FROM THE RESIDENTS at our sanctuaries and rehabilitation center to the pets and people served by our Rural Area Veterinary Services program, our work transformed the lives of thousands of animals in 2019—thanks to you. I am so proud of our staff and the extraordinary care we give every animal who passes through the doors of our state-of-the-art facilities. Whether they come to us from roadside zoos, cruelty cases, laboratories or feed lots; whether they were injured in the wild or brought to a clinic by owners with nowhere else to turn, the Fund for Animals gives each animal the highest level of respect and care.

In everything we do, we draw strength and inspiration from the tireless commitment and dedication of our founder, Cleveland Amory, whose work we are honored to continue. I think Cleveland would be proud of the work we’ve accomplished—I know I am. In the following pages, you’ll hear about some of the year’s most important moments, but I wanted to share just a few of the highlights here, too.

We started the year by celebrating the 40th anniversary of Cleveland Amory Black Beauty Ranch, and in the months that followed, we welcomed 68 new residents. All our animals are important, but Loki—a tiger found in an abandoned house in Houston—especially captured the hearts of animal lovers around the United States. So too did the story of Eve, the “bare bear” who spent two years receiving excellent rehabilitative care at our Fund for Animals Wildlife Center before moving to her custom-made habitat at Black Beauty Ranch. I’m proud that these two organizations worked together to give Eve the future she deserves, even as the center saw record numbers of wild animals in need of care and rehabilitation.

At our Duchess Sanctuary, we continued caring for more than 180 equines. As these lifelong residents age, our staff members are adjusting the care they provide to better serve these deserving animals. I’m proud of their commitment. And across the country, our Rural Area Veterinary Services program ran 18 MASH-style clinics in remote communities, serving people who cannot access or afford veterinary care. This is truly lifesaving work, and the number of animals helped—more than 7,200—is inspiring.

We can’t erase the suffering that the animals in our care have endured, but we can heal their wounds, return them to health—and sometimes, their home in the wild—and make them feel safe. All of us at the Fund for Animals are humbled by the opportunity to serve animals in need and awed by the trust they show us, despite all they’ve been through. That’s why we tell their stories to the public and to policymakers. It’s why we call out the industries and institutionalized practices that caused their suffering. We do this work today so other animals won’t endure the same cruelties in the future.

Your tireless support is making the world a better place for animals. I am ever grateful for your generosity and, above all, your compassion. Thank you for all that you do.

In gratitude,

Melissa Seide Rubin

**OUR LEADERSHIP**

Cleveland Amory, founder

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Who we are

THE FUND FOR ANIMALS is the nation’s largest and most diverse provider of direct care, rehabilitation and sanctuary for injured, neglected and other at-risk animals, whether wild, domesticated or companion. We help thousands of animals every year through four programs we operate in partnership with the Humane Society of the United States: the Cleveland Amory Black Beauty Ranch, Duchess Sanctuary, the Fund for Animals Wildlife Center and Rural Area Veterinary Services.

We can’t do this work alone. We need an informed and educated public to advocate for animals, and we need professionals who have experience with vulnerable animals and communities. That’s why each of the Fund for Animals’ programs offers specialized educational opportunities for veterinary professionals and students of biology, ecology, conservation and veterinary medicine from around the world, providing hands-on experience in caring for hundreds of species. In addition, the Fund for Animals advocates for public and corporate policies that protect animals, trains volunteers in animal care and teaches members of the public how to coexist peacefully with wildlife.

Our programs change the lives of animals in desperate situations. We rescue, treat, rehabilitate and, when necessary, offer a forever home. Our centers are accredited by the Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries, which recognizes organizations that meet the highest standards for animal care, facility management and governance.

Since our founding in 1967 by prominent author and animal advocate Cleveland Amory, we have dedicated every day to doing right by the animals in our care. Thanks to your support, we’re there for them when they need it most.
Located in the Southern California town of Ramona, our 13-acre Fund for Animals Wildlife Center treats ill, injured or distressed native predators. We provide exemplary medical treatment and rehabilitation, with the goal of releasing every patient back to the wild. As the only facility in this vast region of California with the means and expertise to care for black bears, bobcats and coyotes from intake to release, the center is a lifeline for vulnerable wildlife. And our enormous aviary—with 150 feet of flying space—makes us one of the only organizations in the state that can rehabilitate federally protected bald and golden eagles.

In 2019, we cared for 768 patients, representing nearly 100 different species. That was a 10% increase over last year. The hot summer and wet winter of 2018 created a lush landscape and favorable conditions for native wildlife, with abundant sources of food for predators. More births meant species rarely seen before needed our help. We successfully raised an orphaned American badger, a species the center hadn’t seen in 20 years. We worked closely with the Western Ecological Research Center, which is involved in the U.S. Geological Survey for American Badgers, and combined our resources to release the badger in prime habitat, giving him the best chance for success.

In a typical case of urban sprawl encroaching on wildlife habitat, a den of native gray foxes was unearthed at a construction site near the Mexico border, leaving a family of foxes homeless. A network of animal care agencies came together and, after several days, successfully captured the frightened mom. We rushed Mom and her six babies to our center. Fox kits have the best chance of remaining wild if they stay with their mother, so our team built a specially designed enclosure for the family. We provided a nutritional diet and the proper environment for Mom to raise her kits, and then let her follow her natural instincts. Periodic health checks over the next four months helped us decide when the family was ready to go back to the wild. Eventually, we were able to release the whole family into a beautiful native habitat within a 200-acre preserve, where they are now thriving.

2019 also brought us an unusually high number of black bears in need of supportive care. Because the center is one of only two organizations in California permitted to rehabilitate black bears, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife often turns to us for help. Our successes with these bears—and all the animals we serve—are a direct result of the generosity of our incredible supporters, the extraordinary work of our small but mighty staff, and the 119 volunteers and interns who collectively donated just shy of 14,000 hours of time in 2019.
Duchess Sanctuary

ON THE ROLLING HILLS of our 1,120-acre Duchess Sanctuary just outside Oakland, Oregon, more than 180 horses and a handful of donkeys roam on grassy pastures and amble through shady forests. The sanctuary’s mission is to provide them with a lifetime home while simultaneously protecting native wildlife and caring for the land.

Lifetime care for this aging population of horses and donkeys—many of whom are now seniors—takes a steadily increasing amount of time and resources. Looking after the needs of our elderly residents and those with medical issues is now a daily consideration at the sanctuary. Your generosity makes it possible for us to devote all necessary resources to the needs of our older animals and those with infirmities—including 31-year old Sugarbear, a horse who lives with our four donkeys. Sugarbear was once a barrel racer and came to Duchess in 2013 from a failing rescue organization in California. Three years ago, while on stall rest for a sore leg, she bonded with two jennies (female donkeys). Ever since, she has preferred living with the donkeys. Daily anti-inflammatories and special meals keep this senior lady looking and acting half her age.

Our special needs area includes three barns, 11 paddocks and three pastures. At the end of 2019, we were giving daily supplemental feed and attention to more than 60 equines who need additional care. Although providing this high level of individual attention is time-consuming, it’s essential to these animals’ health and well-being. It also ensures that we’re fulfilling the commitment we’ve made to these equines: to make the sanctuary not just their final home, but their best home.

Along with our residents, many species of wildlife find refuge on the sanctuary’s land. We were pleased to see a familiar elk herd return this year with many new members. It’s magical to watch more than 80 elk traverse the undulating landscape in a single bounding unit.

Thanks to our open houses, workshops and private tours, close to 500 people experienced the peaceful beauty of Duchess in person in 2019. Volunteers from surrounding communities and visitors from across the U.S. provided more than 2,000 hours of service to the sanctuary. We couldn’t do this work without them, and we can’t do it without you.

The equine residents at Duchess Sanctuary enjoy personalized care—and the occasional special treat.
Cleveland Amory Black Beauty Ranch

IN 2019, Cleveland Amory Black Beauty Ranch celebrated its 40th anniversary. Since its founding in 1979, Black Beauty Ranch has been providing world-class care to animals of all stripes and spots—animals like Loki the tiger, one of the newest arrivals. In February 2019, Houston police found Loki in an abandoned house. Loki was confined to a cramped transport crate, lying on layers of rotting hay and his own waste. It was a bleak situation, but Loki soon found a permanent home at the ranch.

“Remarkable” is how Black Beauty Ranch director Noelle Almrud describes the moment she saw Loki take his first steps in his new home. “It was just amazing to see him walk out on grass, explore and have freedom of movement. It was just so fulfilling for us,” she says. One year on, Loki has settled into his new life at the sanctuary and thoroughly enjoys exploring his multi-acre habitat, napping in his hammock and swimming in his pool.

One of Black Beauty Ranch’s priorities is assisting the Humane Society of the United States’ Animal Rescue Team by providing a home for animals seized in cases of cruelty and neglect. In March 2019, we answered the team’s call for help by offering sanctuary to 19 pigs seized from a cruelty situation at a Maryland farm. We also supported Humane Society International by providing a forever home to several animals rescued from terrible conditions at a roadside zoo in Montreal, Canada. The animals—including a zebra, wildebeest, nilgai and a family of red kangaroos—are thriving in their new, spacious habitats. We’ve also committed to taking an African lion and two tigers from the same roadside zoo, and we’re eagerly awaiting transport arrangements so they can come to their new home with us.
In the fall, Black Beauty Ranch welcomed Eve, a black bear transferred from the Fund for Animals Wildlife Center in Ramona, California. Eve—so nicknamed because she was rescued on Christmas Eve of 2017—was brought to the center by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. She was suffering from an acute case of mange (a skin disease caused by an infestation of mites) which caused all her fur to fall out and gave her severe secondary skin infections. Terribly emaciated, she would almost certainly have died had she not been rescued. Thanks to exemplary care and patience by the center’s expert team, Eve recovered and flourished. Unfortunately, her fur never completely grew back, which would make her vulnerable in the wild. Out of concern for her survival, we decided to give her a lifetime of safety and expert care at Black Beauty Ranch. In December, Eve moved into a newly built, state-of-the-art bear habitat specially designed to meet her unique physical, behavioral and psychological needs.

Some of the sanctuary’s other new residents include seven bison seized in a cruelty case in Washington State. Designated America’s national mammal in 2016, the bison is the largest land animal in North America, and we’re awed every time we see these majestic animals ambling through the sanctuary’s expansive open spaces. We’re proud of the life we’ve given them—and all our 800-plus animals—thanks to caring people like you who respond to the call when animals are in need.

An operation the size and caliber of Black Beauty Ranch requires constant maintenance, improvements and building projects. In 2019, we completed our wildlife habitat: a multi-acre, naturally wooded enclosure divided into one-acre yards. This habitat, which includes Eve’s new home, will allow us to take in additional big cats or bears in need. A generous $25,000 grant meant we were able to remodel our outdated food prep kitchen, and now animal care staff prepare delicious, healthy meals for our residents in a brand new, modern kitchen.

Finally, 2019 saw us expand our popular Ranch of Dreams tour program to twice a month. In partnership with other organizations, we bring small groups of visitors to the ranch, giving us an opportunity to educate people about the hardships and cruelties that our residents faced in their former lives. Our greatest hope is that visitors leave knowing how they can help make a difference for animals in their communities and throughout the country.
OUR RURAL AREA Veterinary Services program brings essential care to animals where no veterinary services exist. Combining high-quality veterinary field clinics with clinical training for future veterinary professionals, RAVS improves the health and welfare of animals in desperate need and provides valuable training and inspiration to current and future veterinary professionals.

In 2019, RAVS’ veterinary outreach teams provided medical and surgical care to 7,273 dogs and cats and delivered more than $1.35 million dollars in essential veterinary services, all at no cost to the families served. We engaged 340 volunteers and provided more than 200 veterinary and veterinary technician students with intensive, hands-on clinical training and supportive mentorship from veterinary professionals who believe in exceptional patient care and are dedicated to community service. As they see firsthand the challenges for people and animals in isolated, underserved communities, students learn how to apply their knowledge and skills to create meaningful change for animals. For many, the experience helps shape careers focused on animal welfare, community service and education.

RAVS is a national leader in promoting safe, quality care for animals in field clinic settings, and our staff regularly share protocols, training materials and other resources within the veterinary professional and
learning communities. We developed and presented several professional education events in 2019, including interactive online sessions, webinars, lectures, skills labs and online training videos. Participants learned how RAVS helps pet owners access the care they need, and they also received tools and opportunities to get involved with RAVS programs and similar projects throughout the country.

Our core RAVS team works primarily with isolated Native American communities throughout the western United States. Teams of experienced field staff and dedicated volunteers set up MASH-style mobile field clinics providing a range of critical services, including spay/neuter, preventive wellness care, emergency care and lifesaving surgeries. One of the animals we helped in 2019 was Cheetah, a shy, 8-week old kitten whose interest in delicious-smelling fish tackle ended with a fishhook through her lip. Removing a hook from a tiny kitten without anesthesia or the proper tools would have been difficult for Cheetah’s family and painful for Cheetah. Fortunately, Cheetah’s family brought her to our clinic in White Mountain, Arizona, where staff safely removed the hook. Just a short time later, Cheetah was eating and playing again.

During our November clinic in San Carlos, Arizona, the team treated multiple litters of puppies suffering from life-threatening parvovirus infections. Without accessible vaccinations and essential veterinary care, San Carlos and other underserved communities see frequent outbreaks of this highly contagious disease. This outbreak was particularly significant. Every day, concerned families brought their pups in for treatment while providing comfort and nursing care at home. By the end of the week, after many days of treatment, most of the puppies were feeling well enough to eat, drink and wag their tails again.

This is what RAVS is all about: providing lifesaving care to animals in communities where there are no other options, bringing relief to families who care deeply for their animals, and engaging dedicated professionals to train and inspire the next generation to provide exceptional, compassionate, conscientious care.

At a clinic in Belcourt, North Dakota, Jazzmin Keplin (below left) carries her cat, Baby Girl, to her car after examining; Adam Barratt (below right) registers clients waiting in line for veterinary services.
Hannah Shirley—a pygmy hippo rescued from the exotic pet trade in 2002—enjoys time in her pool at the Fund for Animals Wildlife Center. At 46 years old, Hannah Shirley is the oldest living pygmy hippo in North America.
The Fund for Animals

The Fund for Animals was founded in 1967 by prominent author and animal advocate Cleveland Amory. The Fund for Animals has spearheaded some of the most significant events in the history of the animal protection movement by employing hard-hitting advocacy campaigns and operating world-famous animal care facilities. The Fund for Animals’ historic victories have saved thousands of animals from cruelty and suffering.