

# TRAINING THE NEXT GENERATION OF ZOO VETERINARIANS

Heritage Society member and longtime zoo supporter Jean A. Griggs appreciated the amazing care animals at the zoo receive from our veterinary staff. Through a generous gift from her estate, Ms. Griggs created an endowed fund dedicated to Lincoln Park Zoo's Veterinary Residency. This three-year intensive postgraduate program for aspiring zoo veterinarians is now called the Jean A. Griggs Zoological Veterinary Residency.

Lincoln Park Zoo's veterinary team, led by Dr. Kathryn Gamble, Dr. Lester E. Fisher Director of Veterinary Medicine, cares for more than 800 animals, representing nearly 200 species ranging from naked mole rats to eastern black rhinos and everything in between.

Zoo veterinarians wear many hats, serving as internists, surgeons, ophthalmologists, oncologists, radiologists, podiatrists, dermatologists, and dentists. They not only treat injuries and illnesses, but also provide preventative wellness assessments and emergency care. They work closely with keeper staff to monitor animals' health, collaborate with nutritionists on specialized diets, and even consult with horticulture staff to determine which plants are safe for the animals.



Thanks to Ms. Griggs' vision and generosity, the zoo will continue to be a leader in training the next generation of zoo veterinarians and her legacy will live on through future residents and the countless animals that will benefit from their care.

"Ms. Griggs clearly understood the importance of supporting the now to ensure the future," Dr. Gamble said. "Through her endowment, Lincoln Park Zoo is assured to be at the forefront of zoological medicine education for decades to come."

#### You Can Be Part of Our Future

Like Ms. Griggs, you too can have a lasting impact at Lincoln Park Zoo. Contact Sarah Rutledge at 312-742-9570 or heritagesociety@lpzoo.org to learn more about including the zoo in your future plans.

# THE BEST DEFENSE AGAINST UNCERTAINTY

It's tempting to put planning on hold. Unfortunately, loose ends can lead to future stress and rash decisions.

Consider this: Taking the time to be mindful when creating an estate plan gives you the opportunity to record your values and make sure your wishes are followed. A thoughtful estate plan can also tell your story through the causes you support after your lifetime.

#### A well-planned estate helps you:

- Make the most of your assets. Meeting with qualified professionals helps you grow your wealth over the long term.
- Protect family and loved ones. An up-to-date estate plan keeps loved ones safe. Reviewing it regularly means adjusting for changes in personal relationships, tax laws, births, deaths, and state of residence.

### **Build an Expert Team**

If you're ready to start planning your future, be sure to consult the experts. Having an estate planning attorney and financial advisor helps you make sure your future plans do exactly what you want them to.

- **Be tax smart.** Certain assets can be tax burdens (or at least tax surprises) to your family. Planning helps you keep them in the loop and possibly avoid a tax hit altogether.
- Continue helping others after your lifetime. Gifts to Lincoln Park Zoo may provide you financial benefits in addition to the fulfillment that comes from providing for the future of the zoo.



## We Can Help

By planning your estate now, you not only support your loved ones, you ensure the organizations you care about, like Lincoln Park Zoo, continue to receive your support. Contact Sarah Rutledge at 312-742-9570 or heritagesociety@lpzoo.org to learn more about including the zoo in your future plans.



# YOUR ESTATE PLAN MIGHT BE MISSING SOMETHING

If you're taking another look at your existing estate plan, or just starting your planning journey, be sure to include the following items—in addition to a will—to make things easier for you and your loved ones. In most cases, you won't need to involve an attorney.

#### Be sure you have:

- **A high-level overview** that lays out the basics of your finances and plans. Include:
  - Where to find your will and other documents, and who the key people are—your agents under the powers of attorney and executors or personal representatives.
  - Financial assets (where accounts are held and who owns them).
  - Insurance coverage (property/casualty, health, life).
  - Property and vehicle information.
  - Regular household bills that you pay.
- A detailed description of your finances (account numbers, contacts at financial institutions, etc.).
- A personal property memorandum that is referenced by your will and states how you want property distributed and/or sold. This allows you to assign sentimental or valuable assets to specific people without having to change your will if you change your mind.
- A plan for your pets to ensure that your furry friends are taken care of. A legally binding pet trust can be created, or you can make provisions in your will for how you want your pets cared for in your absence.
- Your digital estate plan, which includes online account details.
- Advance directives, powers of attorney and other end-of-life planning tools to communicate your basic wishes. Add personal messages and detailed plans for your funeral, memorial, and other specifics.
- An ethical will, which is your opportunity to hand down your values in a document or video. Think of it as a personal record of your life—how you've lived it and how you want to inspire others.





# **Explore Your Legacy at Lincoln Park Zoo**

Wherever you're at in the process, your estate plan is a powerful way to show your love for your favorite causes, such as Lincoln Park Zoo. Please contact Sarah Rutledge at 312-742-9570 or heritagesociety@lpzoo.org to learn more.

# WE CARE FOR ANIMALS

At Lincoln Park Zoo, animal care and welfare come first. Our zoo's Veterinary Services team provides exceptional care to the nearly 800 animals who call the zoo home.



Largest animal in our care:

2,900-POUND ADULT EASTERN BLACK RHINOCEROS

Smallest animal in our care:

2-GRAM HENKEL'S LEAF-TAILED GECKO HATCHLING

Number of species cared for by Vet Staff:

200

Number of Veterinary Services staff:

800000

Length of Zoo's Veterinary Residency Program:

**3 YEARS** 

Number of examinations last year:

300



including 150 mammals, 100 birds, and 50 amphibians, reptiles, and fish



Number of American College of Zoological Medicine (ACZM) residencies available in the world:

24

Number of residencies in the United States compliant with both ACZM and European College of Zoological Medicine:





### Make a difference.

Your gift to the zoo will help us continue to advance animal care, education, science, and conservation—and ensure future Chicagoans enjoy an exceptional, free zoo experience. Please contact us today.



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