

NEWS FROM...



RE: Jane's Trust Awards \$400,000 Grant to Support Palm Beach Zoo's Center for Conservation Medicine

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West Palm Beach, FL., July 13, 2007 - The Palm Beach Zoo has announced receipt of a \$400,000 grant from Boston-based Jane's Trust. The grant was made to support the development and implementation of the zoo's Conservation Medicine and Conservation Science programs. This two-year grant will help startup operations for the Zoo's Center for Conservation Medicine, a central component of the Melvin J. and Claire Levine Animal Care Complex which broke ground on May 29, 2007. The Center for Conservation Medicine will strive to link animal, human, and environmental health and welfare in the Southeastern United States.

Dr. Terry L. Maple, president and CEO of the Palm Beach Zoo said, "This is a very prestigious gift and a major contribution to the development of our conservation vision. While our zoo is not large by national standards, we are increasingly achieving recognition for our leadership in advancing conservation as an integral part of our mission. This generous grant from Jane's Trust is another endorsement of our tremendous potential here at the Palm Beach Zoo."

The degradation of the environment is often seen as only an environmental problem; however, the health and welfare of people, animals, and the environment are inextricably linked. Conservation medicine is an interdisciplinary field which has emerged in the last 20 years to address these connections and involves professionals from many different disciplines such as veterinarians, physicians, biologists, ecologists, psychologists, anthropologists, educators, and conservationists. The Center for Conservation Medicine will be a collaborative center for education, conservation, and scientific research. Scientists and students from Florida Atlantic University have been invited to participate in the Center's field activities.

Jane's Trust was created in 2002 and awards annual grants of approximately \$9 million in Florida and New England. Grants are made to support a variety of objectives, including interdisciplinary efforts to understand links between human and animal health and welfare. The Palm Beach Zoo joins other notable Jane's Trust grantees' such as 1000 Friends of Florida, Mote Marine Laboratory, and the National Wildlife Federation.

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