

2025 ANNUAL REPORT



MARYLAND'S 1ST & ONLY LICENSED WILDLIFE VETERINARY HOSPITAL
& REHABILITATION FACILITY
www.SCWC.org

An independent 501(c)3 non-profit
providing skilled and compassionate emergency treatment and long-term rehabilitative care
to thousands of injured, ill, and orphaned wild animals annually
– with the goal of releasing healthy animals back to the wild –
and educating the public about the importance of helping, protecting,
and safely co-existing with wildlife





UPDATE TO 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

SPECIAL INSERT:

Although this Annual Report focuses on 2025 financials, statistics, and events, we felt it was important to include this early 2026 milestone as it reflects our growth, vision, management, and outstanding quality of care
- making SCWC second to none in the state of Maryland:

Second Chance Wildlife Center Becomes Maryland's First and Only Licensed Veterinary Hospital Exclusively for Wildlife

HERE ARE A FEW EXCERPTS FROM OUR PRESS RELEASE:

Clarksburg, MD - April 24, 2026 - Nonprofit wildlife rehabilitation organization Second Chance Wildlife Center, Inc. (SCWC), currently celebrating its 31st year of service, proudly announced today that it has officially been licensed by the State Board of Veterinary Examiners as the **first and only Veterinary Hospital Exclusively for Wildlife in the state of Maryland** - marking a major milestone for the organization and for wildlife care across the region. **The organization will also continue to operate as a permit-holding wildlife rehabilitation facility.**

Becoming a licensed wildlife hospital recognizes the facility's advanced veterinary medical capabilities, ability to appropriately house and care for a variety of species, and a highly trained wildlife medicine and rehabilitation staff (including a full-time wildlife veterinarian). This groundbreaking designation comes shortly after SCWC moved all operations from a farmhouse in Gaithersburg, Maryland to a brand-new, custom-designed facility at 26400 Haines Road in Clarksburg in December 2025.

"Achieving this license reflects the unwavering commitment of Second Chance Wildlife Center and its supporters to providing comprehensive and compassionate care for injured, ill, and orphaned wildlife," said Maureen Smith, President of Second Chance Wildlife Center, "and **it elevates our organization's role from a traditional rehabilitation center to a fully recognized veterinary hospital; capable of delivering a higher level of diagnostic, surgical, and long-term treatment services.**"

"We have a front-row seat to the impacts on native wildlife secondary to habitat loss, illness, and human-caused injuries," said Dr. Natalie Zimmerman, SCWC's Director of Veterinary Medicine. "Becoming an officially licensed veterinary hospital for wildlife allows us to provide a higher caliber of care for our native wildlife and serve as a critical resource for the entire wildlife community in Maryland. "





BOARD CHAIRPERSON'S LETTER



For Second Chance Wildlife Center, Inc. (SCWC), 2025 brought realization of the dream of opening a state-of-the-art wildlife veterinary clinic and expansive outdoor enclosure campus in Clarksburg, MD. After years of focused planning, fund raising, and construction supervision, SCWC began full operations in December to enhance its mission of providing compassionate emergency and rehabilitative care for wildlife patients on a virtually 24/7 basis.

The new facility – which in early 2026 was officially certified as a wildlife veterinary “hospital” – is custom designed specifically for wildlife emergency care and rehabilitation and has a clinic building nearly three-times the size of its prior 100-year-old farmhouse and pre-release outdoor enclosures providing nearly 10-times more space.

We continue to be deeply proud of SCWC’s staff who treated each wildlife patient with skilled care and optimized scheduling and cost efficiency while promoting strong morale during long and busy work shifts. During the year, SCWC admitted 2,568 patients (representing 138 species) with each receiving expert care and benefitting from donations enabling our team to purchase essential supplies, medications, and specific food for each species’ age and medical condition.

The staff deserve additional praise for all the while having supervised the construction implementation of this sophisticated facility that provides, for example, separate temperature and humidity control meeting the needs of the diverse range of our wildlife patients.

As the facility was fully funded by private donors, we are especially grateful to our many contributors whose generosity is a testament to their recognition of the importance of SCWC’s mission to care for and heal our precious wildlife neighbors. Entering 2026, we are enthusiastic about being able to take advantage of the enhanced patient-care capabilities of our new facility and to expand our educational outreach to the public to protect and safely co-exist with our wildlife neighbors.

With gratitude,
Kenneth R. Button





OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Each member of our all-volunteer Board of Directors is passionate about protecting and healing wildlife and 100% committed to their fiduciary responsibilities in guiding SCWC. Additionally, each brings unique life experience and expertise to support the needs of our special organization.

Kenneth Button, MBA, Ph.D. - Chair

Expertise: Economist, Business Valuation, Executive Leadership

Janice Hazlehurst - Vice Chair

Expertise: Project Management, Budget Management, Volunteering for Animal-Centric Non-Profits

Jane Acri, Ph.D - Secretary

Expertise: Neuroscience Research, Science Education

Carol Barnard, CPA, CFE, MBA - Treasurer

Expertise: Non-Profit Accounting, Certified Fraud Examiner

Mariana Acevedo, Esq.

Expertise: Law / Trial Attorney

Harriett Crosby

Expertise: Environmental Policy & Legislation,
Owner: Organic Farm & Learning Center

Susan McCurdy, CMCA, PCAM

Expertise: Business Leadership, Entrepreneur, Community Engagement

Barry Meil

Expertise: Entrepreneur, Non-Profit Leadership, Business Development

Charles "Chuck" Szollosy, PE, LEED AP, CEM, GBE

Expertise: Engineering, Small Business Leadership

Lucas Webster, Esq.

Expertise: Construction Law / Attorney

Board Member Giving in 2025: 100%



Board member trained in feeding baby squirrels



Board member assisting with tours of the new facility prior to opening



Board member educating a group on the importance of trees for people & wildlife



Many SCWC Board members were able to join SCWC's president at our New Facility Ribbon Cutting in November 2025

CURRENT BOARD COMMITTEES:

Executive
Finance
Construction
Human Resources



2025 FAST FACTS



- **Founded in 1995.** 2025 marked SCWC's **30th anniversary**.
- **Admitted 2,568 patients.** Injured, ill, and orphaned wildlife are brought to us from across the state. In 2025, some rescuers traveled 2-3 hours to reach us, drawn by SCWC's strong reputation and its expertise in treating a variety of species.
- **Admitted 138 different species.** One of the most impressive things about our team is the depth and breadth of knowledge that they possess - and apply daily - to provide customized care for the many wildlife species that come through our door each year. For example, some birds are seed eaters. Some eat insects and prefer food that wiggles. Some nest up high, some down low. Some are migratory and need to be rehabilitated and back on their way before seasons change, etc. Differences abound in anatomy, resilience, diets, and more across the birds, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians that we treat.
- **2025 Animal Care Staff** included Wildlife Veterinarian, Clinic Director, Rehabilitation Technicians, and Telephone Hotline/Patient Admissions staff. Shifts cover **365 days a year, including holidays**.
- **Total 2025 Volunteer & College Intern Hours: 6,426.** Assisted with housekeeping, animal meal preparation, patient weight checks, medical chart updates, some feedings, enclosure prep and cleanings, and some releases.
- **Average expense per patient in 2025: ~\$274.** We never charge individuals for services.
- Worked with **Federal, state & local health agencies** to identify and track Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza ("Bird Flu"), as well as animal diseases that could infect humans like West Nile Virus and Rabies.
- **Moved to new campus in Clarksburg, MD** on December 8, 2025.





A NEW HOME FOR SECOND CHANCE: OPENED DECEMBER 8, 2025

26400 Haines Rd., Clarksburg, MD 20871

- **\$6M+ Project: Land, construction & equipment paid entirely by private donations.** No loans. No mortgage. No government grants.
- Custom-designed for rehabilitation: X-ray room, individual room climate controls and lighting for different species, a hydrotherapy room, turtle egg incubator, more and larger outdoor enclosures, etc.
- Compared to prior facility, our new campus has **3x more** interior space in the main building and **10x more** enclosure space outdoors – including **the only flight conditioning enclosure of its kind** for large birds in Maryland.
- **Educational Displays** in Admissions area – with more to come.
- The ribbon-cutting event was attended by many VIPs, including representatives from the offices of **Maryland Governor Wes Moore, the Montgomery County Executive and County Council, the State House of Delegates** – each presenting SCWC with a proclamation of congratulations and appreciation.



Aerial view of new facility outdoor enclosures



ALL NEW, CUSTOM-DESIGNED FACILITIES





WE ARE ACCREDITED AND REPUTABLE...

- **501(c)3 Charitable Organization in “Good Standing”** per Maryland’s Secretary of State.
- **SCWC maintains the highest ratings possible from independent charity evaluators Candid/GuideStar (Platinum rating) and Charity Navigator (4 out of 4 stars).**
- **Audited annually** by an independent agency (currently Linton, Shafer, Warfield & Garrett). **SCWC’s 2025 financials received a “clean” audit letter with no deficiencies reported.**
- **We review and update our Financial Controls** annually to safeguard assets against fraud and theft, and to ensure accurate financial reporting.
- Selby & Poulin CPAs provide annual tax filing services and monthly financial bookkeeping reviews.
- Licensed to operate under **permits issued annually by the state of Maryland and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.**
- Fully Insured for **General Liability, Cyber Security, D&O, Employment Practices, and Workers Compensation.**
- Policies address **Non-discrimination, Document Retention, Non-retaliation, and Conflict of Interest** and more.
- **10 Person All Volunteer Board of Directors:** Reviewed Financials monthly. Submitted all Annual Conflict of Interest Statements & Board Responsibility Acknowledgement documents. Reviewed By-Laws. Reviewed and approved all major construction expenses at the recommendation of the Construction Committee.



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ACCREDITED AND REPUTABLE...(cont'd).

- **Experienced Non-Profit/Business Leadership:**
Staff President, Maureen Smith (serving SCWC Oct. 2018 – present):
 - Former President: Jane Goodall Institute
 - Former Senior Executive: National Wildlife Federation
 - Former EVP/GM: Animal Planet TV
- **Clinic Director & Wildlife Veterinarian:** 20+ years combined wildlife care experience at licensed facilities in 8 states, bringing best practices to SCWC.
- **Wildlife Rehabilitation Technicians:** Degrees include Biology, Wildlife Biology, Ecology, Environmental Science, and more. Prior roles at other animal care facilities (including the Smithsonian National Zoo), as an Animal Services officer, and volunteering or interning at SCWC and elsewhere.
- Our **Employee Handbook** and **Standard Operating Procedures Manual** are updated regularly and are required reading annually.
- SCWC is a member of the **International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council, National Wildlife Rehabilitator's Association, and Maryland Wildlife Rehabilitators Association.**
- **Recipient of State and County proclamations honoring SCWC** for providing outstanding service to the community.
- Member **Germantown-Gaithersburg Chamber of Commerce.**
- We have a formal partnership agreement with **Montgomery County Animal Services** to provide care for wildlife that the County doesn't have the resources to provide.





WHY REHABILITATE?

- Since 1970, **50% of the World's wildlife species populations have disappeared.***
- **Commercial and residential development continue to expand** - destroying habitat, displacing wildlife, and increasing negative encounters with humans that often result in injury or death to the animals (collisions with automobiles & lawnmowers, nest destroyed by tree trimming and/or tree removal, window strikes, etc.).
- **Ecosystems are out of balance.**
- **Misunderstood animals are important to save, too:**
 - **Opossums** eat small critters covered in ticks (helping to prevent the spread of Lyme disease without spreading the disease themselves).
 - **Bats** consume pesky mosquitos and are pollinators.
 - **Vultures** prevent the spread of disease from roadside animal carcasses and other waste/trash.
 - **Snakes** are a natural form of rodent control.
 - **Snapping Turtles** keep waters healthy by consuming dead fish and other decaying material.
- **Every healthy native and migratory animal we can return to the environment is a win for people and wildlife!**

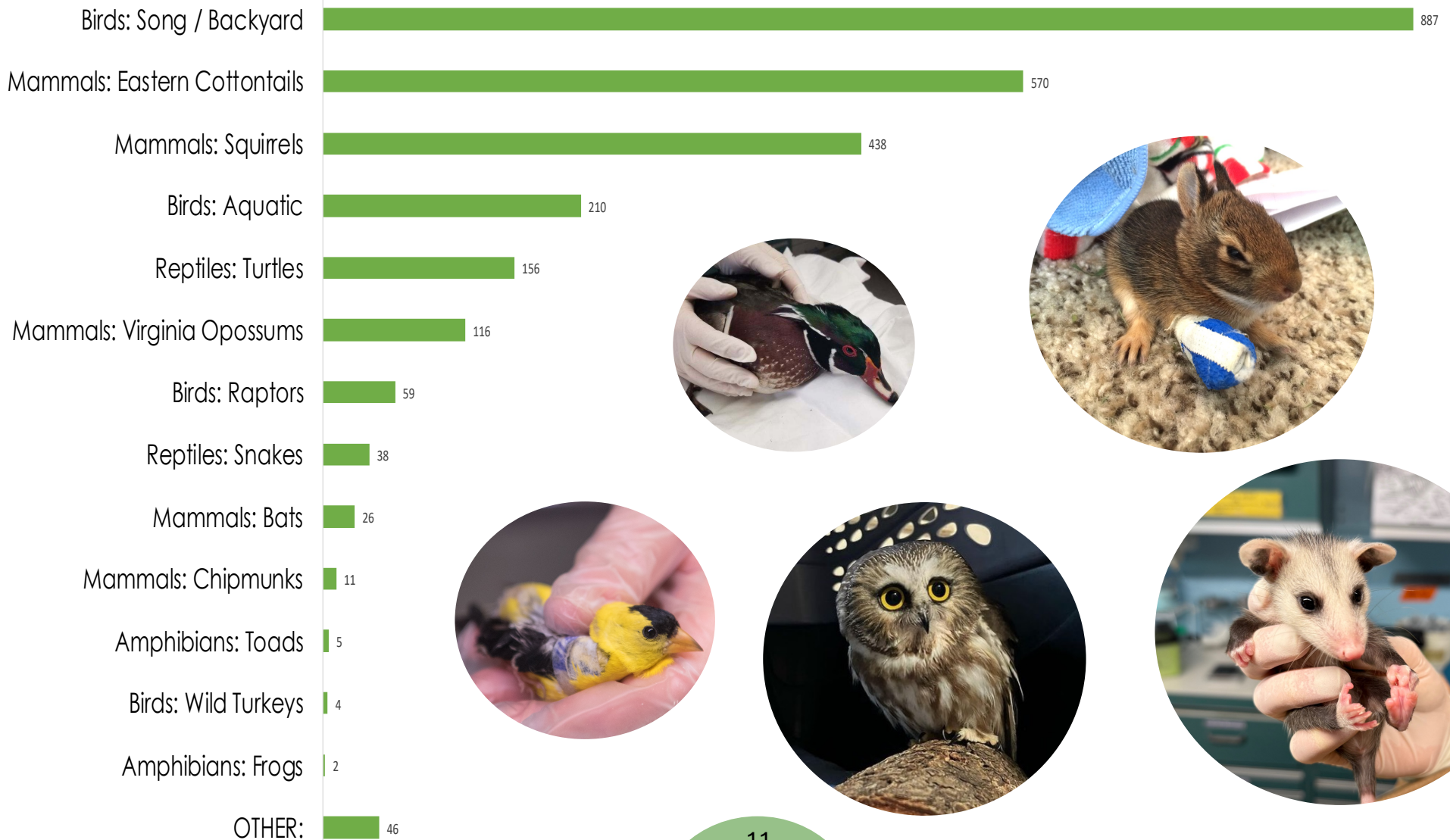


* World Wildlife Fund report 2020



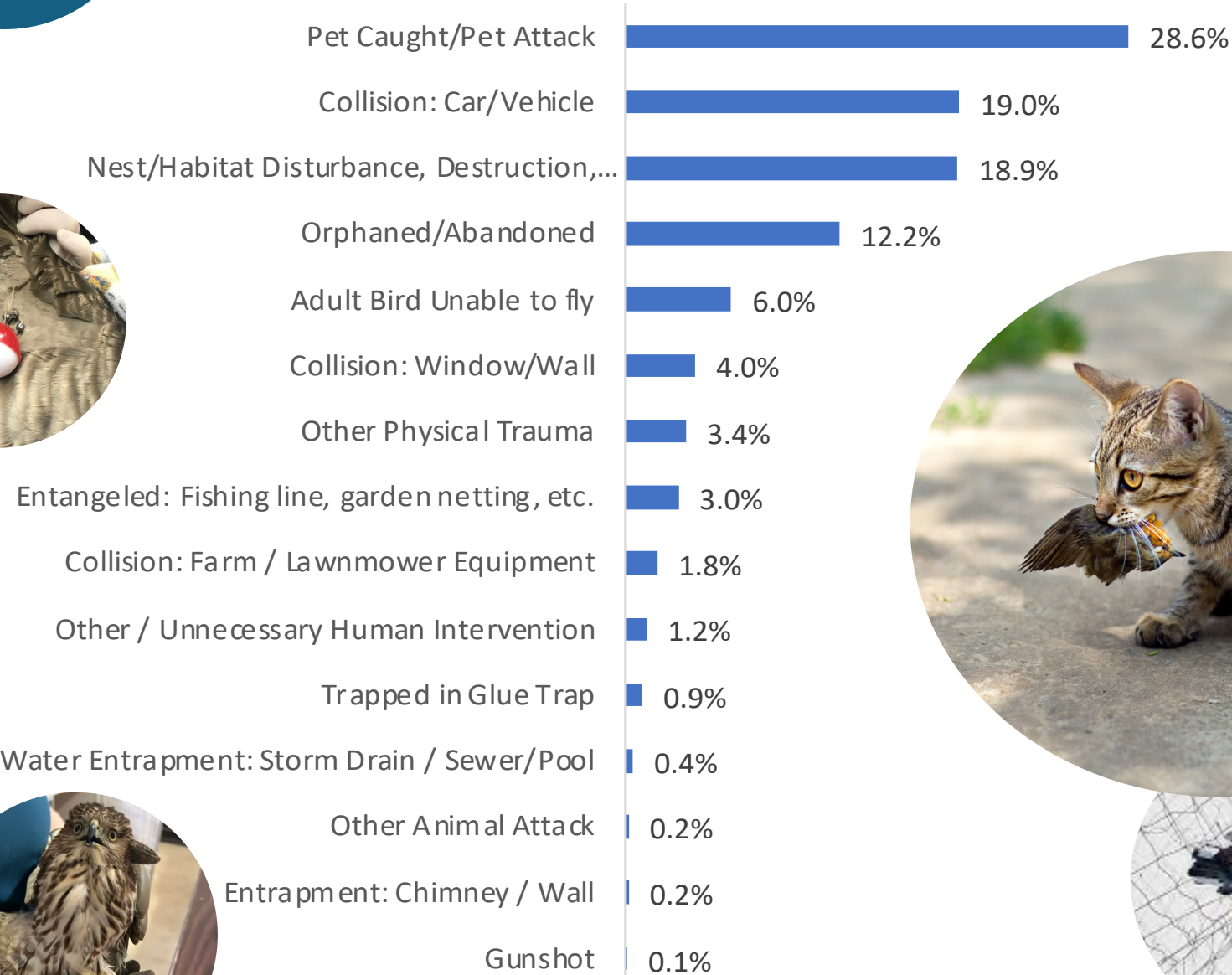
2025 PATIENT STATISTICS: 2,568 ADMISSIONS

138
SPECIES





2025 PATIENT STATISTICS: REASONS FOR ADMISSION





EDUCATION: A KEY PART OF OUR MISSION

- In 2025, we responded to ~8,000 telephone calls and emails from people seeking our expert guidance on animal rescue situations, animal behavior, and more.
- Our **social media platforms, brochures, videos, email blasts, newsletters, and website** provided important information about safely co-existing with wildlife, simple tips people can do at home to avoid injuring wildlife, and more. Our Facebook page, alone, reached over 32,000 people with educational information multiple times each month. In 2026 we will expand to new social media platforms and enhance our presence on current platforms.
- **SCWC's College Internship Program** provided hands-on experience and expert mentorship to students considering careers in wildlife rehabilitation, biology, veterinary medicine, environmental science, etc.
- SCWC's President served (and continues to serve) on the **Montgomery County, Maryland Animal Services Advisory Board** and its **Community Outreach Subcommittee**. We are working with the County's translation team to have SCWC educational messaging translated into numerous languages.



COMING IN EARLY 2026: We are **launching an all-new Education & Engagement Program led by a wildlife education specialist with over 15 years of experience.** Groups and businesses can arrange for presentations on a wide array of interesting and important Topics and hands-on workshops for all age groups. Information can be found at: www.SCWC.org/Education.

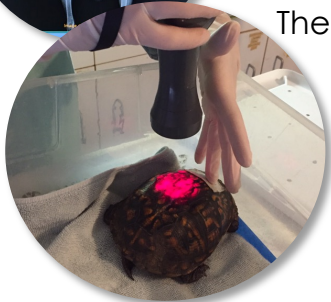




ESSENTIAL OPERATIONAL EXPENSES

- **Species-specific foods.** Live insects and fish, nuts, formulas, fresh fruits & vegetables.
- **Medications and Vitamins.** Antibiotics, anti-inflammatory & pain medications, hydration fluids, and oxygen are used daily; others are acquired and used as needed.
- **Operational Necessities:** Business insurance, utilities, annual permit fees, computers & printers, cleaning supplies, biohazard waste removal, financial service fees, payroll & payroll taxes, patient databases & bookkeeping software, etc.
- **The Wildlife Rehab field has a high turnover rate due to the hours, traditionally low pay, and stress of the job. We have focused on attracting, training, and retaining high-quality Staff** via competitive wages, health insurance, continuing education & training, career growth opportunities, how we approach scheduling shifts, and more. This has resulted in greater retention and maximizing our investment in recruiting and training.
- **Medical Equipment & Supplies.** Repair or replacement of X-ray machine and accessories, cold laser therapy system, blood panel analysis kits, surgical lights, microscopes, incubators, refrigerators and freezers, and more. Bandages, splints, surgical tools, syringes and needles, feeding tubes. Surgical masks and gloves, etc.
- Whenever possible, SCWC seeks donated or discounted supplies, equipment and services. The need for fresh produce and "live" food items requires having cash resources on hand to purchase these essentials as needed.

The costs of these essentials continue to rise. With expanded capacity for patients at the new center, our expenses for these essentials will increase even more. Your support is critical to our ability to continue to provide life-saving resources.





2024 AUDITED FINANCIALS

(Fiscal Year Ending 12/31/25)

SCWC Leadership, including the Board Finance Committee, works diligently to protect its assets via investment diversification, monthly and annual financial reviews, frequent vendor evaluations, and business insurance policies. SCWC Financials are audited annually by an independent, licensed third-party accounting firm.

Active fundraising for our new facility construction project is reflected in our Audited Financials as assets and cash. A majority of those funds (excluding operational funds and reserves) was depleted as construction continued toward completion in late 2025, and as the project wraps up in 2026. The need for operational funds is ongoing.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS	
Current Assets	1,000,261
Property & Equipment	7,272,146
Investments	0
Total Assets	8,272,407

LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	
Current Liabilities	410,954
Net Assets - without donor restrictions	7,853,418
Net Assets - with donor restrictions	8,035 *
Total Net Assets	7,861,453
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	8,272,407

* Restricted to new building fund, including equipment

SCHEDULE OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

Program	797,726	78%
Management & General Admin	138,080	13% **
Fundraising	90,101	9% **
TOTAL FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES	1,025,907	

** SCWC's construction project has required extra administrative work and fundraising in 2025

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Donations & Grants	828,604 ***
In-kind Donations	116,636 ****
Investment Income	66,011
Donated Stocks	14,829
County Animal Services Contract	93,424
Product Sales (portable mew)- Net	-732
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	0
Total Income	1,121,021

*** Includes restricted donations, primarily for the new facility building fund, including equipment

**** In-kind donations consisted primarily of construction legal services and construction project management services



GIVE WITH CONFIDENCE





HOW YOU CAN HELP WILDLIFE BY SUPPORTING SECOND CHANCE

No two days are alike at Second Chance. Fresh foods, clinic supplies, and medications can be very costly, and produce and medications expire quickly and cannot be purchased in bulk and stored away. Financial contributions are always preferred as they provide us with the ability to quickly acquire specifically needed items regardless of which animals arrive at our door and what their specific needs are.

Financial Contributions

Financial contributions may be made via:

Checks mailed to: Second Chance Wildlife Center, 26400 Haines Rd., Clarksburg, MD 20871.

Online payments via credit card: www.SCWC.org/donate (note: subject to third party fees).

Ask your employer to include Second Chance Wildlife Center in its **corporate matching or giving program**, or to offer a grant to SCWC. If participating in a United Way campaign, designate your gift to #8901. Use #65923 for CFC.

Workplace Giving

Ask friends to donate to SCWC instead of buying you a traditional gift for birthdays, weddings, graduations, etc. Many suggest donations to SCWC in lieu of flowers for funerals.

Donate cleaning products, postage stamps, office supplies, towels, black-and-white newspaper, as well as gift cards for groceries (Giant Foods) and gas (for driving animals to be released across the state). A list of specific items we need is our website (www.scwc.org). These can be delivered directly to our facility (please be sure to call us at 301-926-9453 in advance to coordinate).

Donations Instead of Presents

Local places of worship, scout troops, schools, and other groups have been successful in hosting group **donation drives** to provide SCWC with needed supplies. It's easy!

If you are more than 70.5 years old and have an IRA, speak with a tax or financial advisor to see if making a **Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)** can benefit you and Second Chance.

Donate stocks.

Include SCWC in your **estate planning**.

Estate Planning

Host a Donation Drive

Consider Making A QCD

Contact us at Info@SCWC.org for more information on any of the items listed above.



ANOTHER WAY TO HELP: VOLUNTEER OR DIRECT VOLUNTEERS TO US!

Animal Care volunteers have always been essential to our ability to function.

In 2026, we will be offering some new roles, too - creating new opportunities for more people to help wildlife based on their interests, skills, and availability.

Volunteer opportunities being offered in 2026 include:

- **Animal Care:** Patient food prep, feeding & weighing babies, maintaining enclosures, cleaning animal care equipment and facilities, etc.
- **Greeters.** People helping assist rescuers with the admissions process and forms at our front door/admissions area.
- **Housekeeping.** Assist with laundry, sweeping/mopping, dusting, etc.
- **Volunteer Coordination.** Supporting our staff efforts in recruiting and onboarding volunteers, volunteer communications, and maintaining our volunteer database.

We welcome inquiries from businesses seeking volunteer projects for employees

All volunteers working on the campus must be at least 18 years old.



We have had great success working with Eagle Scouts on projects that they can build at home or elsewhere. Girl Scout troops have held donation drives and donated proceeds from cookie sales. If you know of a scout or troop looking to help wildlife, have them reach out to us.

Volunteer information is available on our website and via email (Volunteer@SCWC.org).



RETURNING HEALTHY ANIMALS BACK HOME
TO THE WILD
IS THE BEST PART OF OUR WORK,
AND IS ONLY POSSIBLE THANKS TO OUR
DONORS



IRS #:
52-1927600



Scan this QR code to
watch a video compilation of
several great SCWC releases on YouTube
(if you don't have YouTube Premium
a random advertisement might play first)



GIVE WITH CONFIDENCE