



Veterinary Initiative for  
Endangered Wildlife

**2025**

Annual  
Report

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# LETTER FROM THE VIEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DR. DEBORAH MCCAULEY

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Dear Friends,

As we close this year 2025, I want to thank you for standing with VIEW and with the wildlife we serve. Your generosity makes it possible to bring health, science, and hope to some of the most threatened species and places on Earth.

This year, your support strengthened wildlife health systems in East Africa, the Greater Yellowstone, and Asia—supporting veterinarians on the ground, advancing disease surveillance and research, and investing in the people who will carry this work forward. We are now receiving results from our pesticide study with Yale University and look forward to publishing these findings in the coming year. At the same time, VIEW trained the next generation of conservation leaders by mentoring students and early-career professionals in the Greater Yellowstone and internationally in Africa and Asia, combined hands-on field experience with rigorous training in wildlife health, research design, and disease surveillance. All this to ensure conservation efforts are guided by skilled, locally rooted experts for years to come.

Because of you, wildlife health is becoming a foundation for long-term success. We are deeply mindful that every dollar you give represents trust. We take our responsibility as stewards of your investment seriously, and we remain committed to delivering measurable, lasting impact for wildlife and the people who protect them.

Thank you for believing in VIEW's mission and for being part of this growing community of leaders who are shaping the future of conservation. We look forward to continuing this important work together in the year ahead.

**With gratitude,**  
Dr. Deborah McCauley  
Executive Director & Co-Founder  
Veterinary Initiative for Endangered Wildlife (VIEW)



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# OUR MISSION

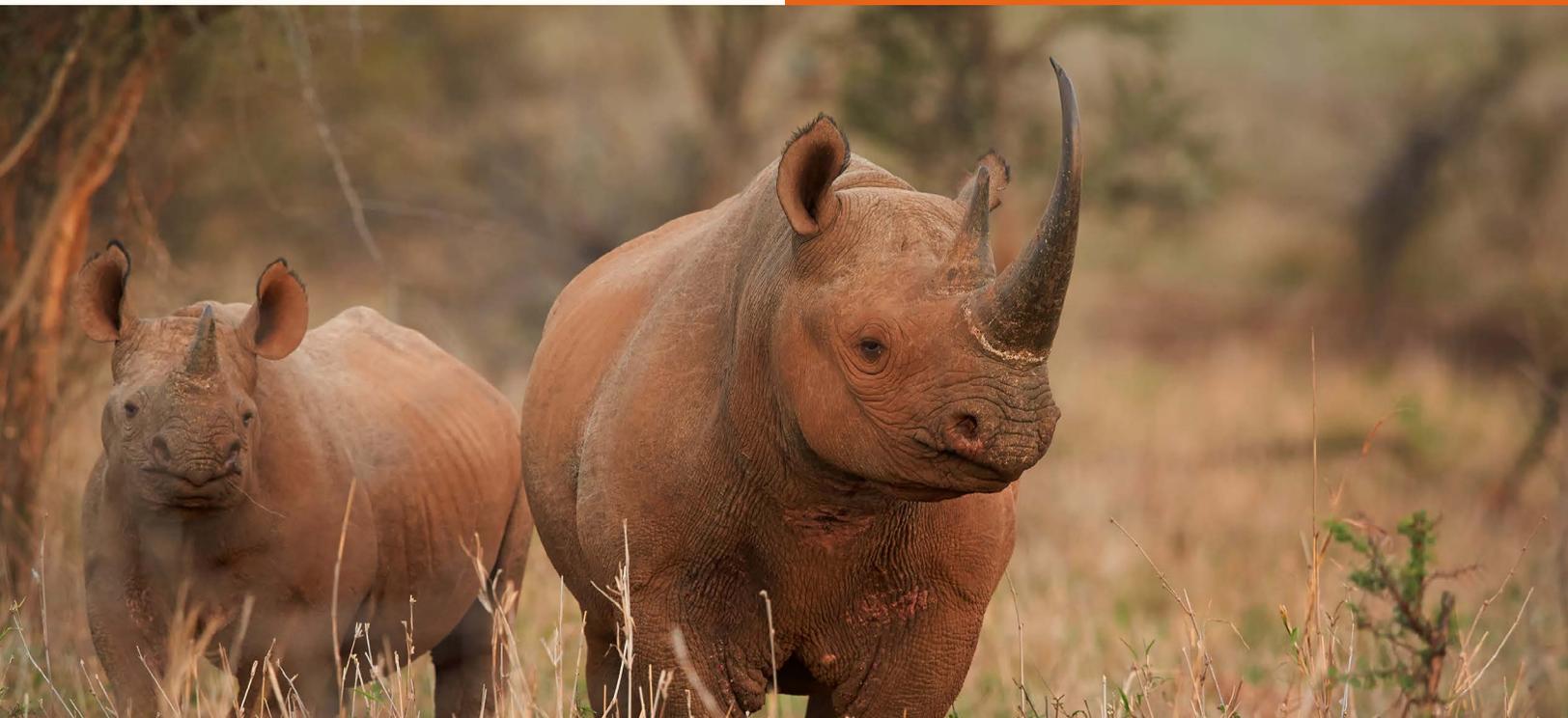
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*VIEW's mission is to protect endangered wildlife by tackling the health threats they face in their native habitats*

*VIEW envisions a world where all countries have the commitment and local capacity to support wildlife health as a cornerstone of conservation.*

# OUR VISION

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## Where VIEW Works

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VIEW makes a global impact on wildlife health by working in North America, Asia, and Africa. Through education, infrastructure development, technology, research, and policy advocacy, we help create healthy environments for wildlife, domestic animals, and the people who share their habitats.

# Our Partners and Collaborators

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VIEW's work is made possible through a strong network of formal partners and collaborators, including local wildlife professionals, veterinarians, governmental agencies, universities, and conservation organizations. We work alongside those with deep local knowledge to develop wildlife health strategies that are practical, locally informed, and responsive to on-the-ground needs.

Our formal partnerships provide the foundation for long-term capacity building, while collaboration with a broader community of experts allows us to share knowledge, resources, and best practices across regions and disciplines. Together, these relationships strengthen local leadership, ensure the durability of our research and training efforts, and support communities in managing their own wildlife health initiatives. We are deeply grateful to all of our partners and collaborators whose commitment and support make this work possible.





IUCN  
PRIMATES  
SECTION ON  
SMALL APES



Yale



## A special thank you to our funders:

We are deeply grateful to our funders—Conservation Nation and the Arcus Foundation—for their continued partnership and support. Your investment in VIEW’s mission has made it possible to advance innovative wildlife health initiatives, strengthen local leadership, and safeguard endangered species around the world. Through your commitment, we are able to build lasting programs that support resilient ecosystems and a healthier future for wildlife and the communities that depend on them.

# Rewilding Rwanda

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Rwanda's successful rewilding efforts have restored populations of elephants, rhinos, and other key species, increasing the need for specialized wildlife health expertise to ensure long-term conservation success. VIEW's Rewilding Rwanda program focuses on strengthening national veterinary capacity, advancing wildlife disease surveillance, and integrating One Health approaches that link the health of wildlife, livestock, people, and ecosystems.

Through hands-on training, applied research, and institutional partnerships, VIEW supports locally led wildlife health systems critical to sustaining rewilding outcomes. In 2025, the program emphasized advanced clinical training, diagnostics, disease surveillance, and regional collaboration across Rwanda and Kenya, while elevating national leadership in wildlife health research and education.

## Key Achievements & Impacts

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Mentorship is at the heart of VIEW's Rewilding Rwanda program. In 2025, VIEW focused on advancing the training and leadership of wildlife veterinarians Drs. Charline Rutagengwa and David Murenzi.

### David Murenzi

- Conducted elephant-focused field research and health observations contributing to ongoing conservation and research objectives.
- Worked with the Rwanda Development Board to strengthen national wildlife disease surveillance, supporting the development and integration of wildlife reporting within the electronic Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (eIDSR) system.
- Supported regional conservation education initiatives and facilitated the People & Pachyderms Collective workshop focused on elephant and rhino health and applied field training.



- Completed advanced wildlife veterinary training at The Wilds Safari Park in the United States, gaining hands-on experience in clinical care, diagnostics, anesthesia monitoring, and herd health management with an emphasis on rhinos and elephants.
- Contributed veterinary and One Health perspectives to the development of MSc programs at the University of Rwanda and led end-of-year technical reporting for Conservation Nation.

## Charline Rutagengwa

- Mentored university students and professionals through One Health experiential field training with the University of Rwanda, focusing on wildlife–livestock interactions, surveillance, and applied One Health approaches.
- Co-facilitated wildlife health, hematology, and diagnostics workshops at Ol Jogi Wildlife Conservancy, delivering hands-on training in fecal examinations, hematology, neonatal wildlife care, and emergency stabilization of elephant and rhino calves.



- Completed a 3 months intensive clinical internship with Kenya Wildlife Service and Mount Kenya Wildlife Conservancy, contributing to high-impact conservation activities including rhino ear-notching and translocation, elephant collaring, wound management, postmortem investigations, and neonatal rhino care.
- Led applied research efforts, completing Rwanda's first pesticide exposure biomonitoring study for elephants and rhinos in collaboration with Yale University and presenting preliminary findings at the Wildlife Research and Training Institute (WRTI) Conference in Naivasha.

- Delivered a keynote lecture during World AMR Awareness Week addressing antimicrobial resistance as a One Health crisis in Rwanda and contributed to national consultations for new MSc programs in Wildlife Health & Management and Veterinary Preventive Medicine & Public Health.



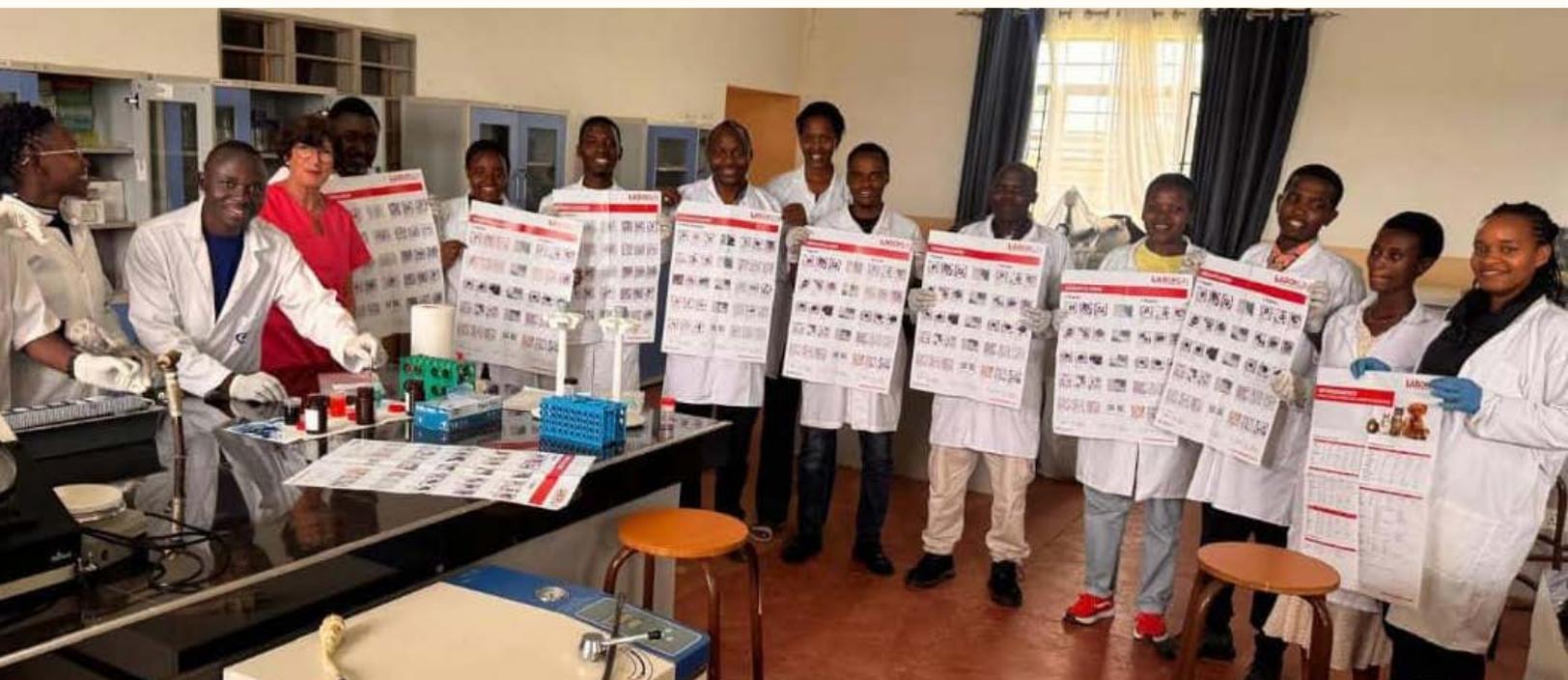
## Looking Ahead

In the coming year, VIEW will support the University of Rwanda's efforts to sustainably integrate wildlife health into conservation efforts by adding two new master's programs at the veterinary school, strengthening community-based wildlife disease surveillance, and on-the-ground wildlife veterinary response with local partners. Through sustained partnerships and locally led leadership, VIEW remains committed to ensuring that Rwanda's rewilding successes are supported by strong, resilient wildlife health systems.

# East Africa Center for Wildlife

Launched in 2024, the East Africa Center for Wildlife Health is a collaborative initiative between VIEW and Ol Jogi Wildlife Conservancy to strengthen wildlife health systems across Eastern Africa. In summer 2025, VIEW and Ol Jogi soft-launched the Center at Ol Jogi Conservancy in the heart of Kenya—a 70,000-acre private landscape located along the main safari route and within Kenya's expanding rhino range. This region is home to critically endangered eastern black rhinoceros, as well as elephants, giraffes, and other iconic species increasingly threatened by disease as people, livestock, and wildlife share

the same space. Together, VIEW and Ol Jogi are building the infrastructure, veterinary capacity, and protocols needed to provide consistent, high-quality wildlife care and enable rapid emergency response. Ol Jogi has constructed a wildlife veterinary hospital equipped with a surgical theater, laboratory, and digital x-ray capabilities. VIEW is working to outfit the facility with advanced diagnostic equipment and support mobile veterinary operations, ensuring the Center functions as a regional hub for urgent wildlife care, applied research, and training.



## Highlight

In 2025, VIEW was honored to partner with Bärbel Köhler to deliver hands-on wildlife health and diagnostic training in Kenya and Rwanda, strengthening local veterinary and laboratory capacity. Through workshops focused on hematology, clinical pathology, and diagnostic interpretation particularly for endangered species such as elephants and rhinoceros. Her mentorship helped equip conservation professionals with practical, field-ready skills. We are deeply grateful to Bärbel for her expertise, generosity, and commitment to mentorship. Project Animal Aid donated essential diagnostic equipment, VETSCAN VS2 and HM5 analyzers, and Bärbel incorporated these tools into hands-on diagnostic training, further strengthening local laboratory capacity.

# Key Achievements & Impacts



- **Strengthening Capacity Through Training and Mentorship:** In 2025, VIEW and partners delivered hands-on wildlife health and diagnostic workshops in Kenya and Rwanda focused on hematology, clinical pathology, and integrated diagnostic interpretation—including blood sample collection and analysis—for endangered species such as elephants and rhinoceros, strengthening local veterinary and laboratory capacity and enabling more effective disease response, safer captures and translocations, population-level health monitoring, and long-term, locally led wildlife health systems.

- **Scientific Data for Smarter Conservation:** The East Africa Center is being developed as a collaborative platform for wildlife health training, applied research, and disease surveillance. Central to this work is VIEW's **Wildlife Health Information System (WHIS)**, digital health surveillance system, which will support coordinated data collection, improve disease detection, and facilitate evidence-based decision-making across the region. VIEW and Ol Jogi also aim to strengthen collaboration with the Kenya Wildlife Service, supporting veterinary capacity for field teams and contributing to wildlife health efforts at a national scale.



## Looking Ahead

In 2025, VIEW focused on laying the foundation for the East Africa Center through planning, partnerships, and early training initiatives. Beginning in 2026, the East Africa Center will serve as the regional hub for VIEW's work across Eastern Africa, training wildlife professionals by building the skills, systems, and technology needed to protect endangered species. Some anticipated next steps include expanding training programs, continuing mentorship of regional professionals, and developing infrastructure to host trainees, researchers, and visiting experts. Over the next three years, this collaborative effort aims to integrate wildlife health more deeply into existing conservation programs, advance critical research, and empower local professionals with the tools and technology needed to protect wildlife for the long term.

# WHIS

Wildlife Health Information System

Modern wildlife conservation demands digital tools that prioritize health and disease surveillance. VIEW's Wildlife Health Information System (WHIS) is a cloud-based, field-ready medical record platform designed by wildlife veterinarians for government agencies, conservation organizations, and researchers. WHIS enables real-time tracking, mapping, and reporting of endangered wildlife health

data, allowing professionals to detect, respond to, and prevent disease outbreaks before they drive population declines or extinction. Beyond conservation impact, WHIS strengthens global health security. Because 75% of emerging infectious diseases are zoonotic, improved wildlife health monitoring helps reduce the risk of future outbreaks and pandemics, protecting both ecosystems and human populations.



Unhealthy Wildlife



Sample Collection



Data Entry &  
Digital Downloads



Research &  
Reporting



Healthy  
Populations



# Key Achievements & Impacts

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- Strengthened WHIS’s technical foundation for long-term impact. In 2025, VIEW partnered with an experienced software development firm to enhance WHIS’s underlying architecture, significantly improving data security and positioning the platform to support more sophisticated features and future growth.
- Advanced core, field-ready capabilities critical to wildlife conservation. WHIS is now positioned to offer highly customizable forms—allowing diverse conservation professionals to define, collect, and manage the exact data their work demands plus offline functionality. Together, these features support wildlife health monitoring at a level of flexibility and field usability rarely available in conservation technology.

## Looking Ahead

- **Completing development and field deployment:** With WHIS’s core architecture and key features in place, the next phase focuses on refining functionality, improving user experience, and supporting pilot deployments with wildlife veterinarians and conservation teams in the field.
- **Expanding disease surveillance and data-driven conservation:** As WHIS comes fully online, it will enable earlier detection of emerging health threats, stronger cross-site learning, and more coordinated responses to disease risks facing endangered wildlife.
- **Unlocking WHIS’s full potential through strategic investment:** Continued support will accelerate development, strengthen technical oversight, and ensure WHIS can scale responsibly—delivering a secure, field-ready platform capable of transforming how wildlife health data informs conservation action worldwide.

# Elephant Health

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Elephant endotheliotropic herpesvirus (EEHV) remains the largest cause of death in young Asian elephant calves under human care and poses a growing concern for the long-term sustainability of both managed and semi-managed elephant populations. Despite its devastating impacts, many gaps remain in our understanding of EEHV

epidemiology, immune response, and risk factors. VIEW continues to support EEHV research and capacity building through international collaboration, applied field research, and training initiatives aimed at improving early detection, surveillance, and long-term management of this disease.



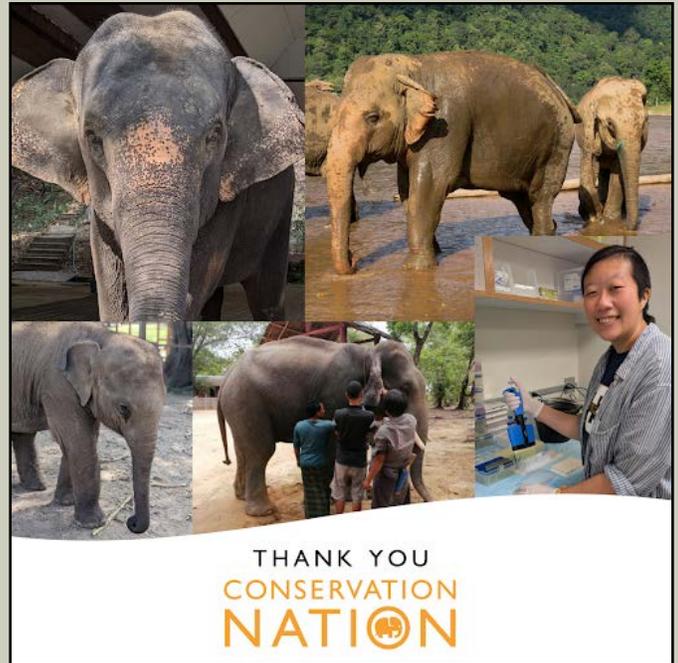
## Key Achievements and Impacts:

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- Expanded EEHV research in Myanmar: In February, Dr. Jenn Yu traveled to Yangon, Myanmar to meet with elephant veterinary staff and the Nature Conservation Society–Myanmar (NCSM). During this visit, she transferred sampling supplies, conducted a project orientation meeting, reviewed protocols and project plans, and demonstrated basic sampling techniques to field veterinarians.
- Research dissemination and professional recognition: Dr. Yu presented findings from the North American EEHV serology project at the North American EEHV Advisory Group (NAEAG) EEHV Workshop in May, the American Association of Zoo Veterinarians (AAZV) Conference in August, where she was awarded second place in the graduate student presentation competition, and the International Elephant Foundation (IEF) Symposium/ Global EEHV Summit in December.



- Non-invasive sampling of wild elephants: In October, our field partners completed opportunistic non-invasive sampling of wild elephants in Myanmar, collecting 32 fecal samples and 7 chewed browse samples, expanding insight into EEHV exposure beyond managed populations
- Large-scale EEHV serology sampling: Cross-sectional serum sampling for the Myanmar EEHV serology project was initiated in April and completed in September. In total, blood samples were collected from 553 semi-managed elephants, representing one of the largest EEHV serological datasets from the region to date



..... **Highlight** .....

**Secured funding support:** In October–November, Dr. Yu was awarded a 2025 Conservation Nation grant to support Myanmar EEHV research costs, including travel for elephant field veterinarians and international sample shipping. Conservation Nation has been a vital partner to VIEW, supporting numerous projects over time, and we sincerely thank them for their continued commitment to elephant conservation.

## Looking Ahead

In the coming year, our field partners will initiate longitudinal sampling of a subset of juvenile elephants to better understand EEHV immune dynamics over time. The program will continue working closely with the Nature Conservation Society–Myanmar to strengthen local research capacity and ensure sustainable implementation of EEHV surveillance efforts. A key priority will be transferring the first set of Myanmar samples to the United States for laboratory testing, which will require additional funding to support specialized serological analysis. Through these efforts, VIEW aims to advance early detection, improve disease management strategies, and contribute to the long-term health and resilience of elephant populations.

# Mentoring Young Wildlife Professionals

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Mentoring early-career conservationists is a core component of VIEW's mission to build sustainable wildlife health programs and prepare the next generation of wildlife professionals. Through hands-on research opportunities, professional guidance, and real-world training, VIEW supports students and emerging professionals as they develop the skills needed to lead future conservation and wildlife health efforts. While this program is designed to

mentor all aspiring professionals, VIEW places a purposeful emphasis on supporting women, who have historically been underrepresented in leadership roles within science and conservation. In 2025, this commitment was exemplified through VIEW's continued mentorship program with an undergraduate intern whose work focused on wildlife health and human-wildlife interactions in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.



# Greater Yellowstone Wildlife Health Internship

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VIEW continues to mentor intern Sydney Watts, a Montana State University student, whose work over the past year has focused on wildlife health and human-wildlife interactions in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem under the guidance of veterinarian Kelsey Martin.. Sydney has been observing an elk herd whose migration route may be affected by heavy traffic along a busy highway corridor in the Gallatin Valley. Heavy traffic along this corridor has restricted movement and disrupted seasonal migration routes, prompting concerns among local veterinarians and community members about potential health impacts on the herd.

The observational research focused on assessing physical indicators of herd health, including signs of lameness and alopecia. These conditions can be associated with health implications beyond trauma and include: parasites, bacterial, and environmental stressors that may affect elk survival during Montana's rough winter months. Using a combination of stake-out observations and strategically placed trail cameras, field data was collected and analyzed by documenting herd size, movement patterns, behavior, and physical condition. Working alongside local wildlife experts and veterinarians, Sydney gained hands-on experience conducting applied wildlife health research in a real-world conservation setting.



## Looking Ahead

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Building on the success of mentoring emerging professionals, VIEW plans to expand internship and mentorship opportunities, both locally and abroad. VIEW will continue to mentor and support veterinarians, strengthening local leadership, clinical skills, and wildlife health capacity. By investing in the next generation across regions, VIEW is cultivating young conservationists to help them address wildlife health challenges wherever they arise.

# Gibbon Health and Rehabilitation

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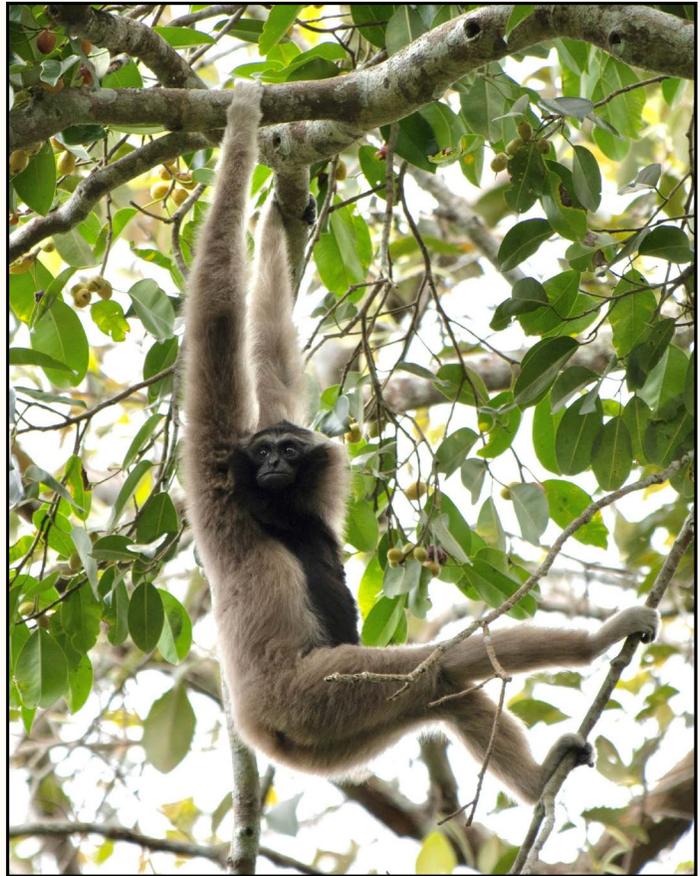
In 2025, VIEW completed Phase I of the Gibbon Health and Rehabilitation Project, an initiative focused on improving veterinary care and rehabilitation outcomes for some of the world's most endangered primates. Working in close partnership with rehabilitation centers and the IUCN Section on Small Apes, VIEW helped strengthen veterinary capacity, standardized health practices, and expanded collaboration across gibbon range countries to support safe rehabilitation and release.



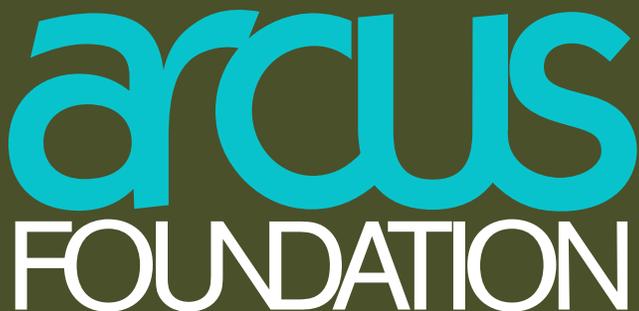
# Key Achievements and Impacts:

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- Regional collaboration: Partnered with 21 gibbon rehabilitation centers across eight Southeast Asian countries, building a coordinated network of veterinarians and care teams.
- Standardized veterinary care: Advanced shared health protocols and improved medical data management, with 11 centers onboarded to a shared medical database.
- Capacity building: Supported 10 early-career veterinarians through hands-on internships, on-site training visits, and global expert-led webinars.
- Equipment and infrastructure support: Delivered over \$4,000 in diagnostic equipment and supplies to strengthen on-site veterinary capacity.
- In-country technical support: Regional coordinators conducted pre-release and annual health checks and assisted with establishing diagnostic laboratories at centers in Malaysia, India, and Bangladesh.
- Knowledge sharing and training: Hosted interactive webinars on pathology, hepatitis B, dental care, dermatology, parasitology, and hand-raising gibbon infants and juveniles, connecting an average of 20 veterinarians per session. Global leadership: Co-founded the Gibbon Health Working Group with the IUCN Section on Small Apes, contributing to the development of international guidelines for gibbon health and rehabilitation.



## Looking Ahead



This project established a strong foundation for coordinated gibbon health efforts across Asia, strengthening how endangered gibbons receive care and rehabilitation. Building on this progress, local partners are now leading ongoing implementation, ensuring that gibbon health and conservation efforts continue in a sustainable, locally driven way. This work was made possible through the generous support of the Arcus Foundation.

# EVENTS IN 2025

## Jan–Feb 2025

- Gibbon Health Training: Hosted a virtual training on pre-release health requirements and protocols for gibbons, led by Florian Magne (HURO Programme), with participation from 17 gibbon rehabilitation centers across Asia.
- Gibbon Health Training: Delivered a Primate Dentistry Q&A session for range-country veterinarians, led by Dr. Boaz Azri and Dr. Janny Evenhuis, covering anesthesia, dental radiology, endodontics, and field equipment.
- In Rwanda, Dr. Rutagengwa participated in One Health Experiential Field Training with the University of Rwanda.
- In Kenya, Dr. Rutagengwa co-facilitated a Wildlife Health, Hematology, and Diagnostics Workshop at Ol Jogi Wildlife Conservancy.
- In Rwanda, Dr. Murenzi conducted elephant-focused field research and health observations.
- In Asia, Dr. Yu traveled to Yangon, Myanmar, to work with elephant veterinary teams and the Nature Conservation Society–Myanmar.

## Mar–Apr 2025

- Gibbon Health Training: Hosted a pathology best practices webinar focused on necropsy preparation, specimen preservation, and histopathology interpretation.
- Gibbon Health Training: Delivered a webinar on hepatitis B Virus in gibbons, covering transmission, prevalence, and management in rehabilitation settings.
- In Africa, Dr. Rutagengwa participated in Community-Based Wildlife Disease Surveillance Training in Arusha, Tanzania.
- In Kenya, Dr. Rutagengwa delivered Neonatal Wildlife Care training at Ol Jogi and provided follow-up veterinary support.
- Dr. Yu initiated cross-sectional serum sampling for the Myanmar EEHV serology project.

## May–Jun 2025

- Gibbon Health Training: Hosted a dermatology webinar addressing intake exams, dermatophyte infections, and common skin conditions encountered in the field.
- Gibbon Health Research Planning: Convened veterinarians and gibbon health professionals from 10 in situ centers to identify priority research gaps and plan Phase II research.
- In Africa, Dr. Rutagengwa completed an intensive clinical internship with the Kenya Wildlife Service and Mount Kenya Wildlife Conservancy.
- In Rwanda, Dr. Murenzi worked with the Rwanda Development Board on national wildlife disease surveillance and eIDSR system strengthening.
- Dr. Yu presented EEHV serology research at the North American EEHV Advisory Group Workshop hosted by the Oklahoma City Zoo.

## Jul 2025

- VIEW veterinarians hosted a student conservation immersion program at Ol Jogi Conservancy in Kenya, bringing together high school students from the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, South Africa, and Europe for hands-on veterinary learning, wildlife safaris, field-based conservation education, and cultural exchange that inspired future conservation leaders.

## Jul–Aug 2025

- Dr. Murenzi facilitated a People and Pachyderm Collective workshop under Conservation Nation, bringing together organizations working at the interface of elephant and rhinoceros conservation, human–wildlife conflict, and wildlife health to strengthen regional collaborations and coordinated partnerships.
- Dr. Yu presented EEHV serology research at the American Association of Zoo Veterinarians Conference, earning second place in the graduate student presentation competition.

## Sept 2025

- Gibbon Health Webinar: Hosted a Gibbon Health and Rescue webinar, focusing on best practices for rescue, rehabilitation, and health management in gibbon conservation programs.
- In Africa, Dr. Rutagengwa presented pesticide exposure research at the Wildlife Research and Training Institute Conference.
- In Asia, Dr. Yu completed cross-sectional serum sampling for the Myanmar EEHV project, with blood collected from 553 semi-managed elephants.

## Oct–Nov 2025

- Gibbon Health Webinar: Delivered a webinar on herpesviruses in gibbons, covering disease risk, detection, and management in rehabilitation and conservation settings.
- In Rwanda, Dr. Rutagengwa delivered a Clinical Laboratory Pathology Training Workshop at the University of Rwanda and contributed to national MSc program development consultations.
- In the USA, Dr. Murenzi completed advanced veterinary training at The Wilds and participated in a Clinical Pathology workshop.
- Dr. Yu was awarded a 2025 Conservation Nation grant supporting Myanmar EEHV research and completed opportunistic non-invasive sampling of wild elephants.
- Dr. McCauley delivered two speaking engagements at Cornell University, sharing VIEW’s work with veterinary students and the broader campus community. These events fostered meaningful connectivity between, the University of Rwanda Wildlife Club and Cornell’s Zoo and Wildlife Society—creating new pathways for collaboration, knowledge exchange, and future field-based partnerships in wildlife health and conservation.

## Dec 2025

- Our VIEW vets in Rwanda have contributed to MSc program planning and led end-of-year technical reporting for Conservation Nation.
- Dr. Yu presented EEHV research findings at the International Elephant Foundation Symposium and participated in the Global EEHV Summit.

# The Impact of Your Support



Your support directly powered the progress highlighted throughout this report. In 2025, it enabled VIEW to advance critical wildlife health initiatives, including launching the East Africa Center for Wildlife Health, expanding hands-on training for conservation professionals, and strengthening the tools and systems veterinarians rely on to protect endangered species.

We are deeply grateful to our grant partners whose investment supported applied research, regional collaboration, and capacity-building efforts that extend far beyond any single project. These partnerships allow VIEW to translate expertise into practical, field-ready solutions.

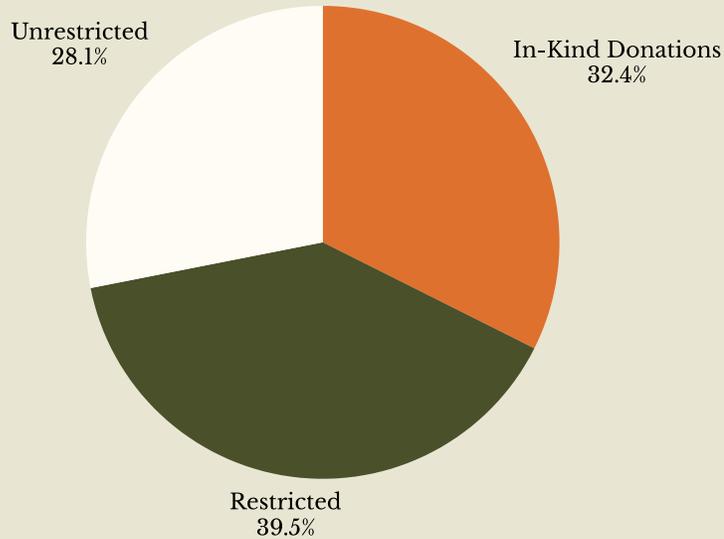
With a strong financial foundation and sustained donor support, VIEW enters the years ahead well positioned to build on this momentum. Your commitment allows us to invest confidently in programs that strengthen wildlife health systems and empower local conservation leaders. We are honored to have you as part of this work.

Thank You!

# Financial Report

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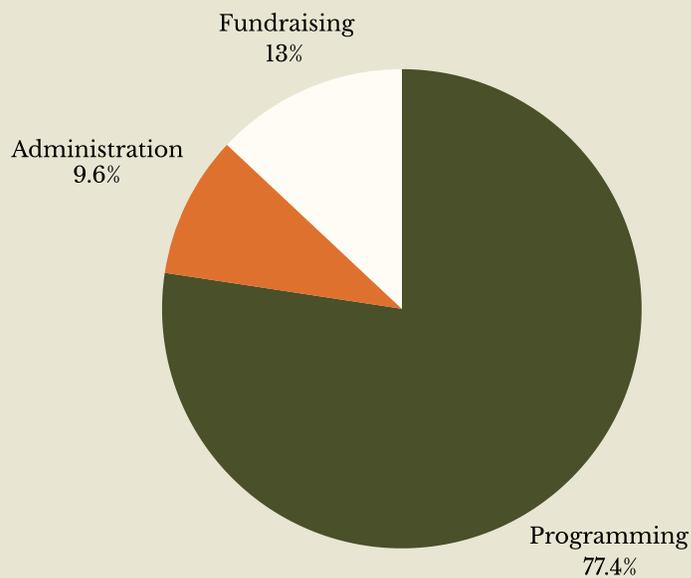
## Income



**Total: \$847,391**

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## Expenditures



**Total: \$995,988**



**VIEW**



Visit us at  
[www.viewwildlife.org](http://www.viewwildlife.org)