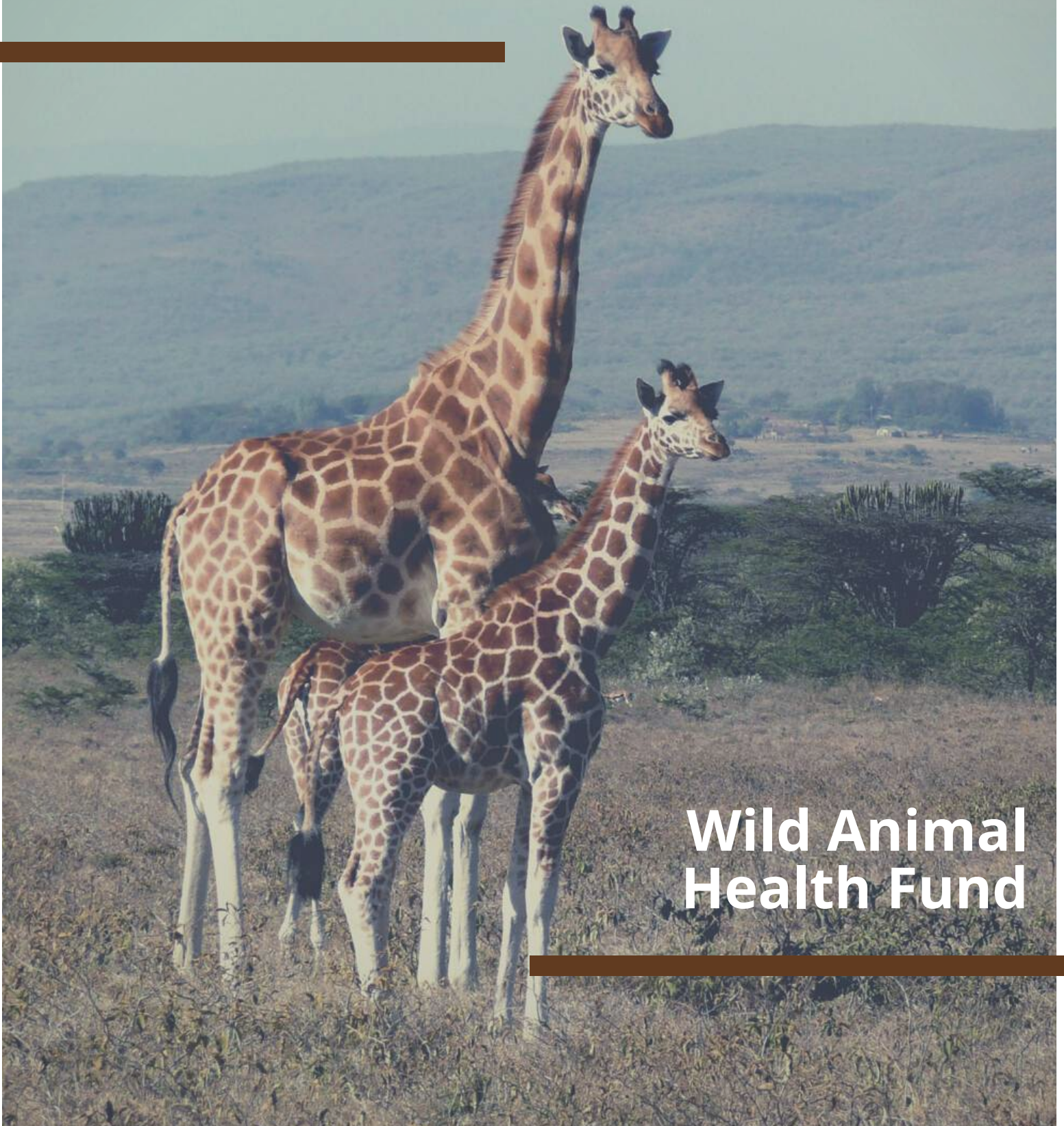


ANNUAL REPORT

the **Wild** ANIMAL
HEALTH
FUND™

Fiscal year: July 1, 2020- June 30th, 2021



**Wild Animal
Health Fund**

A LETTER FROM THE PAST PRESIDENT

We are enthusiastic to share with you the progress of our unique and exciting program, the Wild Animal Health Fund (WAHF). The annual report outlines many aspects of the Wild Animal Health Fund program, such as the grant application statistics, grant funding history and the newly funded 2021 grants. Plus, we highlight the financial composition that supports the Wild Animal Health Fund.

2021 was a record year for the Wild Animal Health Fund. For the eighth consecutive year, we reached another milestone in the amount of research grant funding thanks to our passionate supporters and the hard work of the American Association of Zoo Veterinarians (AAZV) staff, who deserve a HUGE SHOUT OUT.

Many animals in our zoos, aquariums, wildlife institutions and free-ranging environments suffer from all kinds of medical maladies. Because of the vast number of species, and the fact that every animal is different, we need more medical research to provide the best medicine possible. The WAHF provides the resources for that research. It represents the commitment and compassion from over 1300 zoo, aquarium, and wildlife veterinarians that make up the global membership of AAZV.

Specialized veterinarians also play a vital role in stopping the extinction of many animal species. The great work being performed by conservation groups alone can't make the matter of animal extinction go away. We must tackle the health and reproduction issues of many animal species in jeopardy of extinction. What we learn from animal populations living under human care is applied to animals in the wild, and vice versa. The limitations on caring for and understanding these endangered animals now have an impact on their existence. It's the Wild Animal Health Fund that comes to the rescue to raise money to fund research grants that may ultimately save animal lives, further protect endangered and vulnerable species, minimize or eliminate diseases, address issues at the human-animal-environmental interface, increase species reproduction, and help maintain wild populations.

Through our passion, commitment, and expertise, we strive to have healthy zoological, exotic, aquatic, and wildlife animals during our lifetimes, and for those that will come after us. We welcome your support!

Sincerely,



**Jessica Siegal-Willott, DVM, DACZM
Immediate Past President, AAZV
2021-2022 Term**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

2020-2021



President
Dr. Jessica Siegal-Willott



President-Elect
Dr. Michelle Davis



Vice President
Dr. Allison Tuttle



Secretary
Dr. Sharon Deem



Past President
Dr. Leigh Clayton



Treasurer
Dr. Lauren Howard



Members at Large

From left to right,
Dr. Doug Whiteside
Dr. Clay Hilton



OUR YEAR AT A GLANCE

\$146,910

funded for research

new species

4



38

**PROJECTS LEFT ON
THE TABLE**

13 PROJECTS



**12K
WEBSITE
VISITS**



**GUIDESTAR
PLATINUM
TRANSPARENCY**

**800+
FOLLOWERS**



**228 NEW
DONORS**

1,813 Followers



COVID19 IMPACT

- **Lab access was limited for researchers**
- **In-country and out of country travel suspended for research teams**
- **Animal transport operations halted**
- **Delays in ordering research supplies**

GETTING THROUGH IT

- **Offered additional time to the researchers to complete the entire study as originally proposed in six-month increments with an update on the expected completion.**
- **Developed an Unspent Funding policy to ensure study objectives are complete and budget reallocation is permissible.**



A 2021 PROJECT

SARS-CoV-2 and related viruses disease risk assessments for wild animals

SARS CoV-2 referred to as COVID19 has devastated human populations, and threatens agricultural and companion animals as well as wildlife, including endangered species. The role of animals as incidental hosts is largely unknown. This study will extend the understanding of SARS-CoV-2 and provide data for improved disease risk assessments for wild animals.

FINANCIALS

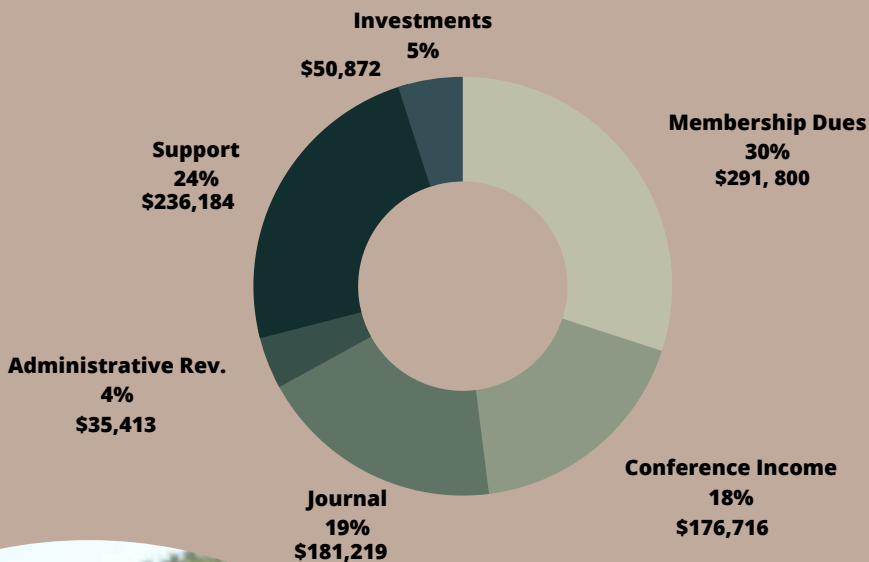


The Wild Animal Health Fund is a program of the American Association of Zoo Veterinarians (AAZU)

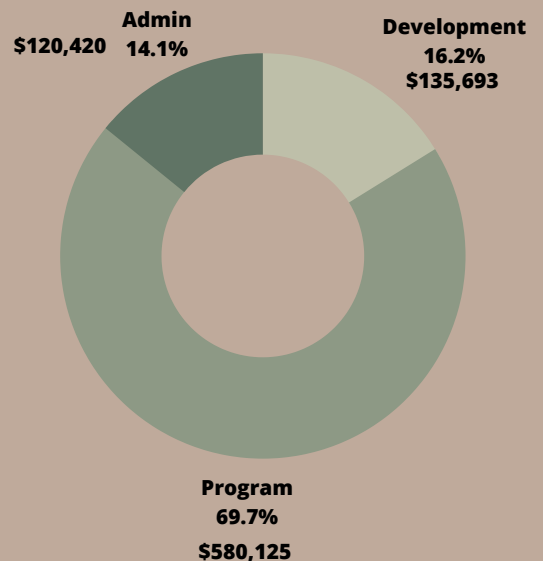


Uniquely, all fundraising costs are covered by the AAZU, NOT donations

Revenues



Expenses



Stress levels in African elephants in Uganda

This project aims at generating data on elephant behaviors, parasites, and levels of stress in relation to seasonality and geographical differences to advise where necessary appropriate measures for minimizing potential impacts from development activities but not limited to oil and gas, and design effective management and monitoring strategies.

Pictured in photo: Dr. James Watuwa-Endangered Wildlife Conservation Org.

SPECIES FUNDED

2021 SPECIES

AFRICAN ELEPHANT
GREVY'S ZEBRA
BAIRD'S TAPIR
GREAT HORNED OWL
ALBATROSS
BLACK FOOTED FERRET

MORE SPECIES FUNDED:

WHOOPING CRANE
RED PANDA
PENGUIN
LEOPARD
PYGMY HIPPO
LION
MANATEE

FOR A FULL LIST OF SPECIES, VISIT
WILDANIMALHEALTHFUND.ORG





ZOOLOGICAL MEDICINE



BACKGROUND



Over the last 40 years, federal funding has been stagnant or declining. Funding research for zoo animals and wildlife has been almost nonexistent.

The federal government's highest research priority is for the life sciences. The next priority is engineering and ends with "other sciences necessary" as the catch-all bottom category.

RESEARCHER TESTIMONIALS

"We are grateful for the funding that has resulted in these important contributions to wildlife health.

Just to let you know, that because of this work, there are now a number of reserves in South Africa that are using our tests to determine whether bovine TB is present on their properties. So they truly do have practical applications."

Prof. Michele A. Miller | DVM, MS, MPH, PhD, Diplm. ECZM (ZHM)

CONNECT WITH US!



Visit WildAnimalHealthFund.org for more information or to donate

Thank you to our corporate sponsors!

