The Pat Derby Animal Wellness Center significantly elevates the level of veterinary care that we can provide to the animals living in our sanctuary. Historically, the majority of veterinary procedures have been performed in the field (literally), in the animals’ enclosures. While the level of veterinary care we have always provided is excellent and comprehensive, there are situations where we have had to transport animals to U.C. Davis Veterinary Hospital for advanced procedures such as major surgery and dental extractions. This new facility allows us to do more procedures on site which is less stressful for animals. The Wellness Center also allows us to hospitalize animals in need of specialized treatments and care, and its conference room serves as a location for meetings with animal care specialists, scientists, and captive wildlife organizational leaders.

THE BEGINNING
• The first set of blueprints for The Pat Derby Animal Wellness Center were completed in February 2015.
• The official ground breaking took place in March 2015.
• Construction began in June 2015.

GENERAL DESIGN
• The Wellness center was built by Juston Plummer, owner of Plummerbuilt, Inc. in Herald, California.
• The building is 1,800 square feet in size.
• PAWS Director of Veterinary Services, Dr. Jackie Gai, designed the floor plan of the facility and acted as the interior designer for the project, choosing all cabinets, countertops, flooring, window coverings, and paint colors as well as selecting all furniture and equipment.
• The blue floor is painted concrete with a protective epoxy coating.
• The wood-look floors in the veterinary office and conference room are a commercial grade luxury vinyl by Kolay.

ENERGY-EFFICIENT FEATURES
• The Wellness Center, like all buildings at PAWS, is powered by solar energy. Panels are located on top of the large elephant barns (left).
• The exterior walls are 12¼” thick, and densely insulated; interior walls are 6” thick and also insulated. This is a combined total of more than 18” of insulation, keeping the building cool in the summer and warm in the winter.
• Ceiling lights are motion-activated — turning on when you enter a room and off when you leave.

continued on reverse
Ceiling lights in the main treatment room contain LED bulbs, which are more energy-friendly than incandescent or fluorescent. Each room has its own independently controlled heating and air conditioning unit. In case of an emergency power outage, there is a propane-powered generator that will automatically turn on if needed.

**FUN FACTS**

- The roll-up door in the main room is tall enough, and wide enough, for a tractor or trailer to back in and drop off an animal in a transport cage.
- At times it’s possible to see all of the PAWS elephants from the conference room windows — if they are standing in the right locations in their habitats!
- Most of the books on the shelves in the conference room are from Pat Derby’s personal library.
- PAWS is developing an externship program for veterinary students interested in learning about elephants, and sanctuary medicine.

**YOUR DONATIONS TO PAWS FOR VETERINARY CARE ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED**

$100 will help pay for one blood panel for an elephant. Blood work is performed at regular intervals as part of PAWS’ comprehensive preventative health program.

$250 will help pay for an anesthetized physical examination for a tiger. Tigers are only anesthetized when necessary to perform diagnostic tests and other needed procedures. During an anesthetized exam, blood and urine is collected for routine testing, and medications are given. Special drugs are used to safely induce and maintain anesthesia during the procedure.

$500 will help pay for a month’s supply of liquid vitamin E supplement for all elephants. Elephants in captivity require vitamin E in their daily diet to remain healthy.

$1,000 will help pay for all lab work performed on all animals during a typical month. In addition to routine blood samples from elephants, and diagnostic samples from other animals that have been examined, routine fecal testing is performed to make sure animals remain free of parasites. New animals require a series of fecal and other testing during their initial quarantine period to make sure they are healthy.

$2,500 will help pay for specialty veterinary care for individual animals with special needs. For example, it is sometimes necessary to take a tiger to a specialty facility for advanced diagnostics such as a CT scan or MRI. Also, we sometimes call on veterinary specialists to come to PAWS to assist with complicated surgeries that are best performed by board-certified specialists. While many of these professionals generously volunteer their services, there are still costs associated with these procedures that must be covered.

*Please visit our Amazon.com Wish List for additional items that we purchase on an ongoing basis. Many of the animals that we care for are elderly, and therefore require special supplements and medications for conditions such as arthritis and kidney disease.*