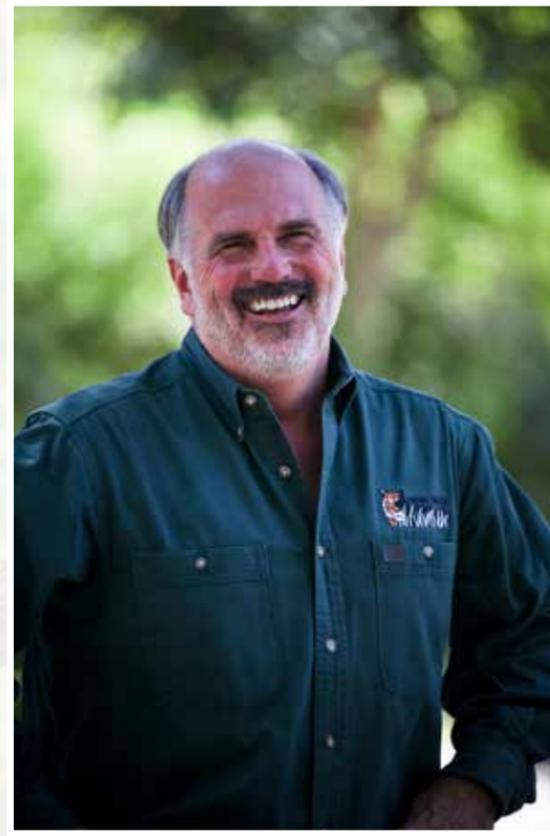
### 2016 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Valentino, Chair  
Tom Richards, Vice Chair  
Craig Saladino, Treasurer  
Sharon Levy, Secretary  
Colin Dougherty  
Chelsea Cates  
Ed Gonzalez  
George Nokes  
Ken Price  
Shari Rainwater

### 2016 SENIOR MANAGEMENT

Scott Barton, CEO/Zoo Director  
Brian Goldman, Chief Financial Officer  
Lyn Myers, General Curator  
Dr. Shannon Nodolf,  
Chief Veterinary Officer  
Alisha Anderson, Chief Marketing &  
Development Officer  
Laura Martina, SPHR, Chief Human  
Resource Officer  
Sandy Pitts, C.I.T., Education Curator  
Lisa Condoian, Zoo Operations Officer

## FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK



*"It always seems impossible until it's done."*

- Nelson Mandela

To be honest, there were times when it seemed like the expansion of the Zoo and the construction of a world class African exhibit were impossible tasks. While Fresno Chaffee Zoo has had incredible support from our community, the barriers and challenges to completing those projects were oppressive at times. Thanks to a devoted team and help from a great Zoo Corporation Board, Zoo Authority Board, City Council, County Board of Supervisors, remarkable work from Congressman Costa and past Mayor Swearingen, as well as many others, what seemed impossible was done.

2016 was the first full year for Fresno Chaffee Zoo to have African Adventure open. The results have been beyond our hopes. We had a record attendance of 964,091, a record number of members, and a great response from our guests.

This year also saw the first lion born at Fresno Chaffee Zoo in almost 50 years. We also confirmed a white rhinoceros pregnancy, the first in the Zoo's history. Species that had been absent from the Zoo for many years: lions, rhinos, and cheetah, settled into their new homes, as did a number of species that had never been at the Zoo, like meerkats, African elephants and wildebeest. Thanks to our in-house teams, we also opened a new Australian walk-through exhibit, Roo Walkabout, which features red kangaroos, wallaroo and wallaby.

Fresno Chaffee Zoo's success is only possible through the amazing support we receive from our community. We hope you're proud of what has been accomplished. There's much more to come. We appreciate your support more than we can express, and it's leading to one of the most successful zoo and aquarium stories in the country.

We're very happy to share the story of our 2016 successes with you here

- **Scott Barton**, CEO/Zoo Director

# ANIMAL COLLECTION

**2016** was a very busy year for our animal department. We had just opened our new African Adventure expansion in the fall of 2015 and all of us, animal and human alike, were still adjusting.

Our Kudu herd however, did not take long at all to get comfortable. Kudu pair Ivan and Mara produced the first animal born in African Adventure in 2016. Mapenzi, a female Kudu calf, was born on July 29.

On October 11, 2016, after a three month gestation period, our female lion, Kiki, gave birth to a healthy male lion cub. This birth was the

first lion birth at our Zoo since 1968. The cub named Kijani, has assimilated well into our lion pride. The entire pride continues to be the "Pride of Fresno".

We had several births and hatchings that were notable for the year. A male Chacoan peccary was born to our peccary herd. This little guy had a compromised foot which required hand rearing by our keeper and veterinary staff. Physical therapy and extra TLC worked well and this little guy was successfully reintroduced back into the herd.

Fresno Chaffee Zoo was proud to report significant hatchings of two critically endangered reptiles. A radiated tortoise and two Vietnamese box turtle hatchings all helped to increase captive populations. The successful hatching of a radiated tortoise was a first of its kind for our Zoo. The Vietnamese box turtle hatching is significant in that the Zoo has individuals to breed and captive populations are very low. These two tortoise species are threatened in the wild due to over collection for human food.

[Continued on page 6]



Female greater kudu calf, "Mapenzi", with mother, "Mara".



Chacoan peccary, "Harvey", being bottle fed by Dr. Shannon Nodolf after being born with a compromised foot.



Male African lion cub, "Kijani" with mother, "Kiki"

## ANIMAL COLLECTION 2016 TOTALS

### Invertebrates

Species 5  
Individuals 246



### Cartilaginous fish (Chondrichthyes)

Species 4  
Individuals 39



### Bony Fish (Osteichthyes)

Species 17  
Individuals 224



### Amphibians

Species 18  
Individuals 150



### Reptiles

Species 62  
Individuals 165



### Birds

Species 66  
Individuals 212



### Mammals

Species 56  
Individuals 168



**Totals** Species 228  
Individuals 1,204

## BIRTHS AND HATCHINGS

### AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES ("HERPS")

0.0.1 Indochinese box turtle  
0.0.1 prehensile-tailed skink  
0.0.1 radiated tortoise

### BIRDS

0.1 green aracari  
2.2 Guam rail  
1.1 pied imperial pigeon  
1.0 yellow-rumped cacique

### MAMMALS

0.1 greater kudu  
1.0 African lion  
1.0 prehensile-tailed porcupine  
1.1.1 red ruffed lemur  
3.3 red wolf  
1.1 six-banded armadillo  
2.2 warthog  
1.0.2 Chacoan peccary

## ANIMAL ACQUISITIONS

### REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS ("HERPS")

1.0 Blood python  
0.0.1 Western pond turtle  
0.0.4 prehensile-tailed skink  
1.0 inland bearded dragon

### MAMMALS

1.0 fennec fox  
1.0 Hill wallaroo  
1.0 Kikuyu black and white colobus  
1.0 Tamar wallaby

1.0 Male 0.1 Female 0.0.1 Unknown sex

One of the greatest achievements for our staff was to be an instrumental partner in a release program of Guam rails that were hatched right here at our Zoo. In 2016, our Guam rail project produced five rail chicks, 4 of which were released into the wild. The fifth chick will remain as part of the captive breeding program for future generations.

In the summer of 2016, we opened our new Kangaroo Walkabout exhibit. This exhibit design and completion was a team effort by many departments within the Zoo. Many of the design elements were reclaimed materials from our old giraffe and zebra exhibit. This new exhibit offers our guests an opportunity to walk through the exhibit and get up close to four species; Tammar wallaby, red kangaroo, wallaroo and emu. New graphics challenge our guests to see how their jumping ability matches up to any one of our new macrapods.

Jennifer, our 92 year old Galapagos tortoise was successfully moved to Honolulu Zoo to become part of a breeding program. That's right, even at 92 years of age, there is still a chance that Jennifer could contribute to future generations of this endangered tortoise. Tortoises can reproduce their entire lifetime which for many species can be up and over 200 years.

Just like our Zoo, our animal collection will continue to grow and change. We look forward to bringing even more species to the Central Valley that can be used to educate and inspire our guests while also allowing us to make an impact on saving their species and habitat in the wild.

- Lyn Myers, General Curator



*Vietnamese box turtle hatchling*



*Roo Walkabout exhibit*



*Guam rail*

*Guam rails are the first avian species hatched at our zoo that will actually be released into the wild. Our Guam rails will join other captive raised birds at Disney's Animal Kingdom before departing to adjoining islands near Guam. The islands have gone through intense predator eradication programs removing the ravenous brown tree snake from Australia which was an introduced species.*



*Galapagos tortoise*



*Radiated tortoise hatchling*

# EDUCATION



## Zoo Camp Adventures

The fun and dynamic learning opportunities that Zoo Camp Adventures offer have continued to grow in popularity. The Education Department offers camp sessions for children in pre-school through 12th-grade. These sessions run weekly during the summer and daily programs are offered in the fall, winter and spring. All sessions offer unique educational experiences that foster an appreciation of the natural world through the use of engaging hands on activities, biological artifacts, and opportunities to meet with a variety of zookeeper and veterinary staff members.

## African Adventure

In 2016, the demand for educational programs for school field trip visits continued to grow. We have offered classroom-based learning for years. This year, we piloted a cart-based program which mimics the content of the classroom programs. Both programs offer grade level based content and standard driven objectives. The learning is hands-on and inquiry-based with opportunities for self-discovery. For example, the Habitat Exploration Station Cart Program features hands-on learning which explores the wetlands, savannah, rainforest and ocean environments. These carts can be placed on Zoo grounds so we are not limited to our classroom spaces. This year, we have been gathering feedback from participating schools and next year we will roll out a refined version. This new program will allow us to keep up with the growing school program demands. Our Energy and Conservation Cart Program offers a unique opportunity for middle and high school students to have in depth conversations highlighting green practices used by our Zoo as well as the Tiger Species Survival Plan (SSP) and genetics, conservation projects we support and the importance of conservation. Additionally, the message of the Seafood Watch program and the importance of making sustainable food choices is also offered.



# 2016 TOTALS

## ON-SITE PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

School Field Trips **96,830**

After Hours  
Ask Me Cart  
Chats  
Alpaca Encounters  
Llama Encounters  
Raptor Encounters  
Story Tellers  
Teen LEADERS

Non-fee-based  
**247,857**

Rainforest Tours  
Zoo Previews  
Zoo Tours  
Teacher Workshops  
Lab Programs

Fee-based  
school programs  
**19,999**

Behind the Scenes  
Backstage Tours  
Birthday Encounters  
Twilight Safaris  
Overnights

Zoo Adventures  
**5,154**

Tot Time  
Zoo Academy  
Cubby Camp  
Zoo Adventure Camp  
Shadow a Keeper  
Young Naturalist Classes

Zoo Camp  
Adventures  
**3,194**

## OFF-SITE PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

Zoomobile  
Zoo Talks

Fee-based  
**15,414**

Beach Clean-up  
Outreach  
Community Events

Non-fee-based  
**6,084**

GRAND TOTAL  
**421,532**  
PARTICIPANTS

## Our Fresno Chaffee Zoo Volunteer Team 36,622 Volunteer Hours

Volunteers assist and support the Zoo in many ways. All of the hours provided by our dedicated volunteers are a tremendous resource that allow us to have a much larger impact in the community.

Most people are aware of the Fresno Chaffee Zoo Docents, our trained educational volunteers, who assist with school-based education programs and provide many activities out in the Zoo to engage and educate guests.

Teen LEADERS are a group of teen volunteers trained to conduct activities with guests on Zoo grounds. You may see these teen volunteers engaging groups of all ages with fun, conservation-based, learning activities to bring awareness through hands-on games and activities.

Junior counselors are teen volunteers who assist our camp instructors during camp classes. These teen volunteers help facilitate positive play and provide a pair of helping hands to staff so we can keep our campers happy and entertained.

Animal assistants are volunteers who assist the zookeepers with the care of animals and exhibit areas. Many of our zookeepers started out as volunteers. Volunteering provides an opportunity to learn more about the responsibilities and skills of our zookeepers.

Events volunteers are groups of volunteers who assist with Zoo fundraising events and play a vital role in ensuring guests at these events have an enjoyable visit.

Our volunteers are selected through an application process. If you are interested in helping us as a volunteer, look for opportunities online at [www.fresnochaffeezoo.org](http://www.fresnochaffeezoo.org) and in our quarterly membership newsletter, ZooNews.



## School Based Programs

### Fresno Unified School District- Zoo Careers Awareness Program

Everyone knows that zoos employ zookeepers, but many people, especially our local students, are not aware of the variety of occupational opportunities our Zoo provides. A partnership developed in 2015 with Fresno Unified School District (FUSD). The College and Career Readiness Office challenged education staff to develop a hands-on program that would provide 4th-grade students with an awareness of the diversity of jobs here at the Zoo. Since that time, the career lab program has served over 2,000 FUSD 4th-grade students. In the lab, students not only learn about the challenges of being a zookeeper but also learn about the importance of other staff positions such as aquarists, facilities staff, and educators.

### Madera Unified School District-In-depth Standard-based Environmental Learning

In 2015, a partnership with Madera Unified School District (MUSD) began a journey to find a multi-faceted approach to standard-based environmental learning. Almost 1,800 5th-grade students in 2016 participated in off-site presentations conducted by Fresno Chaffee Zoo educators, which was subsequently followed by a visit to the Zoo, and supported with pre-assembled check-out kits designed for 5th-grade teachers to use in their classrooms.

## Community Partnerships: Zoo 2 You

Fresno Chaffee Zoo Docents bring this fun and engaging camp experience to local underprivileged children through a partnership with local resource centers free of charge. Each summer, Zoo docents bring Zoo Camp to these resource centers and it is not only educational, but it allows the docents to share their passion for the world and for the values of stewardship, conservation, and love of learning. Each camp culminates with a sponsored trip to Fresno Chaffee Zoo with lunch included.

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## Sources of Funding

Measure Z Operating <sup>1</sup>	\$4,172,432
City of Fresno <sup>2</sup>	1,500,000
Admissions	4,099,886
Investment Income	717,083
Membership	1,323,499
Gift Shop and Concessions	1,275,563
Event Income	704,314
Donations & Grants	372,624
Stingray Bay	298,588
Education	405,903
Rental Income	604,641
Giraffe Feeding	450,838
In-Kind Donations	131,769
Other Income	61,312

**Total Revenue** **\$16,118,452**

## Use of Funds

Construction in Progress	\$310,142
Salaries and Benefits	7,530,292
Capital Equipment and Facilities	1,899,735
Contracted Services <sup>3</sup>	700,467
Utilities	683,102
Animal Services	460,911
Supplies	607,546
Advertising	358,205
Repairs and Maintenance	266,287
Food and Catering	416,365
Professional Services <sup>4</sup>	277,517
Printing and Postage	254,005
Insurance	179,461
Equipment	251,436
Service/Bank Fees	196,302
Staff Development	116,054
Conservation	109,044
Business Expenses	112,264
Computer Hardware and Software	54,455
Telephone	51,231
Specialized Services	50,432
Uniforms	36,706
Fleet	21,643
Miscellaneous	36,050

**Total Expenses** **\$14,669,510**

**Net Surplus** **\$ 1,448,942**

<sup>1</sup> Sales tax revenue from Measure Z is available based upon expense reimbursement claim forms that are submitted by the Zoo. During 2016, the Zoo received \$4,172,432 in reimbursements.

<sup>2</sup> Towards projects with shared costs between City of Fresno and Fresno Chaffee Zoo

<sup>3</sup> Contracted Services include Winged Wonders Bird Show, event entertainment, and contracted IT and custodial services.

<sup>4</sup> Professional Services include legal, audit, payroll and exterminating services.

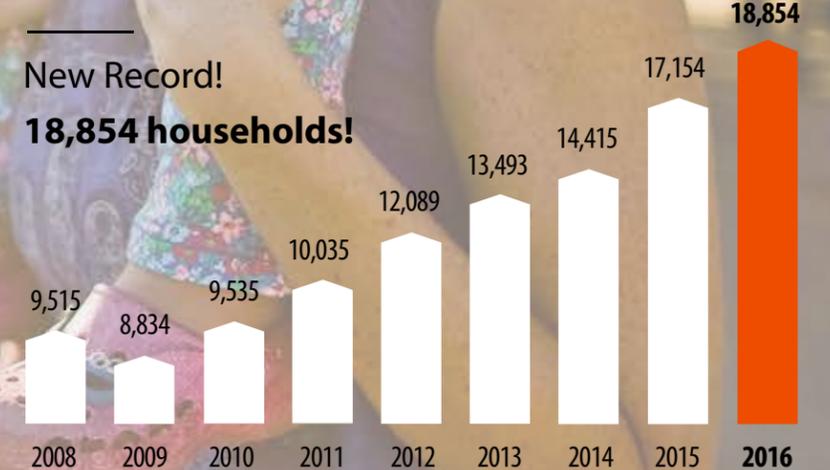
## ATTENDANCE

**New Record!**  
**964,091 guests!**



## MEMBERSHIP

**New Record!**  
**18,854 households!**



# GLOBAL CONSERVATION



FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO  
CONSERVATION FUND

In 2016, the Fresno Chaffee Zoo Wildlife Conservation Fund supported nine long term projects based in Africa, six long term projects in other parts of the world and seven United States based projects received support, four of which were California species. In total, the Zoo gave \$153,448 to 22 projects in over 20 countries.

## GLOBAL PROJECTS



### Lowland Tapir Conservation Initiative

One of the main achievements of the Atlantic Forest Tapir Program has been working with local communities on the establishment of agro-forestry projects to restore tapir habitat (corridors, stepping-stones) identified through tapir telemetry monitoring, while creating economic alternatives for local farmers. Camera trapping and radio collar research help gather data on habitat use and behavior as well as genetic and health status of the population. Outreach and awareness initiatives on conservation also help to conserve this species.

### Hornbill Nest Adoption Program

Villagers in Thailand collect data on the hornbill species and educate locals about the importance of hornbill conservation. There are seven species that are studied, four of which are endangered. For \$150, a hornbill family can be adopted. This project provides details about the adopted hornbills, location of the nest and the species and characteristics of the tree in which the nest is located, accompanied by photographs of the actual tree.



### Tiger SSP Malayan Tiger Initiative

This project in Malaysia works on anti-poaching efforts and tiger themed education and outreach for the local communities. Anti-poaching efforts include support for patrols on foot, vehicle and boat and work to catch poachers and dismantle snares, seize weapons and put up road blocks for check points to stop illegal trade.

### Turtle Survival Alliance

Their mission statement is: Transforming passion for turtles into effective conservation action through a global network of living collections and recovery programs. They have projects in 17 regions across the globe.



### Sloth Bear Conservation- Bear TAG- Wildlife SOS India

Located in India, this project supports the data gathering on sloth bear denning, particularly sloth bear cub denning, in northeastern Karnataka. Camera traps, collected footage of sloth bears, including behavior that has not previously been documented and rescue efforts have prevented sloth bear cubs from being smuggled out of the country.

### Pantanal Giant Armadillo Project Brazil

Giant armadillos range over much of South America, yet due to their cryptic behavior and low population densities these animals are rarely seen and little was known about them prior to the Giant Armadillo Project, based in Brazil. This project successfully established the first long-term ecological study of giant armadillos. The main goal of the project is to investigate the ecology and biology of the species and understand its function in the ecosystem using radio transmitters, camera traps, burrow surveys, resource monitoring, resource mapping and interviews.



## AFRICAN PROJECTS



### Kibale Fuel Wood Project and Eco-Char Initiative

This project is based in the Kibale Forest in western Uganda. In 2016, staff conducted eight workshops on fuel efficiency, manufactured nearly 200,000 eco-briquettes and traded 49,083 pounds of plant waste for eco-briquettes. People with efficient stoves use 30 percent less wood. Citizens around Kibale saved more than 4.6 million pounds of wood in 2016.

### Action for Cheetahs in Kenya

Funds for this project continue to be used to study cheetah ecology and populations. One tool is scat detection and analysis which confirms cheetah presence and individual cheetahs as well as identifying prey species.



### Tarangire Elephant Project

Located in the Tarangire forest in Tanzania, this project has identified over 1,000 individual elephants, creating the largest elephant database. Their work is focused on identifying and protecting wildlife migration corridors and dispersal areas outside the wildlife parks where the animals live. In 2016, a Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) was implemented for use by village game scouts.

### Sahara Conservation Fund

This fund supports a variety of projects. Conservation efforts focus on the preservation of a number of desert species such as addax and oryx. Work also continues to assess threats and develop population management strategies for ostrich and a number of carnivore species throughout Tiger, Tunisia, Senegal, Algeria and Chad.



### Reticulated Giraffe Project

In the last 20 years, reticulated giraffe populations have declined dramatically. This project is working on the conservation and management of the remaining giraffe in northeast Kenya in the Samburu National Reserve. Poaching for food and habitat destruction due to growing human populations are major factors in this decline. In addition, efforts focused on environmental education and population studies continue in Ethiopia and Somalia.

### Ruaha Carnivore Project

The Ruaha landscape is located in Tanzania and is home to the 2nd largest population of lion. Besides doing research through camera tracking and footprint analysis for population studies, this project also works with the local communities to change attitudes toward lions. In 2016, ecological and demographic data was collected on over 8,000 sightings of large carnivores. Predation on livestock is a serious issue for the farming communities so conflict mitigation is very important to the survival of the lion population.



### The AZA (Association of Zoos and Aquariums) APE TAG (Taxon Advisory Group)

Funds were used for all of the projects recommended for support in 2016. The projects are for both African and Asian species: gorilla, chimpanzee, orangutans, and gibbons.



### International Rhino Foundation

In response to the global crisis in rhinoceros conservation, the International Rhino Foundation (IRF) protects particularly threatened rhino populations in the wild with education, monitoring, and anti-poaching efforts while also supporting applied research that can help to improve the chances for long-term survival of all rhino species. IRF funds and operates field programs in Asia and Africa targeted to the rhino species most in need of and most appropriate for intensive protection and management.



### Grevy Zebra Trust

The project is based in Kenya which is home to 37 percent of the Grevy's zebra population. The Trust employs local men and women as scouts to collect data on the population, inspire positive behavior toward the species and engage local school children. The Grevy's zebra scout program is having a positive effect on the communities that employ scouts. Livestock and zebra can be seen grazing next to each other and sharing resources. The attitudes of the locals are also becoming more accepting of zebra sharing the land.



## NORTH AMERICAN PROJECTS



### Vaquita Conservation

The Vaquita is the smallest known species of porpoise and most endangered marine mammal in the world. Funds supported both conservation efforts and a local educational program called Ridge to Reef. This program developed student activities for use in a teacher workshop series in San Felipe, Mexico to promote education and conservation efforts specifically for the Vaquita.



### Southeastern Salamander Project

Chytrid fungus has been found in a number of amphibian species worldwide, often with devastating consequences and dramatic species declines. This project seeks to test salamander species native to the Virginia area and determine if the fungus is present in local salamanders.



### American Kestrel

Funds supported the installation and monitoring of kestrel nest boxes in Delaware as well as community awareness about the species. This project was sponsored by Brandywine Zoo and the Peregrine Fund.

## ASSOCIATION OF ZOOS & AQUARIUMS



Fresno Chaffee Zoo expanded its conservation focus in 2016 to include a stronger presence in local conservation efforts. In 2016, seven North American species were provided support with a total of four California species. In addition, Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) has identified a number of animals which need conservation support and focus efforts of multiple zoos and aquariums to present a united effort in the Save Animals from Extinction (SAFE) program. FCZ conservation funds support the North American SAFE species: Western Pond Turtle and Vaquita.

## CALIFORNIAN PROJECTS



### Western Pond Turtle, Northern California

Grant funds will support a sustainability project to implement genetic testing throughout Northern California. This testing will identify current captive populations, develop population augmentation/reintroduction plans and continue to assess and update husbandry best practices.

### Save the Bay Oakland, CA Wetlands Restoration Project

Located in Oakland, the Wetlands Restoration Project is a year-long project which will restore, enhance and maintain a 2-acre project site within the Martin Luther King Jr. Regional Shoreline. Nearly 500 student and adult volunteers will contribute to this project, impacting federally-endangered species along with 80 different migratory waterfowl and other marsh dependent species.



### Channel Island Fox

Funds provided radio tracking collars for collecting disease control and population management data. Fox-saver trash bins for protection of wildlife, rabies and distemper virus vaccinations and education and community awareness programs and events were also provided by this project. Island fox populations have increased and remain healthy. On August 11, 2016, the three sub-species on the northern islands of Santa Cruz, Santa Rosa and San Miguel were taken off the U.S. Endangered Species List. This was the fastest recovery of any mammal in the United States. The foxes on Catalina Island were down listed to "Threatened" status.

### California Condor Conservation

The California condor, once nearly extinct, is being reintroduced to southern California. The problem of nest failure has been dramatically decreased and nest success has grown from 6 percent to 12 percent (2001-2006) to 65 percent in 2014, allowing for many more chicks to thrive and grow. This successful program includes nest monitoring by trained observers, collection of behavioral data and development of intervention strategies. (Santa Barbara Zoo)



## THE RAVEN FUND

The Raven Fund, from Ross Laird's Winged Wonders Bird Show raised a total of **\$13,436** in 2016.

The bird show is a free-flight presentation of birds from around the world demonstrating their unique characteristics. At the close of each show, Alex, a white-necked raven collects paper money from guests who wish to donate to conservation, and places it in the clear collection box. Essentially, closing the gap between guests and wildlife.



# EVENTS



## FROGS AND FAIRYTALES

This event, now in its fourth year, is a favorite for all aspiring princes, princesses and frog lovers alike. "Leaping" forward into spring, this event offers educational opportunities to learn about frogs and other reptiles as well as photo opportunities with princesses, hair and makeup booths, games and crafts. Attendance for this event was 1,215.



## BREAKFAST WITH THE ANIMALS

Breakfast with the Animals, presented by Der Manouel Insurance Group, saw record attendance this year largely due to relocating this year's event to the beautiful Canopy Grove in African Adventure. Although it rained 'tigers and wolves' all morning, it didn't dampen the spirits of 2,945 guests and their appetites! We are grateful for the many volunteers who come out for this event each year and especially to the Lions Club, our remarkable pancake specialists.



## DREAMNIGHT

Dreamnight at the Zoo, a free event for children with chronic illnesses held at Zoos around the world, was attended by 3,108. Our honored guests received brightly colored leis and were welcomed by a group of Polynesian dancers as they entered the Zoo. Giraffe feeding, a special presentation by Ross Laird's Winged Wonders Bird Show, behind-the-scenes adventures and keeper chats were specially designed for this exceptional evening.



## VALLEY PBS KID'S NITE

Adventure Cat was a new addition to this year's ValleyPBS Kid's Nite. Guests also enjoyed meet-and-greets with Buddy from Dinosaur Train, Curious George, Super Why and Daniel Tiger. Attendance was 2,640.



## PRODUCERS DAIRY ICE CREAM ZOOFARI

Producers Ice Cream Zoofari continues to be a favorite year after year. Enjoying ice cream flavors like Peppermint Peccary, Vanillagator and Orangatan Orange Sherbet, our 3,297 guests were encouraged to "go green" by using their special color changing spoon for ice cream at each station. We are extremely grateful for our long time partnership with Producers Dairy for their donation of hundreds of tubs of ice cream and supplies for this event.



## SAFARI NIGHT

African Adventure was an amazing addition to this year's Safari Night. Welcoming our VIPs into the Zoo through a special entrance, hosting a private bar and hors d'oeuvre area on the patio overlooking the savannah and creating an exclusive tented space in the Event Garden also added some glitz and glamour to a beautiful summer evening. Tamed Fire wowed our guests once again and the Valley Cats had everyone dancing until midnight. We would like to thank Regency Investment Advisors and our many table sponsors, restaurants, wineries and specialty businesses who participated in our largest fundraising event.





◀ **ZooBoo**

Our Zoo Boo event is four nights of fun and fantasy for guests of all ages. With a total attendance of 14,488, this event remains one of the favorites!

**FESTIVAL DE LOS NIÑOS & DÍA DE LA FAMILIA**

Festival de los Niños in April drew great crowds as guests visited local vendors booths and enjoyed the Zoo and the bands playing at the Bird Show Amphitheater throughout the day. Dia de la Familia, the sister event sponsored by Univision held in August, was also well attended. The total guest count for both of these events was 15,018.



**PRIVATE EVENTS**

With the addition of Canopy Grove and the Simba Room in African Adventure, the number of private events soared to 65 this year. Guests were treated to beautiful views of the savannah and lions playing just outside the window of their event space. Significant groups this year included a dinner for 600 for Adventist Health, an afternoon picnic for over 1,200 for Lyons Magnus, a special evening event for Valley Children's Healthcare and our very first wedding in African Adventure!



**BIRTHDAY PARTIES**

Fresno Chaffee Zoo has become THE place to have a birthday party! The number of birthday parties increased from 142 to 180 this year. The beautiful Jungle Bungalow pavilion provides a wonderful space for parties up to 60 guests. Adding a specialty birthday menu from our in-house caterer, Taste, has increased revenue and made these events stress-free for our clients.



**ZooLIGHTS**

Thanks to PG&E, the Zoo was once again transformed by miles and miles of brilliant lights, beautiful decorations and lively holiday music. The pathways in African Adventure were lit with African themed patterns and the Twiga Terrace bridge was shining bright with beautiful, sparkling yellow lights. Our attendance was 29,122 for the 22 day event.

# VETERINARY REPORT



The past 12 months have been full of excitement at Fresno Chaffee Zoo! The veterinary team is excited to share a brief review of some of the events that were particularly impactful in 2016.

As part of the routine health assessment surveillance of our animals, we also perform routine radiographs (x-rays) with their exams to look for any abnormalities. We are very lucky to work with such talented trainers at FCZ - many animals are trained for these procedures so that no anesthesia is necessary. In 2016, during routine radiograph surveillance, we found that one of our harbor seals, Ariel, had accidentally ingested coins that had been thrown into the exhibit by guests. We also found that the youngest and smallest sea lion, Little Sur, had ingested an enormous amount of small stones and fruit pits that had also been thrown into the exhibit. While marine mammals have very large esophagi, they have very small intestines and these items were not able to pass through their gastrointestinal tract and were stuck in their stomach. We were very lucky to have gastroenterologist Dr. Stephen Davis, technician Apple Ramirez, and equipment donated from Saint Agnes Medical Center to help us remove all of this foreign material endoscopically without the need for surgery. In total, we removed 1.3 pounds of stones and 25

coins from these two animals. We have since added Plexiglas to the areas around the exhibit to help eliminate accidental material falling in that could be swallowed by the animals.

Early one morning last spring, we were delightfully surprised to find a baby Chacoan Peccary amongst the herd. This was really quite the surprise as the females had received contraceptive implants as we were planning on holding off breeding until their larger exhibit was renovated. Investigation into how this pregnancy occurred revealed that the adult females somehow all managed to remove their implants and we welcomed two litters and a total of three peccary youngsters in 2016.

Unfortunately, with the first born peccary, it quickly became apparent that he was unable to keep up with the herd and he was not using his left rear leg appropriately. The difficult decision was made to separate him from the herd to check on the leg and it was revealed that he was suffering from a contracted tendon that caused him to knuckle over. He was fitted with a supportive hoof extension to help him walk normally but when we attempted to return him to the herd within a few hours of his departure, his mother was no longer interested in caring for him. Multiple attempts were made to reintroduce the two but the mother could not be convinced and

she refused to care for him. His care was left to our dedicated zookeepers and veterinary staff to raise this rambunctious youngster. Due to an injury he had sustained from one of his family members prior to his separation, he had a large scar on the side of his muzzle that prompted the nickname that stuck with him, "Harvey Dent". Harvey thrived under his supportive care and has since been successfully reintroduced to his father, whom he adores. He and dad are currently on exhibit together and if you are lucky, you might catch him playing his favorite game of race tag with keepers along the fence line of the peccary exhibit.

Late last summer, we were excited to find the African lions had finally worked through the introductions and were forming a unified family pride. Our animal care staff quickly trained the lion pride to lay on a specialized table with a drop down window under their abdomens so we could perform ultrasounds. In July 2016, all of that training paid off and we were able to get the first glimpses of our young cub, Kijani, while he was developing in utero. On October 11, Kiki went into labor and a little after midnight, Kijani was welcomed to Fresno Chaffee Zoo. He was the first lion to be born at the Zoo since 1968 and the little ball of energy is absolutely beloved and spoiled rotten by his family.

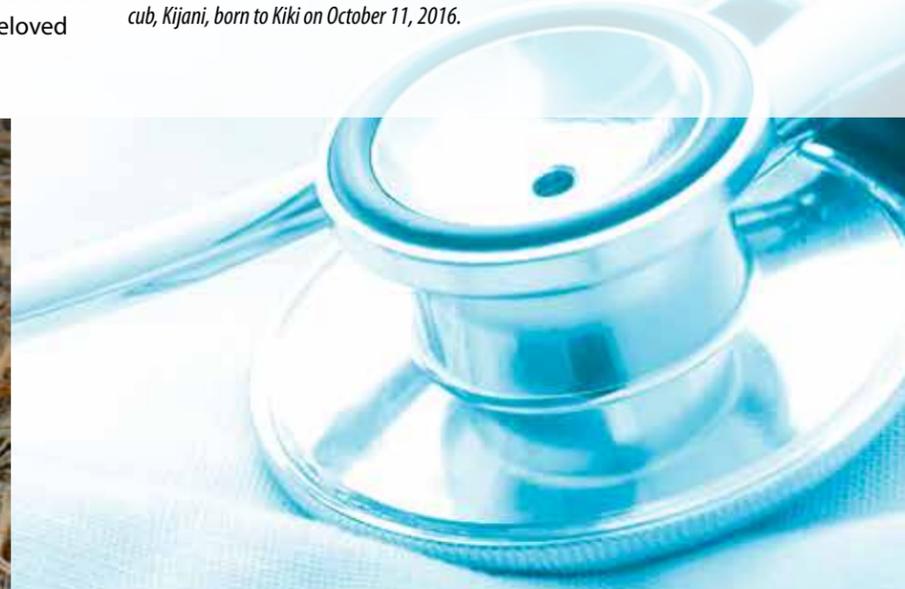
This year has been an exceptional one with heartwarming successes and some heart breaking losses. Through all of the ups and downs, we are so grateful for the incredible support we receive from our board, our director, our curators, coworkers and guests. Thank you all so much for all you do every day to help us continue to learn more, do more, and be our best!

**- Dr. Shannon Nodolf**, Chief Veterinary Officer

**Photos:**

*Top row (left to right): Harbor seal, Ariel, undergoing an endoscopy procedure to remove coins from her stomach with Dr. Stephen Davis and technician Apple Ramirez from Saint Agnes Medical Center, Dr. Shannon Nodolf, Dr. Lewis Wright, and Christine Bateman RVT by her side · Total coins removed from Ariel's stomach · Medical team performing an endoscopy on California sea lion, Little Sur · Radiograph of Little Sur's stomach contents showing stones and fruit pits that could not pass through her digestive system.*

*Bottom row (Left to right): Mark Halvorsen, Curator, bottle-feeding Chacoan peccary, Harvey, as he gains strength on his malformed leg · Dr. Shannon Nodolf gives Harvey chin scratches before his next feeding · Ultrasound confirming African lion, Kiki's, pregnancy · African lion cub, Kijani, born to Kiki on October 11, 2016.*



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH: GIVING BACK

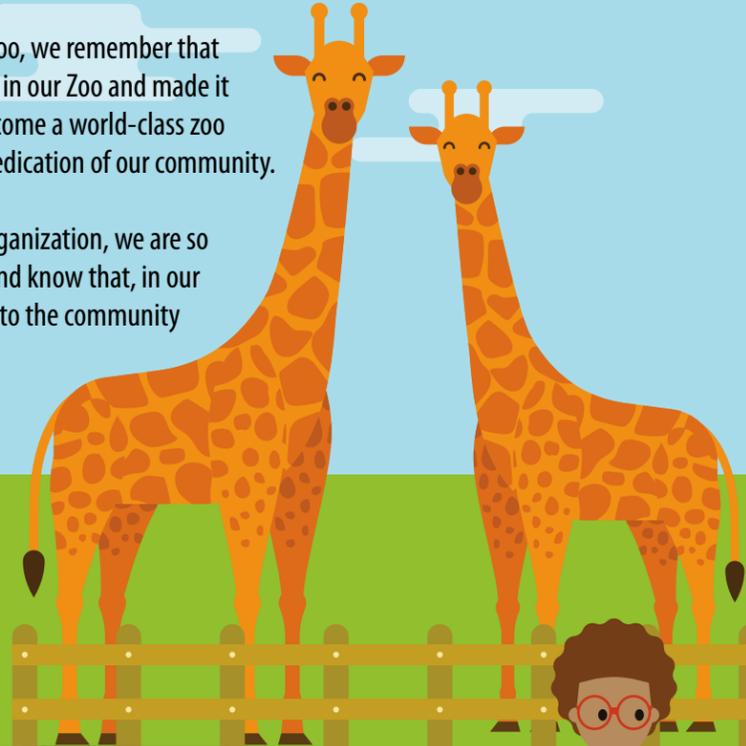
Each day at Fresno Chaffee Zoo, we remember that our community has invested in our Zoo and made it what it is today. We have become a world-class zoo thanks to the support and dedication of our community.

While we are a non-profit organization, we are so grateful to our community and know that, in our own ways, we can give back to the community and say THANK YOU!



## 1,840

general admission tickets.  
1,476 were donated to families in Fresno County, while 364 were given to neighboring counties.



## \$1,095

in Fresno Chaffee Zoo Camp scholarships were awarded to 10 campers!

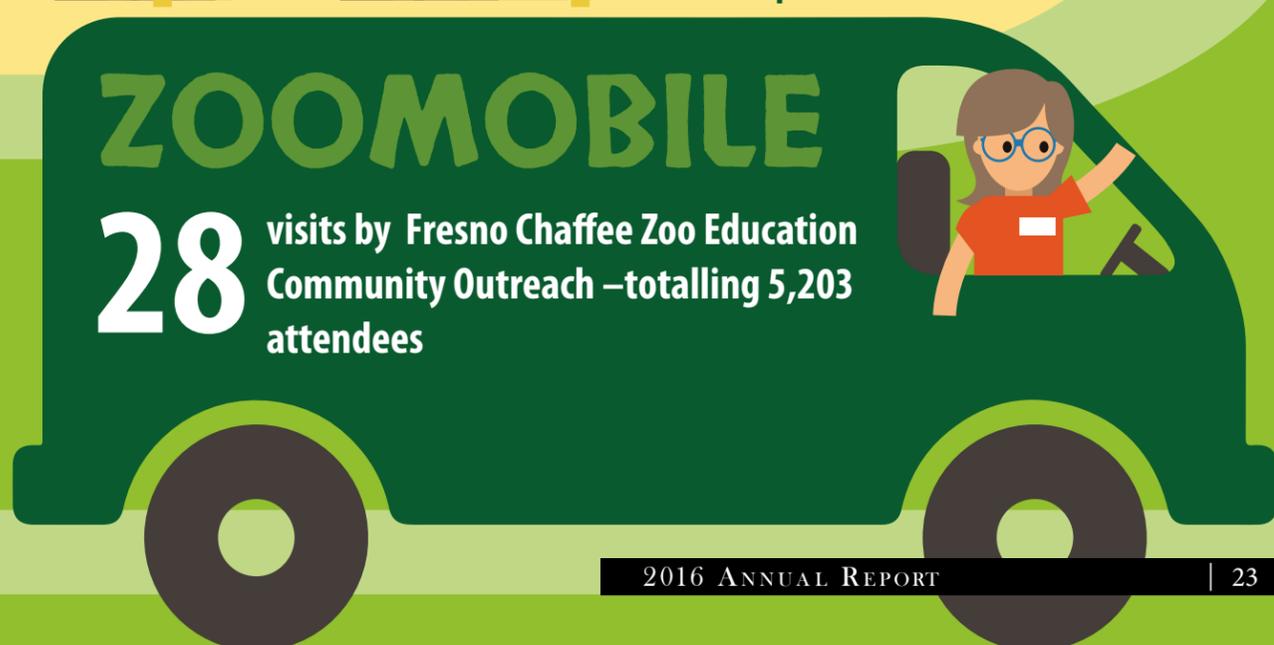
## 8,652

\$10 Membership discounts given to Fresno County residents.



## 41

Memberships in Fresno County



## ZOOMOBILE

## 28

visits by Fresno Chaffee Zoo Education Community Outreach –totalling 5,203 attendees



# THANK YOU

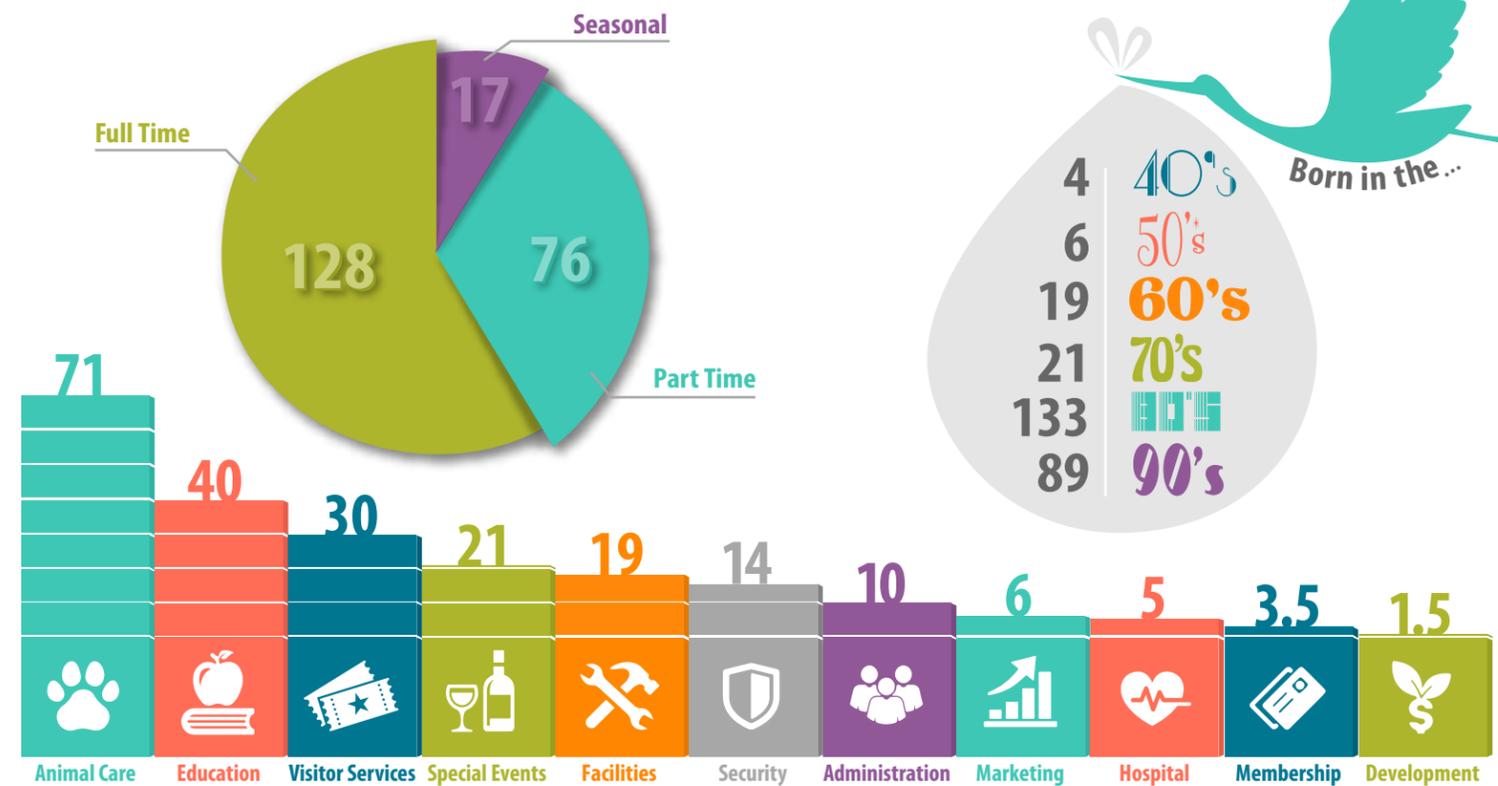
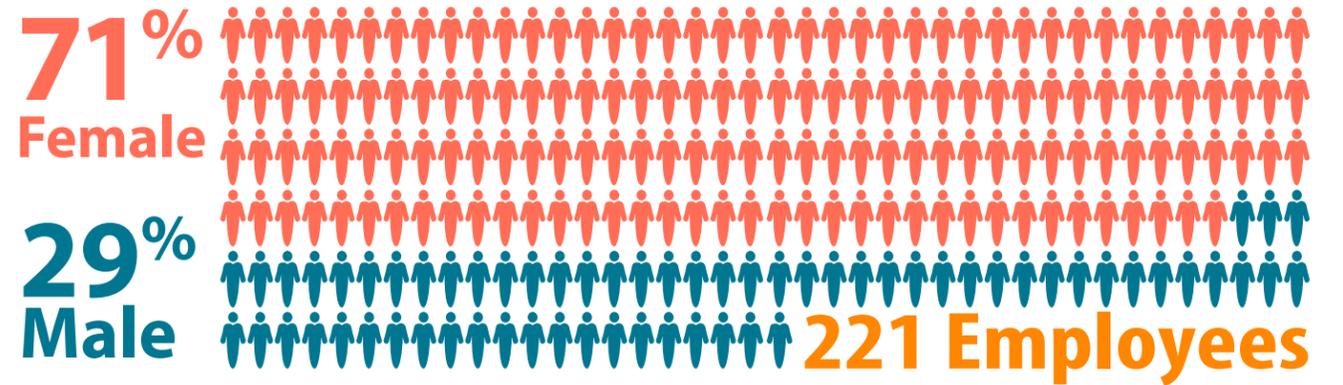
ON BEHALF OF THE ANIMALS HERE AT FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO, WE GRATEFULLY THANK THOSE WHO DONATED \$1,000 OR MORE IN 2016.

- |                                    |                                 |  |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| AZA Docents                        | Tyler & Kate Lunn               | Tom Richards & Sue McDiarmid                     |
| Sandra Baronian                    | Gerald & Nannette Lyles         | Riverpark Properties                             |
| Stephen Bettencourt                | Lyons Magnus                    | Devin & Shannon Sackett                          |
| David Bonetto & Eric Gomez         | Mario & Laquita Manfredi        | San Joaquin Valley Children's Health Association |
| Don & Ruth Bricker                 | Michael D. McHugh Estate        | Phyllis Sarto                                    |
| Timothy & Wendy Brox               | Louis & Dena McMurray           | Billy & Ernestine Schuh                          |
| California Classic Weekend         | Jesse Merrell & Travis Rockett  | Service System Associates                        |
| Taga Cardoza                       | Mojave Gold, LLC                | Debi Steele-Castro                               |
| Jean Chaffee                       | Christopher & Michelle Morse    | Pauline Trainer                                  |
| Collins Electrical Company, Inc.   | Nathan & Francesca Negri        | United Way of Fresno County                      |
| Brad & Lisa Condoian               | Don & Lynne Nelson              | Jim & Terri Walls                                |
| Nelson & Lynne Davis               | Nippon Express Foundation, Inc. | Jerry & Rosemary Waters                          |
| Audrey Demirjian                   | Nancy Osborne                   | Wells Fargo Foundation                           |
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| Kristine Kizer                     | Premier Valley Bank             |  |
| Don & Lynette Kizirian             | Rabobank, N.A.                  |  |
| John & Pam Lamborn                 | Dennis & Nancy Ralston          |  |
| Jason & Kristine Lowe              | John Paul                       |  |

**WELLS FARGO**

The first Wednesday of each month continues to be **Wells Fargo Wednesday**. In partnership with Wells Fargo, all children who come to the Zoo with their families on the first Wednesday of each month receive free admission. Wells Fargo also sponsors our members by offering 10 percent off of memberships purchased at the Zoo's admission booth on Wells Fargo Wednesdays. Additionally, each month, Wells Fargo sponsors a school classroom to come to the Zoo, by covering the cost for both the bus and entrance.

## STAFF STATISTICS FOR 2016



## VOLUNTEER STATISTICS FOR 2016

- 9 Volunteer Programs
- Zookeeper Assistants
  - Teen L.E.A.D.E.R.S.
  - Zoo Camp Junior Counselors
  - Docents**
  - Horticulture**
  - Special Events Externships
  - Special Projects
  - Valley Farm- Ag volunteers



## FUTURE PLANS

Walt Disney said, "Disneyland will never be completed. It will continue to grow as long as there is imagination left in the world."

That motto seems to be working and we believe it also rings true for zoos. Since we have the good fortune of a supportive community and Measure Z, that dream is a reality we can live by. Fresno Chaffee Zoo is hardly finished bringing new exhibits and animals to the Central Valley.

The design of phase two of African Adventure began in 2016. This exhibit will bring hippos back to the Zoo along with other, yet to be determined, species. Another project in the Zoo's horizon will be an Asian themed area featuring brand new exhibits for both Malayan tigers and sloth bears.

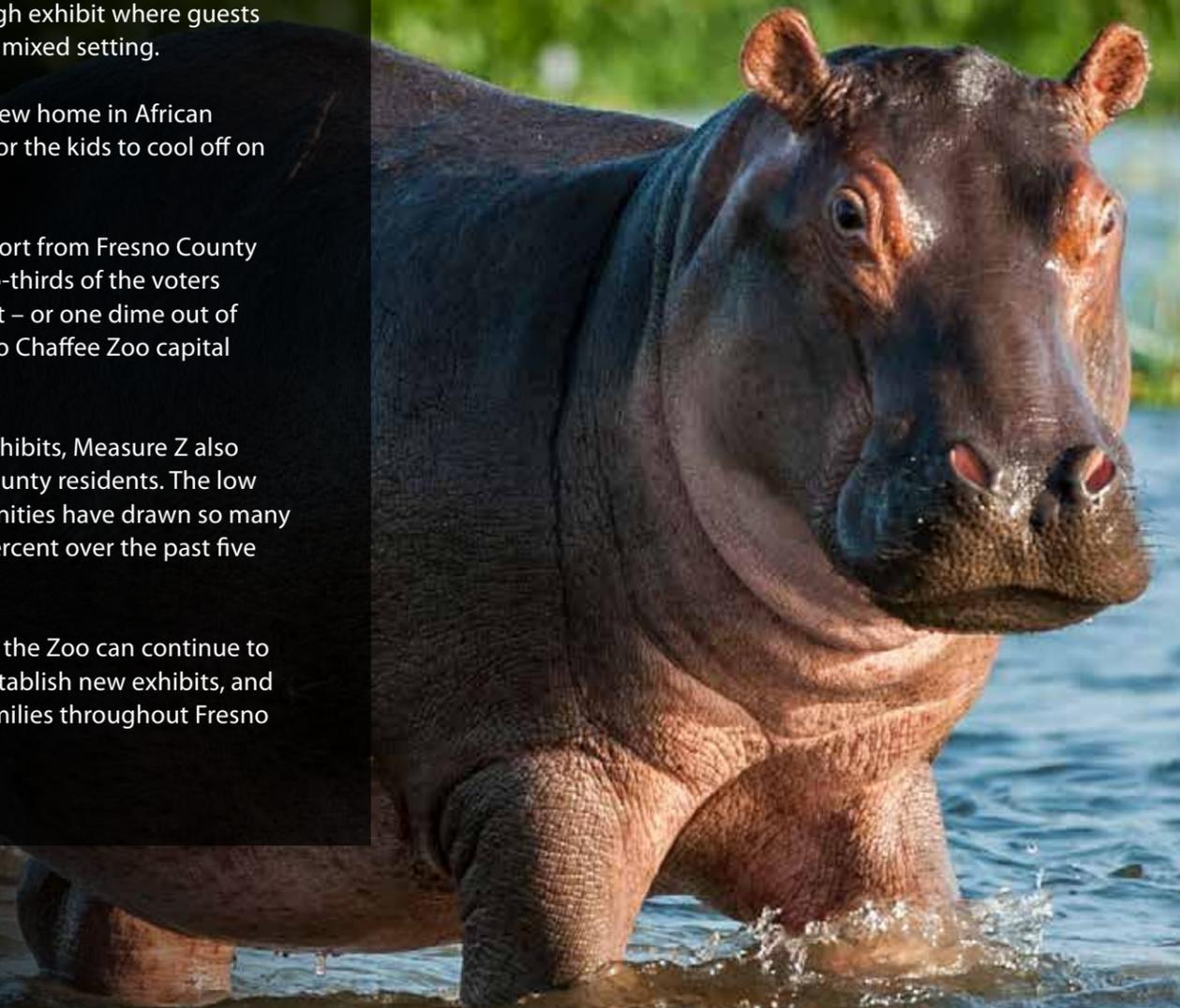
In 2016, the Zoo also unveiled a new Australian walk-through exhibit where guests can experience kangaroos, wallaroos, and kookaburras in a mixed setting.

In 2017 and 2018, guests will see the warthogs move to a new home in African Adventure and a water play area that will be a great place for the kids to cool off on those hot Valley days.

All of these projects wouldn't be possible without the support from Fresno County residents through Measure Z. The tax measure requires two-thirds of the voters to approve a Fresno County tax of one-tenth of one percent – or one dime out of every \$100 spent on retail transactions – to go to the Fresno Chaffee Zoo capital improvements.

In addition to allowing the Zoo to build spectacular new exhibits, Measure Z also helps keep the Zoo affordable for families and all Fresno County residents. The low entrance fees, improved exhibits and improved visitor amenities have drawn so many people to visit the Zoo that attendance has increased 58 percent over the past five years and has set records each year since 2011.

Since Measure Z was renewed for another 10 years in 2014, the Zoo can continue to provide excellent animal care, upgrade existing exhibits, establish new exhibits, and provide educational and conservation opportunities for families throughout Fresno County and to all who visit Fresno Chaffee Zoo.





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*To inspire wonder of our natural world, provide  
an engaging learning environment, and create a  
passion for conservation.*

