

# FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO







# 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:** White Rhino, Rudo.  
*Photo by Heather Davis.*

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



## 2017

### 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

## 2017

### Senior Management

Scott Barton, CEO/Zoo Director  
Amos Morris, COO/Deputy 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 Officer  
Lisa Condoian,  
Zoo Operations Officer



# FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK



*“The day I’m not improving will be the day I hang up the racket.”*

- Venus Williams

**F**ortunately, we don’t have to worry about hanging up our racket. Each year, Fresno Chaffee Zoo continues to grow and improve. In 2017, much of that growth had to do with animal successes; we saw our first ever Southern white rhinoceros born at the Zoo, and we saw our lion cub, born in 2016, make his debut to the public! We began construction on Wilderness Falls, our new water play area opening in May 2018, and continued design and planning for a number of future projects, including warthogs, Asia (tiger, sloth bear, orangutan and more), and African River (hippos, crocodiles and more).

We had 833,114 guests visit the Zoo, including visitors from all 50 states and 27 countries. We also welcomed 1,227 field trip groups, totaling 72,934 students who visited with their schools. We greatly look forward to continuing to provide a great resource for the Valley’s educators.

The Zoo has a nine person Board who each serve up to 3 year terms. In 2017, four Board members ended their service to the Zoo. These volunteers did a remarkable job overseeing Fresno Chaffee Zoo and shaping it to be the Zoo it is today. We thank Colin Dougherty, George Nokes, Sheri Rainwater, and John Valentino for their years of dedicated service.

Finally, we thank our community for believing that, with their support, Fresno could have a world class zoo. We’ve turned the corner and are achieving national recognition, but we have so much more in our future. We look forward to continuing our growth and improvement to provide our community with a Zoo you’re proud to show your friends and families.

**Scott Barton**  
CEO/Zoo Director



# ANIMAL COLLECTION

In 2017, Fresno Chaffee Zoo welcomed a few new faces to our beautiful African savannas. One of the first was our male lion cub, Kijani, who was born in October, 2016. Kijani grew very quickly. Just after the first of the year, he was large enough and brave enough to venture out into the savanna exhibit with his family. He quickly grew into a fearless cub as long as he had the rest of the pride close by.

In addition to our lion cub making his exhibit debut, we also saw the arrival of our very first Southern white rhinoceros calf. On January 24, 2017, the Zoo's ungulate team arrived early in the morning to a new, awkwardly standing rhino calf. This was a first for our Zoo! Historically, Fresno Chaffee Zoo was simply a home for white rhinos, but we did not have success in producing offspring. Tim and Kayla, our current adult rhinos, changed that trend for our Zoo. Rumor has it that our beautiful, new exhibit, African Adventure brought good luck!

Fresno Chaffee Zoo also welcomed the addition of a male addax. The Species Survival Program (SSP) placed this male with our Zoo with the hope that he will produce future generations with our two females. This breeding recommendation to Fresno Chaffee Zoo could have wide ranging impact to future addax populations. The addax is listed as critically endangered. Their wild populations have gone through a 99 percent reduction in geographical range in the last century. Today's populations are found only in Niger, numbering less than 100 individuals.

## Animal Collection 2017 Totals

### Invertebrates

Species **5**  
Individuals **246**



### Cartilaginous Fish (*Chondrichthyes*)

Species **4**  
Individuals **39**



### Bony Fish (*Osteichthyes*)

Species **23**  
Individuals **240**



### Amphibians

Species **25**  
Individuals **108**



### Reptiles

Species **63**  
Individuals **180**



### Birds

Species **71**  
Individuals **247**



### Mammals

Species **56**  
Individuals **168**



**Totals** Species **247**  
Individuals **1,228**

## Births and Hatchings

### Reptiles and Amphibians ("Herps")

0.0.17 tentacled snakes  
0.0.1 Indochinese box turtle  
0.0.1 Golfodulcean poison dart frog

### Cartilaginous Fish

1.0 Southern red stingray

### Birds

3.0 blue-crowned motmot  
1.4 yellow-rumped cacique  
1.1 laughing kookaburra  
0.1 Nicobar pigeon  
0.1 pied imperial pigeon

### Mammals

0.1 greater kudu  
1.0 giant anteater  
1.0 southern white rhinoceros

1.0 Male 0.1 Female 0.0.1 Unknown sex

## Animal Acquisitions

### Reptiles and Amphibians ("Herps")

0.0.12 Anthony's poison dart frogs (*new species*)  
0.1 California tiger salamander  
3.0 Malagasy leaf-tailed gecko (*new species*)  
1.1 Baja Blue rock lizard (*new species*)

### Birds

1.0 black-necked stilt  
0.1 eastern brown pelican  
1.1 chestnut-mandibled toucan  
0.1 sunbittern  
2.2 burrowing owl  
1.1 troupial  
1.0 Guam Rail  
2.2 Inca tern

### Mammals

0.2 cheetah  
0.3 Kenyan impala  
1.1 north Sulawesi babirusa (*new species*)  
0.1 Tammar wallaby  
1.0 addax



Along with our African additions, we also enjoyed the birth of a South American greater anteater. Although this was her first birth, our female quickly adapted to her role as a new mother. Pico, our young anteater has grown very quickly. In 2018, Pico will be moving on to another zoo, which will be about the same time he would naturally venture off on his own.

Two long term residents also left our Zoo in 2017. Shaunzi, our Asian elephant found a new home at the Los Angeles Zoo. With the passing of Asian elephant, Kara, who was Shaunzi's long life companion, we knew it was imperative to find a new home for Shaunzi where she would have opportunities to build new relationships with other Asian elephants.

Another departure was Kelsa, our 25 year old Malayan tapir. Kelsa was by no means an old tapir but she was reaching an age that decreased her chances of reproduction. Although Kelsa had been unsuccessful with previous males, the SSP decided they wanted to give her one more breeding opportunity with a new male at the San Diego Zoo.

With the Asian elephant and Malayan tapir exhibits empty, we were able to do a few renovations. After a few coats of paint, pool work and the addition of trees, we welcomed two new species to Fresno Chaffee Zoo. Two young male, greater one-horned rhinos moved into our previous Asian elephant exhibit.



They were transferred from Florida and San Diego to Fresno where they have settled nicely into their new home. They both are very comfortable with their new keepers and have quickly become the stars of our Behind-the-Scenes program, eagerly greeting guests every day. Two babirusa, a curious yet unusual looking pig species, moved into the Malayan tapir exhibit. They are a wild pig found on the island of Sulawesi. Babirusa are distinguished by their seemingly hairless bodies and large curving tusks that can grow through the skin on their snouts and curve backward toward their foreheads. These two individuals, Brook and Shire, are getting to know each other

as well as their new surroundings. Babirusa are another SSP species with a recommendation for breeding. We are excited to have this new species at Fresno Chaffee Zoo and look forward to what the future will bring for them.

Looking back, it is exciting to recap all of the changes and positive strides that our staff and animals achieved in 2017. It is clear that Fresno Chaffee Zoo is growing more and more each year, all thanks to the community's support. The growth is not only measured by the Zoo's expansions, but also in our commitment and impact in animal care and conservation. We are looking forward to many more years of exciting changes!





◀ *Male giant anteater, Pico with mother, Chive.*



*Male addax, Zinder, adapting to his new home.* ▶



◀ *Female Malayan tapir, Kelsa.*



*Southern white rhinoceros calf, Rudo, enjoying the savannah in African Adventure.* ▶





▶ *Shaunzi, cooling off in the exhibit pool.*



◀ *Greater one-horned rhinos, Chutti and Maza, in the renovated Asian elephant exhibit.*



▶ *Northern Sulawesi babirusa, Brook, in the previous Malayan tapir exhibit.*



# EDUCATION

## ZOO CAMP at FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO



2017 was the biggest year ever for Zoo Camp (Summer, Winter, and Spring) at Fresno Chaffee Zoo, with 1,665 campers. This program offers unforgettable experiences for children from pre-K to 12<sup>th</sup> grade through a myriad of activities, including active play, scientific investigation, art, and of course, animal encounters!

### Docent Spotlight: Dorothy Fortune

Docents are a crucial part of running Fresno Chaffee Zoo; from staffing tables with bio-facts to presenting animals at schools, they just about do it all! An integral aspect of the Zoo's docent program is the selection of a president every two years.

Current president, Dorothy Fortune, has been involved in the docent program since fall 2012. She is finishing her second year as the docent president, after which she will return to normal duties. Like her peers, she participates in special events, leads tours throughout the Zoo, presents lab programs, and takes the Zoomobile to locations all over town.

An important part of her presidency is to attend the Fresno's Chaffee Zoo Corporation Board Meetings where she acts as an advisor. Dorothy and her husband, Lew, were huge supporters during 2014's campaign for Measure Z.



Dorothy helped deliver campaign signs around Fresno County and worked countless hours at community events. Her diligence was an essential piece for the measure being passed a second time. Volunteering at a non-profit organization is a selfless act and we will always be grateful for the many extra hours Dorothy has given us. We love our docents here at Fresno Chaffee Zoo!

### Volunteer Overview

Fresno Chaffee Zoo volunteers are a vital part of the Zoo team. Their service, skill, enthusiasm, and expertise help move the Zoo's mission forward and expand the reach of our community.

There are 10 unique volunteer roles at Fresno Chaffee Zoo:

- Docents
- Horticulture
- Marketing/Development
- Special Events
- Special Projects
- Teen L.E.A.D.E.R.S.
- Valley Farm Ag volunteers
- Veterinarian Externship
- Zoo Camp Junior Counselors
- Zookeeper Assistants

**In total, 1,327 volunteers gave 37,730 hours of service to the Zoo in 2017!**



## Conservation Interpreters

For several years, visitors to Fresno Chaffee Zoo have been interacting with Interpretive Guides throughout the park. These guides had a primary duty of engaging visitors with interactive information about exhibits, animals, natural habitat and other Zoo information. In 2017, these positions have evolved into a new role at the Zoo, Conservation Interpreters. They still offer the same focus on guest engagement and animal information, but with a focus on conservation action and inspiring change. They also took over responsibility for the Zoo's animal feedings and training

programs, creating new content focused on connecting animal facts to conservation actions. The team collaborates with conservation groups across the country, including Monterey Bay Aquarium's Seafood Watch, Rainforest Alliance, International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and the National Association for Interpretation (NAI). So the next time you're at the Zoo, have a conversation with the Conservation Interpreters and learn how YOU can change the world.

# 2017 Totals

## ON-SITE PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

School Field Trips	<b>95,529</b>
After Hours Ask Me Cart Chats Alpaca Encounters Llama Encounters Raptor Encounters Story Tellers Teen LEADERS	Non-fee-based <b>239,863</b>
Rainforest Tours Zoo Previews Zoo Tours Teacher Workshops Lab Programs	Fee-based school programs <b>14,057</b>
Behind the Scenes Backstage Tours Birthday Encounters Twilight Safaris Overnights	Zoo Adventures <b>4,511</b>
Tot Time Zoo Academy Cubby Camp Zoo Adventure Camp Shadow a Keeper Young Naturalist Classes	Zoo Camp Adventures <b>3,045</b>
Private Event	Party Animal <b>4,133</b>

## OFF-SITE PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

Zoomobile Zoo Talks	Fee-based <b>15,986</b>
Beach Clean-up Outreach Community Events	Non-fee-based <b>7,698</b>

## ZOO EXPERIENCES

Stingray Bay	<b>310,454</b>
Giraffee Feeding	<b>223,199</b>

## Grand Total Participants

**9 1 4 , 3 4 2**



### Spotlight: Sandy Pitts C.I.T., Education Curator

Fresno Chaffee Zoo would like to recognize former Education Curator, Sandra Pitts, for her many years of dedication to the Zoo.

Sandy began her career with the Zoo as a docent for many years before joining the staff as an Education Specialist. For 12 years she helped design the Zoo's education curriculum and conservation efforts.

In 2013, she accepted a position as the new Education Curator. In her new role, Sandy

dedicated over four years of her life to bettering the Zoo's interpretation and education programs. The mission of Fresno Chaffee Zoo is to *"inspire wonder of our natural world, provide an engaging learning environment, and create a passion for learning"*. Sandy made this her mission as well. Her hard work and desire to educate as many people as possible, was instrumental in creating the interpretation aspects of our newest exhibit, African Adventure.

Sandy also actively participated in the Zoo's annual beach cleanup program. This program, organized by the Zoo, involves local students who volunteer to clean beaches along California's coastline.

Sandy retired from her work in 2017, but it certainly didn't mean the end! Sandy has returned to the Zoo to become a docent once more. Although she is no longer actively employed by our organization, she is still an important part of our mission: Sandy strives to continue spreading conservation messages to the public by reaching out as a docent. Thank you, Sandy, for all that you have done!



# FINANCIAL REPORT

## Sources of Funding

Measure Z operating funds <sup>1</sup>	\$4,500,981
Measure Z capital funds <sup>2</sup>	3,262,574
Admissions income	3,671,049
Gift shop sales	438,302
Donations	288,476
Concessions commission	675,311
Membership income	1,314,128
Donated materials and services	102,123
Stingray Bay Exhibit income	297,244
Education income	466,868
Event income	801,933
Investment income	459,079
Unrealized gain on securities	891,804
Facility rental income	558,359
Giraffe feeding income	530,032
Adopt-an-Animal income	27,780
Other income	51,920

**Total Revenue** **\$18,337,963**

## Use of Funds

Construction in process	\$3,881,992
Animal services	906,879
Contracted services <sup>3</sup>	606,596
Advertising	308,863
Capital equipment and facilities	222,867
Conservation	152,990
Bank and credit card fees	152,050
Business expense	73,905
Computer/software expense	56,651
Consultant fees	56,236
Depreciation	458,541
Dues	58,067
Equipment	335,000
Fleet	19,434
Food/catering expense	414,989
Insurance - liability	197,968
Interest expense	13,283
Miscellaneous	38,385
Office supplies	18,412
Postage	62,483
Printing	203,073
Professional services <sup>4</sup>	390,610
Repairs and replacements	330,776
Salaries and benefits	7,360,835
Specialized services	24,699
Staff development	78,159
Supplies	473,820
Telephone	52,672
Uniforms	40,269
Utilities	791,023

**Total Expenses** **\$17,781,527**

**Net Surplus** **\$556,436**

<sup>1</sup> Sales tax revenue from Measure Z is available based upon expense reimbursement claim forms that are submitted by the Zoo. During 2017, the Zoo received \$4,500,981 in reimbursements.

<sup>2</sup> Sales tax revenue from measure Z is available based on expense reimbursement claim forms (pre-approved by Fresno County Zoo Authority) for capital projects.

<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



**833,114**  
guests!

## Membership



**17,573**  
members!

## 2017 Guest breakdown



\* Total attendance for 2017 was 833,114. Other attendance numbers not reflected on this page were comprised of school groups, special events, and birthday parties.



# GLOBAL CONSERVATION



FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO  
CONSERVATION FUND

In 2017, the Fresno Chaffee Zoo Wildlife Conservation Fund awarded grants to 26 projects located in dozens of countries around the world. Sixteen of those projects have long-term support and 10 were awarded a one-year grant. The Zoo designated more than \$150,000 for the Fresno Chaffee Zoo Wildlife Conservation Fund.

## Hornbill Nest Adoption Program

In 2011, the Hornbill Nest Adoption Program began in partnership with the Ghora-Aabhe Society, a council of village elders and the Arunachal Forest Department. Sixteen villagers from 14 different villages are engaged in finding, monitoring and protecting hornbill nests and roosts. They are paid a salary and provided field equipment and a certain percentage of the project funds are also provided annually for community welfare and development. (Thailand)



## Tiger SSP Malayan Tiger Initiative

Protects tigers through anti-poaching efforts and tiger-themed education and outreach for local communities. (Malaysia)

In 2017:

- 72 snares and 21 traps were confiscated and destroyed.
- Over 14,000 kilometers of anti-poaching patrols completed.
- More than 80 camera trapping sites were monitored across the landscape.
- Photographs obtained from camera trapping efforts indicate that the tiger population at these sites is stable or slightly increasing, tiger cubs are living to adulthood, and reproduction is occurring for tigers and other endangered species (for example, Malayan tapirs).

## Turtle Survival Alliance

The Turtle Survival Alliance (TSA) is an action-oriented global partnership that is committed to zero turtle extinctions in the 21st century. To achieve this, the TSA creates breeding programs, including building facilities, for critically endangered freshwater turtles and tortoises, conducts field research, develops conservation plans and puts those plans into action, promotes conservation awareness among local communities, provides support, knowledge, training and resources to conservation partners around the world, and advocates for greater enforcement of wildlife laws. (17 regions worldwide)



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

This project supports the data gathering on sloth bear denning, particularly sloth bear cub denning. Additionally, this project seeks to understand how human-made disturbances, including roads, footpaths, and farms, affect sloth bear denning behavior. Wildlife SOS staff have located 30 birth dens and over 300 diurnal use dens in five areas with five different levels of environmental protection. Data on bear behavior and human activity in these areas will be useful in guiding decisions about protection of these sites in the future. Furthermore, this data can help mitigate human-bear conflict, which is a growing concern for the future of this species. (India)



## Pantanal Giant Armadillo Project Brazil

Little was known about the giant armadillo until Dr. Arnaud Desbiez began his pioneering research into the species in 2011. The Giant Armadillo Conservation Project is the first long term ecological study of giant armadillos in the Pantanal wetland and is now expanding to other Brazilian biomes. 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 with local people. (Brazil)



## Kibale Fuel Wood Project and Eco-Char Initiative

The New Nature Foundation strives to conserve wild animals and wild places through education, empowerment, and an emphasis on creative solutions that promote people living in harmony with nature. More than 90 percent of people around Kibale use wood as their only source of energy. (Uganda)

In 2017:

- 12 workshops were conducted focusing on fuel efficiency and family planning.
- Over 255,000 eco-briquettes were manufactured.
- Eco-char production has doubled compared to last year!
- Over 66 percent of families randomly sampled are using efficient stoves.
- 241 stoves were built, and families with efficient stoves use 36 percent less wood than those with traditional stoves.
- 66.5 percent of people now grow firewood at home.



## Action for Cheetahs in Kenya

Funds for this project continue to be used to study cheetah ecology and populations. One tool is scat detection using specially trained dogs, followed by genetic testing which confirms cheetah populations and the presence of individuals. Another important component is a vaccination program for domestic dogs to prevent transmission to humans and wildlife. (Kenya)



## Tarangire Elephant Project

Located in the Tarangire forest in Tanzania, this project has identified over 1,000 individual elephants, creating the largest elephant database in the world. Their work is focused on identifying and protecting wildlife migration corridors and dispersal areas outside the wildlife parks where the animals live.

In 2017:

- Continued a long term study of monitoring 27 elephant family groups.
- Total of 750,000 acres now protected.
- Hired a full time village game scout coordinator.
- No elephant poaching reported this past year!
- Conducted a broad scale vegetation survey to assess the quality of the vegetation in the area.
- Working with the Tanzanian government to establish an updated elephant management plan.



## Reticulated Giraffe Project

As recently as the turn of the millennium, some 36,000 reticulated giraffe remained. Today, they are thought to number fewer than 25 percent of that and almost all are restricted to the north-east of Kenya. This region is subject to frequent and prolonged periods of drought and a growing human population. This situation has led to the hunting of giraffe and other species as people are forced to adopt new strategies in the face of threats to their own survival. The Reticulated Giraffe Project is working to arrest and reverse the current population decline by coordinating the efforts of a large and varied network of contributors and partners. (Kenya)





## Sahara Conservation Fund

Deserts are not barren wastelands. They are geographically spectacular, culturally rich, and home to an amazing array of exquisitely adapted plants and animals. SCF works to dispel the ignorance surrounding deserts, to raise awareness of the extinction crisis facing many species, and to mobilize support for desert conservation. This fund supports projects with myriad species, including oryx, addax, cheetah, gazelle, and many more. (Algeria, Chad, Niger, Senegal, Tunisia)



## Ruaha Carnivore Project

The Ruaha Carnivore Project (RCP) was established in 2009 to help develop effective conservation strategies for large carnivores in Tanzania's remote Ruaha Landscape. This vast, amazing wilderness supports 10 percent of all remaining lions, as well as one of only four cheetah populations in East Africa with less than 200 adults, the third biggest population of African wild dogs in the world, and globally important populations of spotted hyenas and leopard. (Tanzania)

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

Funds were used for all of the projects they have recommended for support in 2017. The projects are for orangutans, chimpanzees, gorillas, and gibbons. (Borneo, Indonesia, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Sumatra)



## International Rhino Foundation

The International Rhino Foundation (IRF) is dedicated to the survival of the world's rhino species through conservation and research. Founded in response to intense poaching of Zimbabwe's black rhinos in the early 1990s, IRF helped to virtually eliminate the threat and stabilize the population. Today, IRF works to protect all extant rhino species (white, black, greater one horned, Sumatran, and Javan) through community partnerships, enforcement, protection, and research. (Botswana, India, Java, South Africa, Sumatra, Swaziland, Vietnam, Zimbabwe)

## Grevy's Zebra Trust

This project incorporates human and wildlife interests in all aspects of its programs, thus strengthening the ties between the local communities and the local wildlife. Their main activities include employment of local people to protect and monitor Grevy's zebra, local conservation stewardship through training workshops, habitat restoration through planned livestock grazing, dry season water management, support of secondary school education for pastoral children, and research projects that link directly to Grevy's zebra management. (Kenya)



## American Kestrel

Kestrel populations in the Mid-Atlantic have experienced the greatest population decline of any region in North America, with a population falling more than 88 percent from their levels in the 1970s. This project funds support the installation and monitoring of kestrel nest boxes in Delaware as well as community awareness about the species. Additionally, funds went to the purchase of GoPro cameras and field equipment for monitoring nest boxes. This project is sponsored by Brandywine Zoo and the Peregrine Fund. (USA – Delaware)





### Vaquita Conservation

The Vaquita is the smallest known species of porpoise and most endangered marine mammal in the world, with fewer than 30 individuals remaining. In 2017, the Fresno Chaffee Zoo Wildlife Conservation Fund continued to support Ridge to Reef, an initiative which helped develop student activities to promote education and conservation efforts specifically for the Vaquita, for use in a teacher workshop series in San Felipe, Mexico. Additionally, significant support went to Vaquita CPR, a large-scale effort to save the species via a bold in situ conservation plan executed by a coalition of zoos, aquariums, and scientists from around the world.

### Bay Area Puma Project

As puma habitat and movement corridors are increasingly affected by the expansion of human development, more sightings and encounters with pumas are inevitable. Previously, even basic facts about the Bay Area’s puma population were unknown. BAPP research is working to produce unprecedented understanding about this furtive species, including range, density, movement, feeding patterns, and the effects of human development, such as roads, on puma populations. (USA – California)



### Channel Island Fox

Channel Island foxes live on six of the eight Channel Islands off the coast of southern California and nowhere else in the world. This project consists of a variety of conservation efforts to stabilize and increase the population of island foxes. 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. (USA – California)



In 2017:

- 7 radio tracking collars were purchased to monitor island fox health.
- 4 “Fox-Saver” trash bins were implemented to stop fox deaths on Catalina Island.
- 550 island foxes were vaccinated against Canine Distemper virus.
- 65 volunteers helped to restore habitat on Santa Cruz Island.

### Western Pond Turtle, Northern California

The Western pond turtle is found from the lowlands of Puget Sound in Washington State, southward through western Oregon and California into the northwestern Baja California peninsula. Grant funds support a sustainability project to implement genetic testing throughout northern California. This testing identifies current captive populations, helps to develop population augmentation/reintroduction plans and allows for the continued to assessment and update of husbandry best practices. The Fresno Chaffee Zoo Wildlife Conservation Fund is also supporting work by the Oregon Zoo into the nutritional needs of head-started turtles. (USA – California, Oregon)



### Save the Bay

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. (USA – California)



### California Condor Conservation

The incredible California condor, once nearly extinct, is being reintroduced to southern California. This successful program includes nest monitoring by trained observers, collection of behavioral data, and the development of intervention strategies. (USA – California)





# EVENTS



## Frogs and Fairytales

Frogs and Fairytales has Zoo guests “leaping forward” into spring, learning about frogs and other amazing reptiles, being enchanted by beautiful princesses and fairytale characters. Creating fun craft projects, snacking on some delicious and nutritious treats and getting their hair and makeup done are only a part of this fun day at the Zoo! Sponsors for this event were Expo Party Rentals, Lyles College of Beauty, Doug-Out Cookies and Mega Legends. Attendance was 1,401.

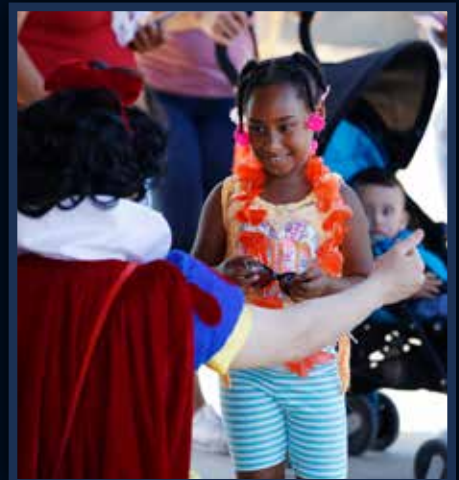
## Breakfast With The Animals



Hot pancakes dripping with butter and syrup can brighten anyone’s morning and Breakfast with the Animals, presented by Der Manouel Insurance Group, was attended by 2,509 very happy and hungry guests. Thank you, once again, to our many volunteers; Fresno and Clovis Lion’s Clubs, Lyons Magnus, Clovis Donuts, Doug-Out Cookies, Wild Water Adventure Park, Mid Valley Disposal, Thermo King, Producers Dairy, Taste and Starbucks.

## Dreamnight

Dreamnight at the Zoo began in 1996 by a zookeeper at the Rotterdam Zoo who proposed the idea of a special night at the Zoo for chronically ill children. As the idea caught on, more and more Zoos chose to participate and Fresno Chaffee Zoo proudly honors this tradition each year with free admission, behind the scenes tours, music and treats. The event had 3,581 in attendance in 2017. Our sponsors were Doug-Out Cookies, Rose Tree Celtic, Pepsi, Producers Dairy, American Ambulance, Halauhulai Ka La, Mariachi Guadalupe, and Mega Legends.





## Valley PBS Kid's Nite

Valley PBS Kid's Nite, presented by Compass Charter Schools, featured appearances by Daniel Tiger, Buddy from Dinosaur Train, Curious George and Super Why. Attendance was 2,823. Sponsors were Hedricks Chevrolet, RVs for Less, Herc Rentals, Cook's Communications, Pepsi, CVHS, California Kidds Pediatric Dentistry, EHS Medical Group, California Arts Academy and Der Manouel Insurance Group.



## Producers Dairy Ice Cream Zoofari

Hot summer nights are the best time for ice cream treats! Producers Ice Cream Zoofari continues to deliver and remains Fresno's favorite all-you-can-eat ice cream event. In 2017, 3,036 guests strolled through the Zoo enjoying ice cream flavors such as Peppermint Peccary and Orangatan Orange Sherbet. In addition to our main sponsor, Producers Dairy, we are thankful for donations from Lyons Magnus, Herc Rentals and Mid Valley Disposal.

## Safari Night

It was a beautiful night at the Zoo – perfect weather and a perfect setting made Safari Night 2017 an event to remember! Guests sampled delicious food from 29 of the most popular Fresno restaurants such as Max's Bistro, Limón, The Cheesecake Factory, Tioga Sequoia Brewing Co., and banquet facilities including Wdgewood wedding & Banquet Center, Picadilly Inn Shaw and our very own, Taste. Adding a beer garden serving tasty selections from Mad Duck Brewery, Tioga Sequoia and House of Pendragon and a wine garden featuring Toca Madera Winery, Marechal, and Farmer's Fury was popular with guests. Our expansive silent auction included fun animal art from our residents, an exciting live auction featured a trip to South Africa, and a brand-new Fund-a-Need donation contributed to a new radiograph machine for our hospital! Tamed Fire, a Safari Night favorite, and the Lucky Devils Band were just a portion of the entertainment for this enchanting and wild evening! Many thanks to our sponsors: Regency Investment Advisors, Der Manouel Insurance Group, Pepsi and United Health Care Medicare Solutions.







## ◀ ZooBoo

ZooBoo, our four night Halloween event in October, was well attended with 13,142 ghouls, goblins and characters of all kinds. Children enjoyed trick-or-treating and visiting over 25 booths sponsored by some of our Valley's favorite businesses, carnival games and dancing at Dracula's Disco. Additional sponsors were ABC30, 93.7 Kiss Country, Pepsi, Mega Legends and Pumpkin King.

## Breakfast with Santa ▶

Having one-on-one time with Santa and enjoying a delicious breakfast provided by Taste in the Kopje Lodge were the highlights of this event. We are proud to say that Breakfast with Santa sold out two weeks before the event! Cookies were provided by Doug-Out Cookies, linens and china by Expo Party Rentals and additional goodies by Access Dental. Attendance was 261.



## ZooLights

Holidays are all about family traditions and ZooLights was definitely on the family "to do" list this in 2017! With record attendance of 37,449 visitors, many guests came out to enjoy dinner at the Kopje Lodge, our new S'mores Station at the Jambo Hut and live entertainment in African Adventure. Thank you to our sponsors PG&E, Valley Children's Healthcare, KSEE24, CBS47, 95.7 The Fox, New Rock 104.1 and the California Eye Institute.





## Private Events

Fresno Chaffee Zoo welcomed thousands of guests for 62 private events in 2017, including nine weddings, two proms and two awards banquets. Significant groups included a dinner/dance for the Smittcamp Honors College Formal, Adventist Health, an employee appreciation night for over 3,500 for Pitman Farms and an annual afternoon picnic for over 1,200 Lyons Magnus employees.



## Birthday Parties

Jungle Bungalow is the perfect spot for birthday parties! Our wild birthday packages include Zoo admission for your guests, a birthday party attendant to assist you with your special day, giraffe feeding coupons, colored table covers with animal print runners, and two hours in the Jungle Bungalow. Our Zoopersized package also includes a visit from three animal ambassadors brought right to your party! In 2017, 162 birthday parties were held at the Zoo.





# VETERINARY REPORT

**I**t is amazing just how fast 12 months can just fly by! In 2017, we added some new faces to the veterinary team here at Fresno Chaffee Zoo. We welcomed the addition of two new veterinary technicians to the hospital team!

Javier Mendez joined our staff after several years working as an emergency veterinary technician, and helping pet exotics right here in Fresno. Javier was followed shortly by the addition of our new lead veterinary technician, Lindsay Cosmi. Lindsay has a long career in the zoo field across the country and most recently joined us from Busch Gardens in Florida. Both have hit the ground running and have immediately become integral members of the Fresno Chaffee Zoo team. In the summer of 2018, we will also welcome our new associate veterinarian, Dr. Micheal Weninger who is coming to us all the way from Wisconsin!

Every year seems to bring with it more excitement and adventure than the year before and 2017 was no exception. Every single day we are learning and discovering more about the animals in our care and coming up with new

and more creative ways to continue to advance their care and well-being. As the science and technology grows, we are able to do things we never thought possible for some of these animals which led to a running tag line for the veterinary department in 2017 as being the 'year of firsts'.

One of the biggest, (literally biggest) impacts to our team was the addition to our rhino collection in 2017. In January, we celebrated our first ever rhino birth when Southern white rhinoceros Kayla gave birth to male calf, Rudo. It is hard to believe but Rudo is now over 1,600 lbs. and is just an absolute delight. Later, in September we welcomed a new species to Fresno: two, young male greater one-horned rhinos, Maza and Chutti. All three of these youngsters are quite rambunctious and spend as much time playing and napping as they can. These animals are an excellent example of conservation in action as both of these species were on the brink of extinction before conservation efforts helped bring their numbers back up. All rhinos still suffer devastating losses from illegal poaching, and habitat destruction. Captive breeding of this species is critical to ensuring their long term success and we are so proud to be

a part of sharing their messaging and conservation goals.

Another major first for us happened in March, when we realized that one of our cow-nose stingrays, Margo, was having complications with her pregnancy. We had been following her fetal development via ultrasound for some time when it became apparent that she was not able to pass the large pup on her own and would require a cesarean section. Aquatic animal cesareans are very uncommon and we consulted with other aquarium veterinarians across the nation to formulate a plan for surgery for Margo.

One of the things that makes these procedures so complicated, is not that they live in water, or that the normal fetal size is huge comparatively at almost one-fourth of the adult size, or even that they require running water to breathe. The thing that makes this cesarean procedure most unique is that even before they are born these pups come equipped with their own defenses and have a full sized barb you have to navigate around and not sting yourself while helping deliver the pup. Many people ask about how we anesthetize fish for surgery but really





fish anesthesia is very similar to human anesthesia. The main difference is that instead of the anesthetic getting mixed with oxygen as a gas that you breathe in, we use a different type of anesthesia that is dissolved in water and washed over the fish's gills. The gills absorb the anesthetic from the liquid when the fish breathes just like human lungs absorb the gas anesthetic when they breathe in. The first ever stingray cesarean at the Fresno Chaffee Zoo was an all hands affair but went as smoothly as we could have hoped and you can hardly even notice Margo's scar. She has healed so well!

Another exciting first for us last year were some of the advanced therapies performed to help alleviate orthopedic disease in one of our elephants, Amy. Shortly after arriving in Fresno Amy, sustained a tear to a ligament in her elbow that caused her to rapidly develop debilitating osteoarthritis in that joint. We consulted with experts across the world to try and find new ways to make her comfortable. When the initial therapies were not effective, we continued to look at the potential options that were just starting to become available in human and equine medicine. We were able perform the first ever elephant inter-articular IRAP (Interleukin 1 Receptor Antagonist Protein) treatments and inter-articular stem cell therapy for Amy which allowed her to live and move more comfortably for a period of time. For those of you wondering just how long of a needle it takes to be able to give medications directly into the joint of an elephant, the answer is 8 inches is needed to reach the elbow joint. Unfortunately, despite the initial success of these treatments,

her orthopedic disease eventually did continue to progress and even these state of the art treatments were no longer able to keep her comfortable and in December Amy was humanely euthanized after a rapid decline in her mobility.

The difficulties in treating our patients compared to humans, or even domestic species does not end with anesthesia, or orthopedic disease, but really every facet of their medical treatment has to be adapted to fit their unique criteria. For example, the diversity and sometimes overwhelming size of the teeth of our patients is often quite daunting for most dental specialist, particularly when you think that the average canine length for our patients is approximately three times that of the domestic species and ten times that of a human.

In August, male sloth bear, Sahaasa, and female lion, Kiki, both managed to break their canine teeth that would require very large specialized root canals for repair. One of our veterinary dental partners connected us with a wonderful non-profit called the Peter Emily Foundation, which specializes in dental care for large exotic species. We were able to have an entire team of veterinary dental professionals specializing in these large complicated teeth come out and help us repair the teeth on both animals in one day to prevent root infections and oral pain. You may have even witnessed some of these procedures on our Facebook live feed last summer.

## A few other notables for 2017 firsts for the Fresno Chaffee Zoo include:

- First armadillo splenectomy to remove a large benign tumor on the spleen of our male Armadillo, Clyde.
- First CT scan of a sea lion, abdim stork, and orangutan.
- Introduction of the babirusa species to our facility.
- Big Sur became Little Sur: A California sea lion had been transferred to our facility to be a breeding male but turns out he was actually a she.

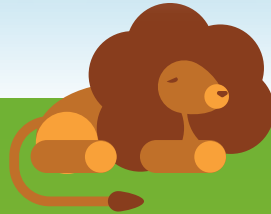
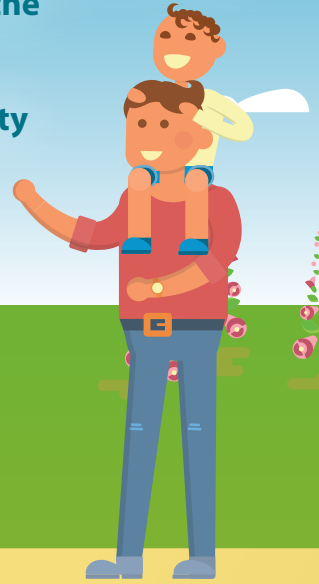
This year has been an exceptional one in huge part to the incredible support we receive from our board, our director, our curators, coworkers, volunteers, guests and members! Thank you all so much for all you do every day to help us continue to learn more, do more, and be our best!



# 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!



7,591

\$10 Membership discounts given to Fresno County residents.



\$400

in Fresno Chaffee Zoo Camp scholarships were awarded to 4 campers!



39

Memberships donated in Fresno County

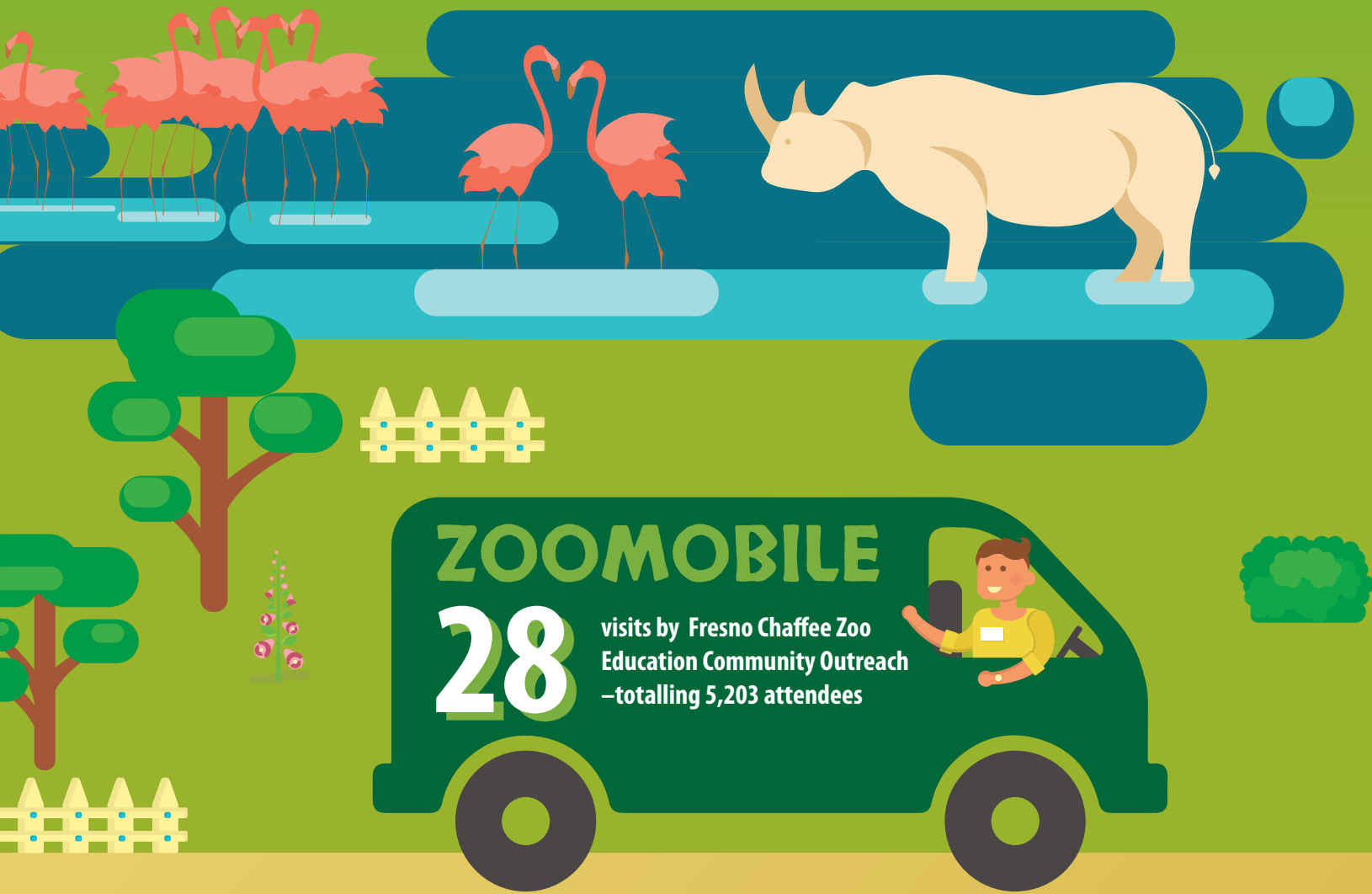






2,931

general admission tickets. 2,469 were donated to families in Fresno County, while 462 were given to neighboring counties.



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 2017.

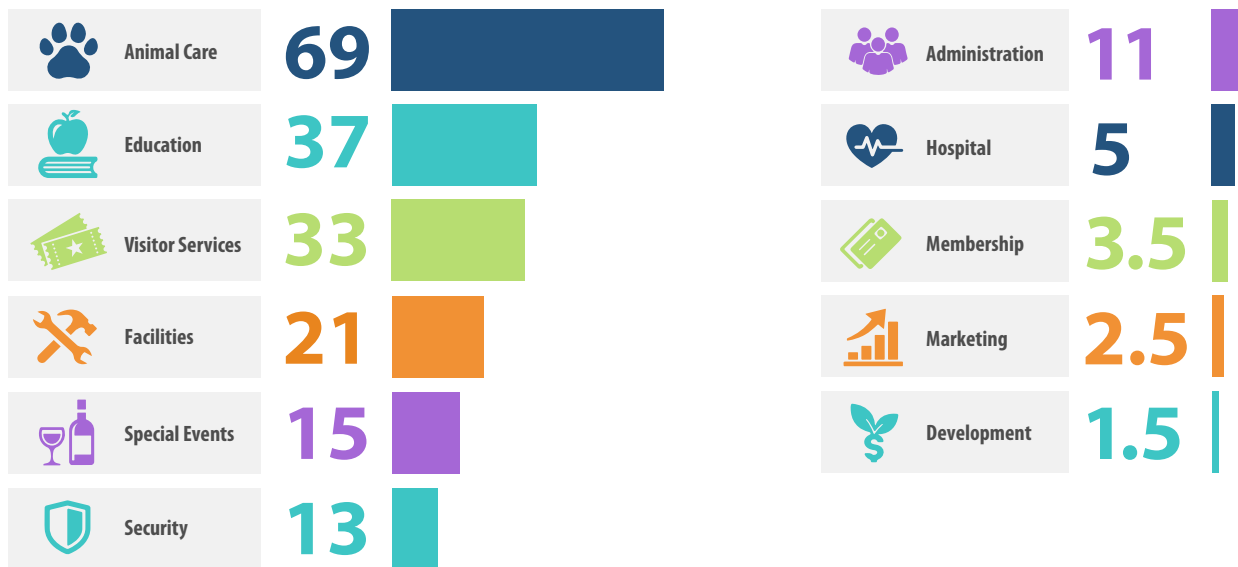
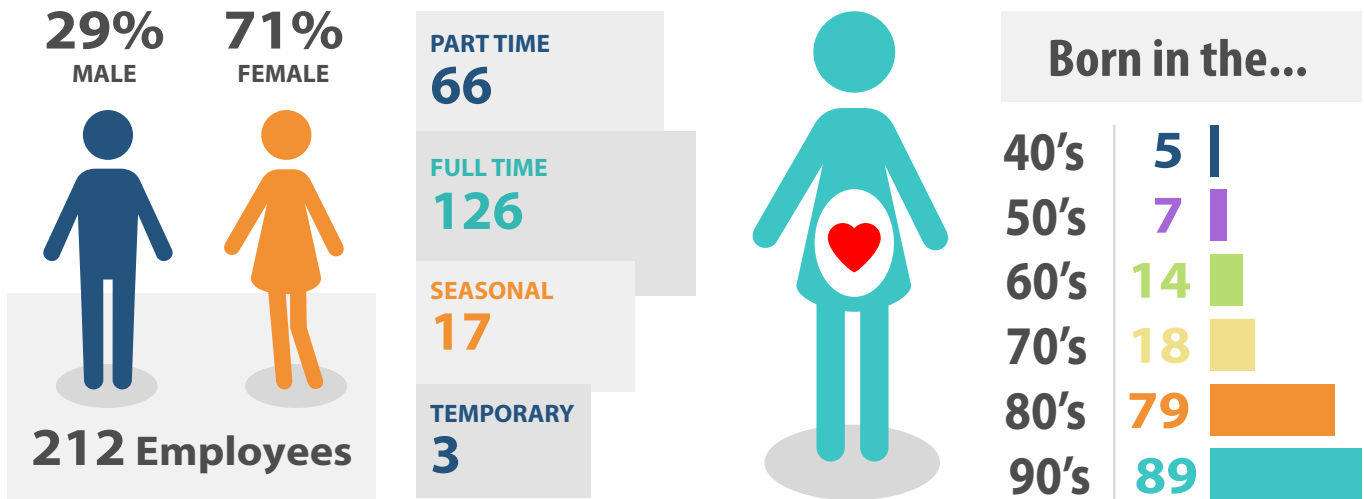
A&S Pump Service	Betty Hampton	William & Sandra Pitts
Access Dental	Debi Hanson	Premier Valley Bank
Alan Mok Engineering	Charles Hensley	Dennis & Nancy Ralston
Scott & Alisha Anderson	Karen Hoffman	RBC
Christopher & Rebecca Armer	Ryan & Ashley Jacobsen	Regency Investment Advisors
Wallace & Terry Barthuli	Rick & Shelley Joyer	Tom Richards & Sue McDiarmid
Eric & Hillary Bell	JPL	Teresa Rodriguez
Don & Ruth Bricker	Mark & Laura Kalchik	Suzanne Ronshausen
California Classic Weekend	Jim & April Kaufmann	Devin & Shannon Sackett
California Eye Institute	Dale Kingem	San Joaquin Valley Children's Health Assoc.
Danny & Kathy Clemmensen	Kristine Kizer	Service Systems Associates
Collins Electric	Richard & Lisa Kjar	Virginia Shelton
Ron & Jennifer Cook	Stephen & Antonia Knudsen	Steve Sibbett
Cost of Wisconsin, Inc.	Doug & Heidi Larsen	James Smith & Viviana Scholl
Der Manouel Insurance Group	Monica Lasgoity	Soltek Pacific
Brandon & Alison De Young	Steven & Virginia Lerer	TAM & CZ Architects, Inc
De Young Properties	Gerald & Nannette Lyles	Samantha Toles-Rodriguez
Donald Miranda Trucking	Lyons Magnus	Pauline Trainer
Janice Douty	Randy McCabe & Roberta Streib	United Health Care Services Inc.
Jim & Dotty Doyle	Jesse Merrell & Travis Rockett	John & Donna Valentino
Draitsas Groom McCormick	William & Dorothy Mills	Valley Children's Healthcare
Dumont Printing	Christopher & Michelle Morse	Valley Urology
Michael & Judy Elkins	Don & Lynn Nelson	Valley Wide Beverage
Joan & James Emerson	Thomas & Bonnie Ny	Jim Voburgh
Heather Evans	Louis & Christi Paradise	Jim & Terri Walls
Fishman, Larsen & Callister	Jim & Marie Pardini	Wanger Jones Helsley PC
Fresno Plumbing & Heating	Jim & Linda Parnagian	Ralph & Cheryl Waterhouse
Fresno Rotary	John Paul	Jerry & Rosemary Waters
Gar & Esther Tootelian Foundation	John Eric Pennestri	Scott & Michelle Weber
Brian & Laura Gini	Pepsi Bottling Group, LLC	Wells Fargo
George & Nancy Goehring	PepsiCo	Rick & Kim Wescott
Paul & Wendy Gottlieb	PG&E	Michael & Susan Woods

**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.

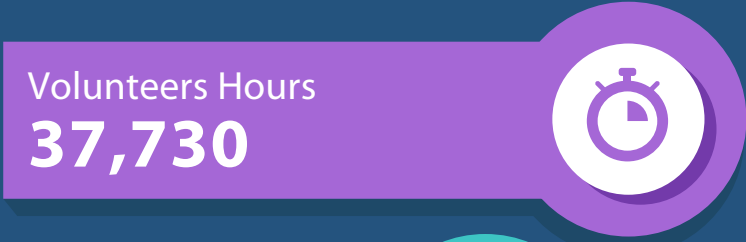


# Staff Statistics for 2017



## Volunteer Statistics for 2017

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





# FUTURE PLANS

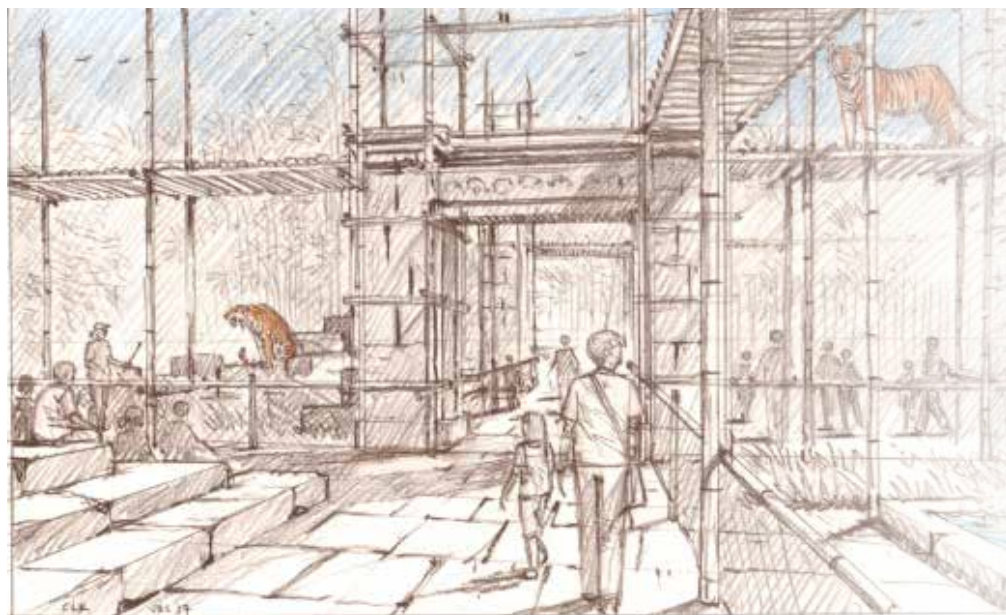
**B**ecause of the generous support from the community through Measure Z, Fresno Chaffee Zoo has many new and exciting projects coming up!

In 2018, Zoo guests will be able to enjoy Wilderness Falls, a children's water play area located across from Dino Dig. In addition to a waterfall and geysers, this new area will also feature a wet sand play area, a fire lookout tower with a slide, as well as showers and a breastfeeding area. We hope that this interactive area will allow families a place to cool off and relax in the hot, summer months.

Additionally, 2018 will feature a new warthog exhibit. The warthogs are currently located in the original Zoo, near the previous giraffe exhibit. Their new exhibit will be located in African Adventure, across from the lion exhibit. 2018 will, also, include an infrastructure project that will help the Zoo to prepare for the construction of Asia. This infrastructure project will take

place from the flamingo exhibit all the way down to the kangaroo area. It will lay the foundation for future exhibits and projects. The largest project in the Zoo's future is Asia. This exciting project will give new exhibits to the Malayan tigers, Komodo dragons and sloth bears. This project is expected to be under construction in 2019 with a grand opening in late 2020.

None of these projects would be possible without the support from Zoo members, donors and supporters like you! Stay tuned for updates on these exciting projects and more!









894 W. Belmont Ave. Fresno, CA. 93728

[fresnochaffeezoo.org](http://fresnochaffeezoo.org)

559-498-5910

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

