



If we achieve this matching gift challenge grant we can do a lot for the Zoo's veterinary hospital.

Here are some more details to let you know how much impact your help will have.

The Animal Hospital currently includes a comprehensive laboratory and pharmacy, treatment room, surgical suite, necropsy/pathology suite, and quarantine facility. The quarantine facility provides safe housing for a variety of species ranging from small amphibians to large carnivores and hoof stock.

Laboratory / Small Animal ICU: Digital radiography equipment added in 2016 eliminated the need for the former X-ray film developing room. The Zoo will convert this unused space into an Animal Intensive Care Unit (ICU).

Along with renovating the space, we will purchase a ProCare 24 Critical Care Unit and a free-standing Snyder Intensive Care Unit. Both systems provide temperature and humidity controlled environments for animal patients. They also provide the option of oxygen therapy or delivery of nebulized (that is, inhaled) medications. Currently, the Zoo has no such oxygen therapy options.

Treatment, Examination Room and Surgical Suite: Improvements focus on both treatment and diagnostic capabilities. A surgical electrocautery unit will improve our ability to maintain hemostasis during surgical procedures. This will minimize blood loss and tissue trauma at the surgical site. A large convex ultrasound probe will provide better imaging of larger patients. Better surgical lighting will aid visualization of patients during exams and surgery.

Necropsy / Pathology Suite: This area enables an important aspect of the Zoo's medical program. Work here helps understand the causes of animal illness. Findings help with the care of our own animals. They also benefit the understanding of species for the collective zoo community. This area of the Zoo is a hub for our research contributions.

Specific improvements include:

- Purifier HEPA-Filtered Enclosure: Allows safer examination of patients with illnesses that might present zoonotic risk to our health care team.
- Mortech 7001F Reach-in Freezer: Organizes short term tissue storage.
- Ultra Low Upright Freezer: Provides storage to minus 85 degrees, to meet standards for preservation of tissue and fluid samples to support ongoing and future research.
- So-Low Pharmacy Refrigerator: Used for storing laboratory reagents, current specimens, vaccinations and medications.
- Reconfiguration of suite with stainless steel cabinetry and extreme flooring to maximize cleaning and disinfecting the space.

Quarantine Facility: Upgrades here focus on improving the safety of the large carnivore holding space. Changes include the addition of a secondary containment entryway and modifications to the containment system. The changes allow for trained medical procedures, safer arrival and departure of animals from quarantine, and routine monitoring of body weight and health. This will reduce stress on animals during the moves and will improve safety for staff and reduce need for anesthesia during animal transfers.