

2021

A YEAR IN REVIEW

From the opening of the *Lehner Family Foundation Wild Asia* to the significant birth of 13 zoo babies to record-breaking attendance at Wild Lights, 2021 had some amazing highlights as your Akron Zoo continued to rebound from the challenges of 2020. As we look back at 2021, we are grateful to be able to continue to achieve our mission by caring for the natural world, educating people of all ages, taking conservation actions and serving our community.



FROM THE CHAIR & PRESIDENT

Many milestones happened in 2021 that made for an exciting and eventful year. While we faced many challenges like the pandemic, supply chain issues and staffing shortages, your Akron Zoo was able to accomplish so much due to the continued contributions of our supporters and community.

One of our greatest accomplishments in 2021 was receiving a 'clean' accreditation inspection report from the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) Accreditation Commission. The Akron Zoo is only the third zoo in 50 years to receive a clean inspection. This distinguished achievement would not have been possible without the dedication and hard work of the Board of Directors, zoo staff and volunteers.

The past year marked the end of our seven-year strategic and master plan with the opening of the *Lehner Family Foundation Wild Asia*. Now we are looking ahead to completing our next strategic and master plan, which will cover 2022–2031. We are excited for the future as we strive to save wildlife and wild places while providing an educational, engaging and fun experience for guests to connect to nature and make lasting memories.

We are tremendously grateful to all our donors, sponsors, community partners, voters, members and zoo friends for making the zoo's mission of inspiring lifelong learning and conservation action possible.

Sincerely,



Michele J. Santana

Michele Santana

Chair, Board of Directors



Doug Piekarz

Douglas M. Piekarz

President & CEO



ANIMAL NUMBERS

Animal Type	Species	Total Individuals
Aquatic Invertebrates	52	632
Amphibians	9	38
Birds	71	225
Fish	25	304
Mammals	34	623
Reptiles	27	55
Terrestrial Invertebrates	8	1,670
Total	226	3,547

ATTENDANCE NUMBERS

Total Attendance | **386,163**
 Wild Lights | **48,454**
Event attendance record, 36% increase
 Membership households | **12,808**

EDUCATION NUMBERS

Education Programs | **21,685**
 Field Trips | **8,494**
 Total Education Reach | **30,179**



CONSERVATION NUMBERS

Conservation Programs | **17**

Species Survival Plans | **49**

USA | **6**

4 of the **6** are in Ohio, **2** of which are citizen science projects involving local volunteers

Asia | **5**

South America | **2**

Africa | **2**

Global | **2**

CONSERVATION PARTNERS & PROJECTS

Akron Zoo Christmas
Bird Count, Ohio

Akron Zoo/Hiram College
Partnership, Ohio

Center for Conservation,
Punta San Juan, Peru

Conservation Planning
Specialist Group, Global

Jaguar Species Survival
Plan, Belize

Komodo Dragon Species
Survival Plan, Indonesia

Madagascar Fauna & Flora
Group, Madagascar

Medina Raptor Center, Ohio

Minnesota Zoo Tiger
Conservation, Minnesota

Northern White-Cheeked Gibbon
Flora & Fauna, Vietnam

Project FrogWatch, Ohio

Rebuilding the Pride, Kenya

Red Panda Network, Nepal

Red Wolf Coalition,
North Carolina

Snow Leopard Trust, Asia

Turtle Survival Alliance, Global

Wildlife SOS, India



GLOBAL



U.S.A.



ASIA



**SOUTH
AMERICA**



AFRICA

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

The Akron Zoo thrives because of our community's commitment and generosity. In 2021, your zoo received **\$2,550,463** in gifts and pledges to support operating needs, capital improvements, education outreach and programming, and animal care and welfare. We sincerely appreciate our generous benefactors. It is because of these champions that your zoo is a leader in animal care and welfare, education and conservation, while providing safe, memorable guest experiences for the community.



WILD SOCIETY

Donors who have expressed that they have established a living legacy by naming the zoo in their estate plans.

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Bednarik

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Ms. Janet K. Walker

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Wenhardt

Mr. and Mrs. Glen Willis

Mrs. Virginia B.
Wojno-Forney

Dianne and Richard
Wright

IN-KIND DONATION OVER \$1000

Amos Communications,
Inc.

The DJ Crew

Gavin Scott Salon & Spa

Metropolis Popcorn

Nemacolin

Old Carolina Barbecue
& Catering Co.

Rooted Professional
Genealogy

Smoke the Burger Joint

Sysco Cleveland, Inc.

Tomorrow's Treasures
Picture Framing &
Art Gallery



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Donors who have made cumulative contributions to the Akron Zoo that total \$25,000 or more.

\$1,000,000 and Over

Anonymous
Landon and Cynthia
Knight Foundation
Lehner Family Foundation
Robert O. & Annamae Orr
Family Foundation
Citizens of Summit County

\$100,000-\$999,999

Acme Fresh Market
Akron Children's Hospital
Akron Community
Foundation
Lucy & Emily Beasley
Charitable Trust
Blossom J McCall Estate,
Forrest Woodall Extr.
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Charitable Trust
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Snider, II
Synthomer Foundation
Ms. Margaret Tribby
Ms. Natalie Van Sickle
Edward and Adelheid
Wenhardt
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Aladar Simon
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Stark Community
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Timken Foundation
The Welty Family
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Joyce Willis Living Trust

\$25,000-\$49,999

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Mrs. Virginia
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EXPLORER SOCIETY

Donors contributing \$250 or more to the Akron Zoo's Annual Animal Fund, January 1–December 31, 2021.

\$100,000 and Over

Anonymous
Citizens of Summit
County
Ohio Department of
Education

\$20,000–\$99,999

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Mr. Dick A. Edwards
Akron Children's Hospital
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Mr. and Mrs. James
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Ms. Linda S. Klais

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Ohio Department of
Development

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PNC Foundation
Mr. Charles D. Powell

\$10,000–\$19,999

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Mr. Alan C. Wilber and
Ms. Karol Harrison

\$5,000–\$9,999

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Lucy & Emily Beasley
Charitable Trust
Bell Music Company
Buckingham, Doolittle
& Burroughs

Dominion Energy
Charitable Foundation
Giant Eagle
GPD Group
Huntington National
Bank
Knight Foundation
M. G. O'Neil Foundation
Sisler McFawn
Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Doug
M. Piekarz
Synthomer Foundation
WITAN

\$1,000–\$4,999

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 Mr. Donald J. Williams

\$250–\$499

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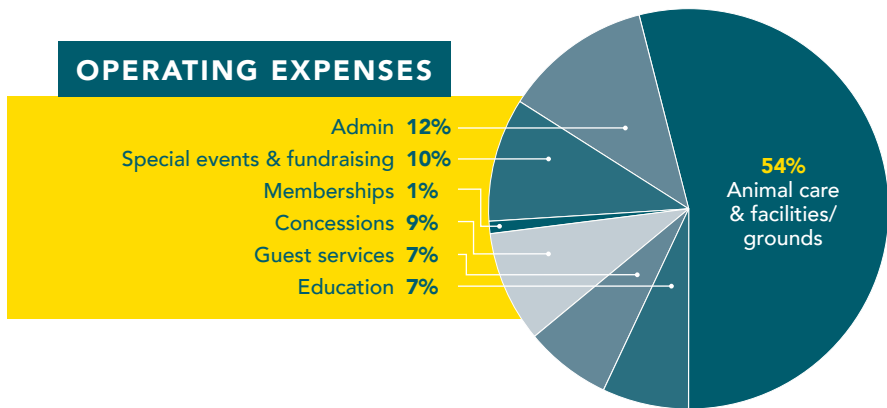
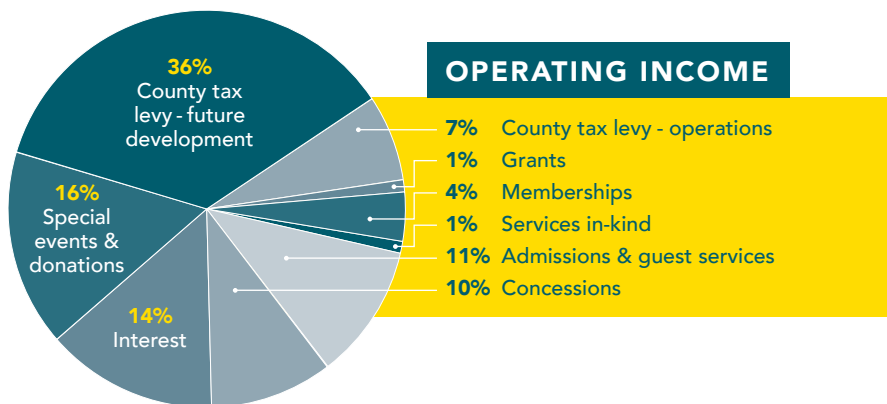
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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of December 31, 2021 (unaudited)



ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$16,068,731
Pledges receivable	\$702,542
Prepaid expenses and other assets	\$845,737
Inventories	\$76,409
Property and equipment, net (less depr)	\$60,946,185
Total assets	\$78,639,604

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS

Liabilities	\$2,370,757
Net assets	\$76,268,847
Total liabilities and net assets	\$78,639,604

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