



Photo courtesy of The Wild Animal Sanctuary



Global Federation of
Animal Sanctuaries

2019 Annual Report



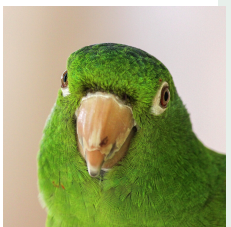
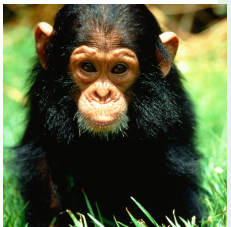
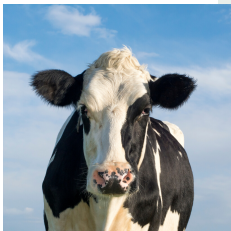
Photo courtesy of Irish Bode/ Unbridled Thoroughbred Foundation

A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

2019 was a year for recognizing true sanctuaries worldwide.

Dear Friends,

As the only internationally-recognized accreditation program for animal sanctuaries, rescues, and rehabilitation centers, GFAS understands what it means to be a “true sanctuary”. True sanctuaries operate with the best interests of the animals in their care as their first priority, demonstrate professionalism, and are able to provide a lifetime of care or safety net for all animals who pass through their gates. GFAS is extremely proud to recognize and support over 190 Accredited and Verified facilities that, combined, care for more than 30,000 wild and domesticated animals throughout 18 countries worldwide.



GFAS Executive Director Valerie Taylor

Inside this report, you'll see the tremendous growth GFAS has experienced over the past year, through the number of newly accredited and renewing facilities, as well as the number of site visits we conducted, all of which have ensured humane and responsible care for animals-in-need. This important work could not have been accomplished without a hard-working team of staff. In 2019, to add to our already dedicated team, GFAS was fortunate to bring on new staff member Kristin Leppert, in the role of Program Director-Wildlife. Dr. Daryl Tropea, who has a long history with GFAS, now leads the GFAS Equine and Farmed Animal Programs. I myself moved into the Executive Director role after working for several years as a Program Director. These exciting position transitions have bolstered a tangible feeling of stability and consistency in our work.

In 2019, another initiative we launched to communicate the benefits of GFAS accreditation, heighten awareness for true sanctuaries, and assist facilities in enhancing effectiveness and increasing capacity for care was to expand our outreach program by sponsoring and presenting at several events such as the Big Cat Sanctuary Alliance Conference and Equine Affaire - the latter of which where I'm proud to say all the rescued equines attending found permanent, adoptive homes. We are immensely grateful to our partners and funders, dedicated Board members, and wonderful volunteers, all of whom helped us expand.

2020 brings great excitement, as we look to bring on new member benefits for our Accredited and Verified sanctuary, rehabilitation, and rescue centers. In addition, we will provide educational programming and bring members together for collaboration and peer-to-peer support. I do hope you will join us to continue 'Helping Sanctuaries Help Animals' - you all have so many valuable resources to share!

Valerie Taylor
Valerie Taylor
Executive Director

OUR MISSION:

To continuously improve the quality of care for animals requiring sanctuary by:

- accrediting sanctuaries based on worldwide standards of excellence;
- facilitating operational and financial support; and
- enhancing effectiveness, recognition, and collaboration.

OUR PEOPLE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Adam M. Roberts, Chair

Director since 2007
Bethesda Green, Executive Director

Kim Haddad, DVM, Vice-Chair

Director since 2007
VCA San Mateo and San Carlos
Animal Hospitals, Medical
Director/Veterinarian

Allan E. Kornberg, MD, Secretary

Director since 2012
Physicians Association for Nutrition USA,
Medical Director
Farm Sanctuary, Former Executive Director

Bill Nimmo, Treasurer

Director since 2015
Tigers In America, President

Peter Bender

Director since 2010

Sue Leary

Director since 2008
American Anti-Vivisection Society and
Alternatives Research Development
Corporation, President

Michael Markarian

Director since 2007
The Humane Society of the United
States, Former COO

Katie Moore

Director since 2017
International Fund for Animal Welfare,
Deputy Vice President-Animal Rescue

Melissa Rubin

Director since 2018
Humane Society of the United States,
Senior Vice President of Animal Response,
Care and Sanctuary

Jill Nicoll

Director since 2018
Association of Zoos and Aquariums,
Former COO

*Organizational affiliations are for informational
purposes only.*

GFAS STAFF

Valerie Taylor, Executive Director

Robin Mason, Director of Operations

Jackie Bennett, Program Director-Africa and Asia

Daryl Tropea, Program Director-Equine and Farmed Animals

**Kristin Leppert, Program Director-North, Central, and South
America Wildlife**



Photo courtesy of Piedmont Farm Animal Refuge



Photo courtesy of Oklahoma Primate Sanctuary

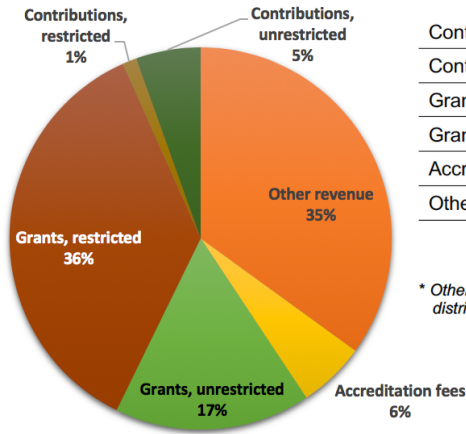
THANK YOU!

GFAS is extremely grateful for our volunteers and partners who help us to conduct our accreditation program and related services. Our volunteers serve in diverse roles, participating on our Accreditation and Carole Noon Award Committees; acting as Regional Representatives to help GFAS carry out programming internationally; conducting site visits to sanctuaries; and enhancing marketing, communications and fundraising efforts. This generous contribution of time, dedication, and expertise is incredible and greatly appreciated!

FINANCIALS

All figures for year ending December 31, 2019

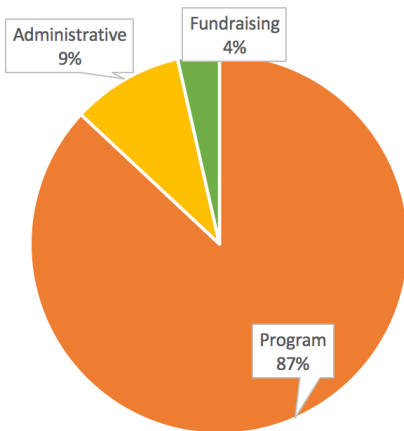
2019 Revenue



Contributions, unrestricted	\$31,347.43
Contributions, restricted	\$7,000.00
Grants, unrestricted	\$95,000.00
Grants, restricted	\$206,645.00
Accreditation fees	\$32,560.55
Other revenue*	\$200,528.82
Total	\$573,081.80

* Other revenue includes funds received by GFAS as contributions to be distributed to designated sanctuaries consistent with the funder's intent.

2019 Expenses



Program	\$500,311.36
Administration	\$54,698.13
Fundraising	\$20,474.70
Total	\$575,484.19

Year End Balance Sheet

Total Assets	\$233,939.62
Total Liabilities	\$0
Net Assets	\$233,939.62

THANK YOU TO OUR 2019 FOUNDATION AND ORGANIZATIONAL SUPPORTERS !

Acton Family Giving
 Albert Schweitzer Animal Welfare Fund
 American Anti-Vivisection Society
 Anonymous Giving
 Arcus Foundation
 Arnall Family Foundation
 ASPCA
 Humane Society of the United States
 Kenneth A. Scott Charitable Trust
 Maria Norbury Foundation
 Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation
 Tigers in America

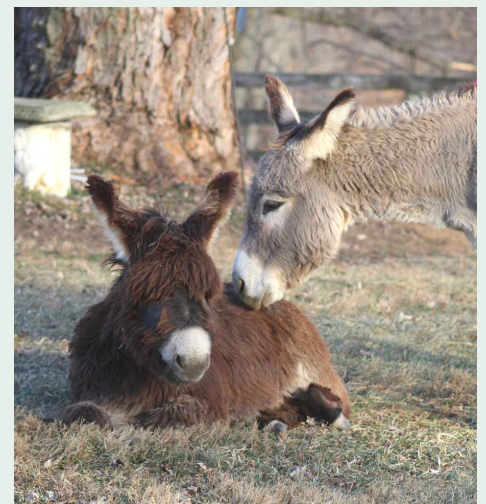


Photo courtesy of Little Longears Miniature Donkey Rescue

ACCREDITATION

Congratulations to our newly accredited and verified organizations in 2019:

Accredited:

Black Pine Animal Sanctuary, *Indiana, U.S.*
Carolina Tiger Rescue, *North Carolina, U.S.*
Gorilla Rehabilitation and Conservation Education Center (GRACE), *Democratic Republic of Congo*
Idaho Horse Rescue, *Idaho, U.S.*
Kentucky Humane Society, *Kentucky, U.S.*
Kindred Spirits Sanctuary, *Florida, U.S.*
New England Equine Rescue - North, Inc., *Massachusetts, U.S.*
New Mexico Horse Rescue at Walkin N Circles Ranch, *New Mexico, U.S.*
Piedmont Farm Animal Refuge, *North Carolina, U.S.*
Primates Incorporated, *Wisconsin, U.S.*
Skydog Sanctuary, *Oregon, U.S.*
The Wild Animal Refuge, *Colorado, U.S.*
The Wild Animal Sanctuary, *Colorado, U.S.*
Thoroughbred Athletes, Inc., *Oklahoma, U.S.*

Verified:

Akindale Thoroughbred Rescue, *New York, U.S.*
Crown Ridge Tiger Sanctuary, *Missouri, U.S.*
Dove Creek Equine Rescue, *Texas, U.S.*
Freedom Hill Horse Rescue, *Maryland, U.S.*
Illinois Horse Rescue of Will County, *Illinois, U.S.*
Little Bear Sanctuary, *Florida, U.S.*
Little Longears Miniature Donkey Rescue, *Maryland, U.S.*
Lucky Glider Rescue and Sanctuary, *Texas, U.S.*
Oklahoma Primate Sanctuary, *Oklahoma, U.S.*
Olympic Peninsula Equine Network-OPEN, *Washington, U.S.*
ResQue Ranch, Inc., *California, U.S.*
Skagit Animals In Need, *Washington, U.S.*
SonnyBoy Animal Sanctuary, *Wisconsin, U.S.*
Sunshine Horses, Inc., *New York, U.S.*
Unbridled Thoroughbred Foundation, *New York, U.S.*

As of December 31, 2019:



2019 ACCREDITATION SNAPSHOT



NEW GFAS CERTIFICATIONS

Newly accredited and verified organizations.



RENEWALS

Renewals of accredited and verified status.



NEW APPLICATIONS

Number of new applications initiated from sanctuaries and rescue centers in 14 countries.



SITE VISITS

Site visits conducted in North America, Europe, Africa, and Asia.



Read about some of the recently GFAS accredited or verified organizations.

SANCTUARY HIGHLIGHTS

Gorilla Rehabilitation and Conservation Education (GRACE) Center

Democratic Republic of Congo

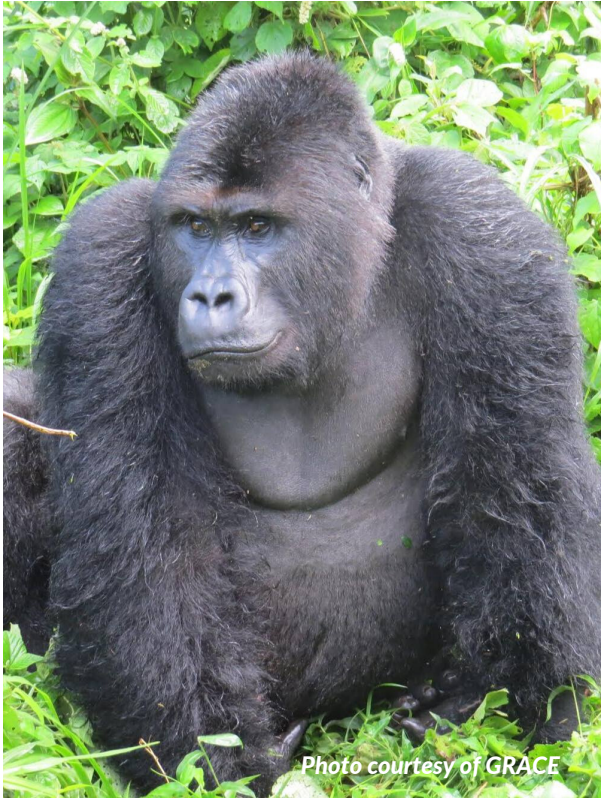


Photo courtesy of GRACE

Gorilla Rehabilitation and Conservation Education (GRACE) Center became accredited in September of 2019. Located in Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) near the Tayna Nature Reserve, GRACE is the world's only sanctuary for rescued Grauer's gorillas. GRACE works within a challenging environment, including an Ebola outbreak in the region, to fulfill its mission not only to rehabilitate its critically endangered Grauer's gorillas with an ultimate goal to reintroduce them back to the wild, but also to work with local communities on conservation education, forest protection, and sustainable livelihoods to find sustainable solutions for peaceful co-existence between wildlife and humans.

GRACE expressed the value of accreditation: "Going through the GFAS accreditation process made us a better organization. Their questions allowed us to identify our strengths and weaknesses and understand what we need to do to continue to grow and develop."

In 2019, GRACE also launched its "Gorilla Cam" in partnership with Explore, a philanthropic multimedia organization that sponsors the largest live nature network with almost 200 wildlife cameras around the globe. With this livestream, viewers can watch the gorillas in their large forested habitat. While certain times of day are best to catch the gorillas in action, recorded highlights can be watched at any time, and viewers can add comments and questions to the page and even post their screen shots!

For more information, visit <https://gracegorillas.org>.

Skydog Sanctuary

Prineville, Oregon



Photo courtesy of Skydog Sanctuary

Skydog Sanctuary is one of our exemplary equine welfare organizations to achieve GFAS Accreditation in 2019. Through hard work and determination, they confirmed their commitment to best practices in animal care and facility operations.

This 9,000 acre sanctuary of beautiful grazing lands is home to more than 100 wild horses (Mustangs) and 30 wild and rescued burros. These are the fortunate few, representing but a small percentage of the at-risk-Mustangs roaming the western states. So, while Skydog sanctuary provides a healing and safe haven for these equine, their higher mission is to increase the public's awareness of the plight of these incredible animals, highlight the importance of equine family and herd dynamics, and advocate for America's wild horses through collaboration, education, and social media. Skydog's founder Clare Staples shared these words on the value of becoming Accredited:

"It has been a fascinating process that has allowed us to raise the bar in every single aspect of caring for our horses and running a non-profit. Being a part of the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries means that we have been thoroughly and rigorously inspected by a dedicated and qualified professional who has taken the time to make sure we meet their high standards of excellence. It's the holy grail that gives anybody who donates to our sanctuary, the absolute and ultimate peace of mind that we are doing everything right. I hope this will also encourage other equine sanctuaries to go through this process so that more people realize and understand the high standards necessary for a good organization to take care of the horses they rescue."

For more information, visit <https://www.skydogranch.org>.

SANCTUARY HIGHLIGHTS

Read about some of the recently GFAS accredited or verified organizations.

In December, 2019, GFAS accredited the largest carnivore sanctuary in the world. The Wild Animal Sanctuary (TWAS) is a 789-acre grassland sanctuary in Keenesburg, Colorado dedicated to the care of large predators including lions, tigers, bears, wolves and other animals. Since 1980, Founder Pat Craig and his team have traveled the world to rescue abandoned or abused animals from horrific situations and bring them to safety at TWAS. The sanctuary was designed specifically with areas that help rehabilitate newly rescued or special needs animals prior to their being released into large natural habitats. The site features a state-of-the-art Veterinary Care Center and Carnivore Nutrition Center producing 60,000 pounds of food each week for over 500 animals. TWAS offers tours via an elevated walkway, and requires every visitor to watch an educational video about the captive animal crisis before the start of their tour.

The Wild Animal Sanctuary's new affiliate, The Wild Animal Refuge (TWAR) is a private 9,684-acre haven of hills, canyons, springs and caves near Springfield, Colorado. Lions, tigers and bears roam freely in one, two, or three hundred-acre enclosed habitats. TWAR's massive nutrition center constructed of native rock, sits atop a butte with a breathtaking view of the 14 mile square refuge. Together, these two remarkable sanctuaries comprise over 10,000 acres of natural habitat that will provide a natural and highly enriched home to countless animals well into the future.

For more information, visit <https://www.wildanimalsanctuary.org>.

The Wild Animal Sanctuary and Wild Animal Refuge

Colorado



Photo courtesy of The Wild Animal Sanctuary

The establishment of Barn Sanctuary is a wonderful story set to air this year on a new Animal Planet TV show. As Dan McKernan, founder of Barn Sanctuary has stated, "This show will give farmed animals the chance to be seen in a different light!"

Barn Sanctuary was incorporated in 2016 and verified by GFAS in late 2018. They provide a home to over 100 farmed animals including cows, pigs, chickens, turkeys, ducks, sheep and goats. Their noble mission is to change the way the world views farmed animals by rescuing and rehabilitating abused and neglected farmed animals. By applying for and achieving GFAS verification early in the evolution of their sanctuary, they are ensuring they are providing the best of animal care and management practices.

Barn Sanctuary is a family affair. The McKernan family united around a common goal to renovate a 140-year-old farm that has been their home for many generations, to provide a home for farmed animals in need. The family members not only work closely with law enforcement, animal owners and Michigan State University but also with other GFAS certified sanctuaries. In August 2019, Barn Sanctuary and Woodstock Farm Sanctuary teamed up to help 90 hens, many with injuries and medical issues. This collaboration meant all these hens received the care they needed and a home to live out their lives in peace and safety.

For more information, visit <https://www.barnsanctuary.org>.

Barn Sanctuary

Chelsea, Michigan



Photo courtesy of Barn Sanctuary

2019 Carole Noon Award



The 2019 Carole Noon Award for Sanctuary Excellence was awarded to Carole Baskin of GFAS accredited Big Cat Rescue in Florida. The award is given annually to a sanctuary or individual who embodies and puts into practice the GFAS philosophy of vision, dedication and excellence in animal care. Baskin was singled out for her visionary leadership and advocacy efforts to end the private possession and trade in exotic cats through legislation and education. She is also passionate about creating exciting new ways to educate the public, and inspires everyone to use their voice to end the captive trade in big cats.

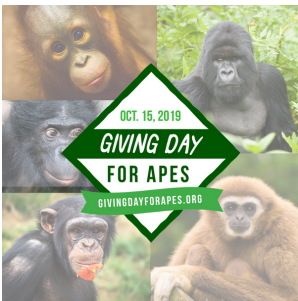
Big Cat Rescue, founded in 1992, is home to over 60 lions, tigers, bobcats, cougars and other species, most of whom have been abandoned, abused, orphaned, or retired from performing acts. Carole shared her thoughts about the achievement, saying, "I believe GFAS plays a critical role in helping the public identify true sanctuaries versus those who mislead the public and helping sanctuaries be the best that they can be. I am thrilled and honored to be a recipient of this prestigious award named after someone I and everyone else in this field have admired and who set such high standards for both animal care and advocacy on behalf of captive animals."

In February 2019, GFAS launched its collaboration with Airbnb to provide a benefit to its accredited and verified sanctuaries and rescue centers. This exciting Airbnb initiative, "Social Impact Experiences", gives sanctuaries an opportunity to showcase their great works, expand their fundraising scope, and establish a worldwide outreach presence via engaging visitor experiences that are consistent with GFAS standards. Airbnb has worked with more than 20 GFAS sanctuaries to promote opportunities for which visitors can register, that give them a true "behind the scenes" view of a sanctuary's mission, history, and what it takes to care for the animals.

Airbnb Collaboration



Giving Day for Apes



In October, GFAS presented the 6th annual Giving Day for Apes, a day to support sanctuaries and rescue centers throughout Asia, Africa, and North America that care for chimpanzees, gorillas, orangutans, bonobos, and gibbons. Many of these apes have been rescued from previous lives in research laboratories or as victims of the illegal pet trade, or orphaned or displaced by destructive actions such as deforestation and poaching.

Giving Day for Apes was initiated by Arcus Foundation, with GFAS collaborating for three years as a co-presenter. In 2019, with Arcus' continuing support, GFAS stepped into the role of sole presenter. It was the most successful Giving Day to date, with 33 organizations participating to raise funds and win prizes. Nearly \$650,000 was raised and awarded! In addition to Arcus Foundation, GFAS is grateful for the ongoing support of American Anti-Vivisection Society (AAVS) as a prize sponsor.

The GFAS Accreditation process requires a significant commitment of time and resources, but its value is undeniable! Throughout the process, GFAS works with sanctuaries and rescue centers to meet best practices. Intrinsically, improvement in best practices improves animal care, builds our global capacity to care for more animals in need, and ensures the long term success of these essential animal welfare organizations.

As a way of measuring our impact, GFAS tabulated direct accreditation outcomes for organizations that had completed their GFAS certification during a six-month time period. Not surprising, among the top areas of impact were implementing measures to enhance risk management such as improved protection from fires, establishing disaster preparedness plans, and engaging in strategic planning. Actions impacting direct animal care were frequently noted during this study, as many sanctuaries and rescue centers discovered opportunities to increase the safety of enclosures, enhance enrichment, and improve husbandry practices, all contributing to greater animal welfare.

GFAS Impact Study



GFAS IN THE SANCTUARY COMMUNITY

Animal Sanctuary Caregiver Day



GFAS and NAPSA (North American Primate Sanctuary Alliance) partnered again in June 2019 to celebrate the third annual Animal Sanctuary Caregiver Day. GFAS and NAPSA established this event in 2017 to recognize and highlight the important work of animal caregivers – the caring and compassionate heroes - in animal sanctuaries, rescue centers, and wildlife rehabilitation centers worldwide. For 2019's event, GFAS created a list of 30 suggestions for how our sanctuaries and rescue centers might celebrate and honor their caregivers, including awards ceremonies, personalized thank you notes, and special snacks and other foods throughout the day.

Wisconsin Horse Alliance Trainer's Challenge

In October, 2019, the GFAS Equine Program was honored to be a sponsor of the second annual Midwest Rescue Horse Trainers Challenge, presented by the Wisconsin Horse Alliance. The event featured 20 horses and 20 trainers who had been working together on trail riding, in-hand work, and free style horsemanship techniques for approximately 90 days. The horses, trainers, and supporting rescues then came together for a one-day showcase of rescue horses consisting of classes in-hand, walk/trot/canter under saddle, trail, and freestyle. GFAS was excited to sponsor the event and help raise awareness about equine adoption and the versatility and talent of rescued equines-and we're happy to report that nearly all of the participating horses have already been adopted!



Big Cat Sanctuary Alliance Conference



Kristin Leppert, Program Director for Wildlife, and Allan Kornberg, GFAS board member, presented "GFAS: Past, Present & Future" at the Big Cat Sanctuary Alliance (BCSA) conference in September 2019 in Ft. Wayne, Indiana. BCSA, which works to eliminate private ownership and the commercial exploitation of wild cats in the United States, brings sanctuary professionals together each year to share best practices, solutions and strategies. Kristin and Allan delivered information on GFAS' history, standards, application process, benefits of membership, and future plans. Attendees were also treated to a private tour by the conference sanctuary host, GFAS Accredited Black Pine Animal Sanctuary. Thank you, BCSA, for your continued excellence!

Equine Affaire

In November, 2019, GFAS was proud to be a part of Equine Affaire, in Springfield, Massachusetts. Equine Affaire is one of North America's largest equine expositions and equestrian gatherings. GFAS was delighted to host a table and many stalls with horses available for adoption from local GFAS accredited equine groups at the event's "Adoption Affaire". GFAS staff Daryl Tropea and Valerie Taylor also served as presenters, speaking on "Think Adoption First: 10 Points to Consider When Adopting a Horse". Huge thanks to Equine Affaire for promoting GFAS and equine adoption, and to GFAS members Akindale Thoroughbred Rescue (NY), Live and Let Live Farm (NH), and New England Equine Rescue-North (MA) for bringing horses for adoption to showcase at the event.





www.sanctuaryfederation.org

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