

A close-up photograph of a young monkey with dark brown fur and large, expressive brown eyes. The monkey is perched on a thick, textured tree branch, looking directly at the camera with a curious expression. The background is a soft-focus green forest.

JAGUAR RESCUE CENTER

ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

2023

THANK YOU NOTE

As we navigate through uncertain times marked by significant social and environmental challenges, our mission at JRC becomes increasingly vital. Founded within my house, our journey has expanded to address escalating demands and evolving challenges.

In 2023, our 15th anniversary year, we witnessed a surge in animal intake, surpassing previous records, underscoring the urgency of our work. This year alone, 2023, we received admitted 1001 injured, orphaned or abandoned animals in need of specialized care that only we can offer in the area.

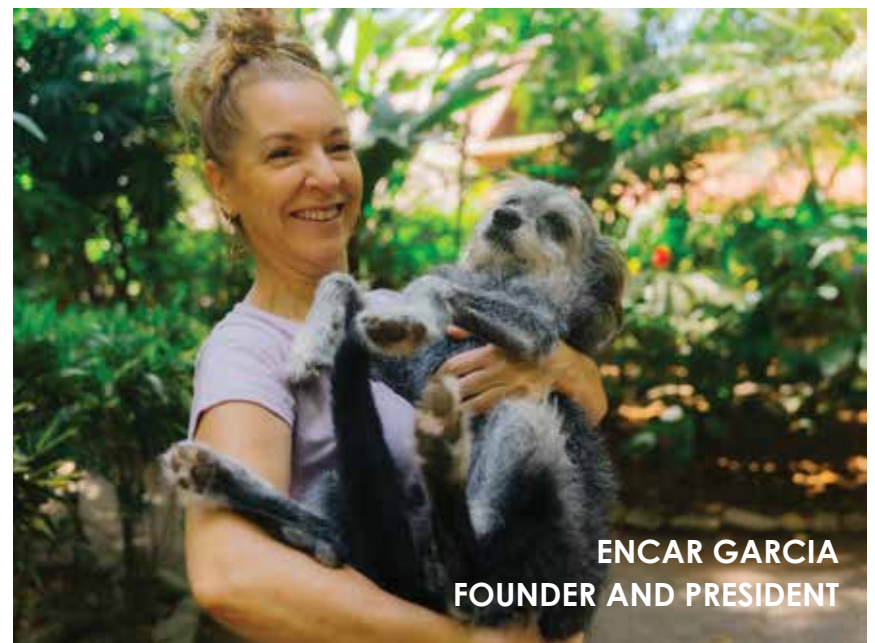
The year 2023 propelled us to embrace the significance of the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), guiding our efforts towards environmental preservation and responsible resource management. Through strategic partnerships with diverse stakeholders, we championed collaborative initiatives to protect tropical forests and wildlife.

Our JRC Sanctuary has successfully obtained the prestigious Biosphere Certification awarded by the Responsible Tourism Institute (RTI). We are the first organization in Costa Rica to receive this distinction. This esteemed certification not only acknowledges our dedication to preserving fragile ecosystems but also demonstrates our adherence to rigorous standards and enhances our credibility, inspiring trust among stakeholders and the wider community.

Furthermore, Biosphere certification serves as a catalyst for innovation, driving continuous improvement in our practices and fostering a culture of responsibility towards the planet. Ultimately, it positions us as a leader in conservation efforts, paving the way for positive impact and long-term ecological resilience.

Now, as we embark on the exhilarating journey of 2024, we stand poised to unveil new and transformative projects. Your continued support and partnerships are indispensable as we strive to realize our vision of a sustainable future. We value the trust you've given us, creating a legacy to keep our planet's treasures safe for the future.

Thank you for your unwavering support and belief in our mission.



ENCAR GARCIA
FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT



THE CENTER

The JRC, situated in Talamanca canton, Limón province, in Costa Rica's South Caribbean region, comprises two distinct locations. The rescue center and sanctuary facilities, spanning 1.5 hectares, are situated in Cocles, adjacent to the Caribbean Sea.

The sanctuary serves as a haven for animals that, regrettably, cannot be reintegrated into their natural habitat due to physical or behavioral limitations. Within the sanctuary, all their needs are met, ensuring their utmost well-being.

The rescue center, the project's inception, is committed to safeguarding Costa Rica's fauna. It operates in accordance with conservation principles, aiming to reintroduce as many animals as possible into their natural environment under optimal conditions.

The center also houses a nature reserve, where select rescued and rehabilitated animals are released.

The La Ceiba release site is located 4.5 kilometers away from the JRC, along the route to Punta Uva. Starting in 2014, a total of 15 hectares of property were acquired and authorized for management.

Additionally, permission was granted to oversee an additional 35 hectares, resulting in a combined area of 50 hectares. Within this expanse of tropical humid forest, 35 hectares consist of primary forest, while the remainder constitutes secondary forest.

Notably, this secondary forest is encompassed by 68 hectares of well-preserved forest.

MISSION – VISION – VALUES



MISSION

Established in 2008, the JRC is an organization dedicated to helping animals in need. With unwavering care and love, the JRC rehabilitates injured, sick and orphaned animals and releases those back to good health back into the wild. Through educational outreach, the JRC provides environmental awareness, promotes a harmonious relationship with native wildlife, and encourages the community to protect our delicate ecosystems.

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VISION AND VALUES

We are a self-governing entity, maintaining independence in both political and economic aspects. Our primary objectives revolve around fairness, support, social responsibility, and environmental preservation. Through innovative and interdisciplinary approaches, we strive to protect and restore endangered wildlife populations.

Our collaborators are at the core of our existence and actions. We foster professional relationships founded on respect, trust, assistance, empathy, and a shared commitment to progress.

The JRC endeavors to expand its role as a leading institution in wildlife conservation and scientific exploration. Our mission encompasses not only the rehabilitation of numerous animals to their natural habitats but also the advancement of scientific knowledge. By endorsing national and international research initiatives focused on studying distinct animals and ecosystems along Costa Rica's Caribbean coast, we contribute to a deeper understanding of these unique environments.

OUR WORK

The center's three primary areas of focus are as follows:

a) CONSERVATION:

The center's core mission, since its establishment, has always revolved around safeguarding wildlife that has been directly or indirectly endangered by human activities.



b) EDUCATION:

Our aim is to promote environmental education and raise awareness about the impact of our actions on wildlife and the significance of conservation through guided tours and engaging activities with communities and institutions.

c) RESEARCH:

The center conducts various research endeavors encompassing wildlife ecology, biology, veterinary medicine, and other related fields. Several scientific studies are currently undergoing advanced review for future publication.

Presently, the center is engaged in multiple avenues of research that are advancing and expanding in accordance with the funding allocated to them. Additionally, the center actively collaborates with both domestic and international universities through agreements, enabling the execution of specific studies within its premises.



OUR VALUED STAKEHOLDERS

Communities: These are the diverse human groups residing in the areas where the JRC operates. The JRC's core mission is centered around serving and collaborating with these communities, including indigenous peoples, children, and adolescents.

Donors: This group consists of individuals, corporations, and institutions who generously contribute. Their support plays an integral role in realizing the center's vision and fulfilling its mission.

Collaborators: They are the dedicated individuals who work for the JRC, including both employees and volunteers. Their valuable efforts contribute significantly to the work carried out by the center.

The management team: Comprises the top governing body responsible for setting the organization's strategy and overseeing its operations. Women make up 58% of the team.

Institutional entities: This includes government-controlled organizations like SENASA, MINAE, Municipality of Talamanca, Ministry of Finance, Comptroller General, and others. JRC communicates, reports to, and fulfills their requirements.

A close-up photograph of a blue and green parrot, possibly a Red-bellied Parrot, perched on a branch. The parrot has a blue head and neck, a red patch on its throat, and green feathers on its body. The background is blurred, showing more of the parrot and some foliage.

Regional conservationist organizations

Scientific community

The general public.

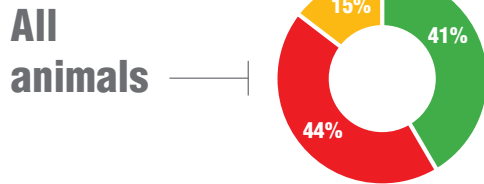
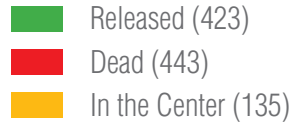
This encompasses all sectors of society not previously mentioned. This includes significant stakeholders such as international and national visitors, as well as national and international media.

SUSTAINABILITY

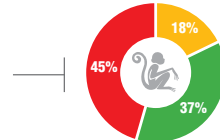
Sustainability is not only linked to the environment, but also to the social and economic environment, thus forming the three pillars that aim to guarantee the integrity of the planet and improve the quality of life. We want to show our stakeholders the economic, environmental, social and governance performance of our organization.



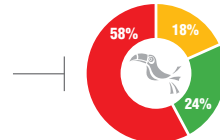
1001 Rescued animals



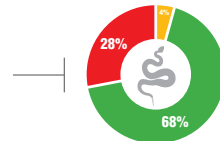
Mammals



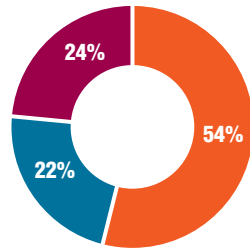
Birds



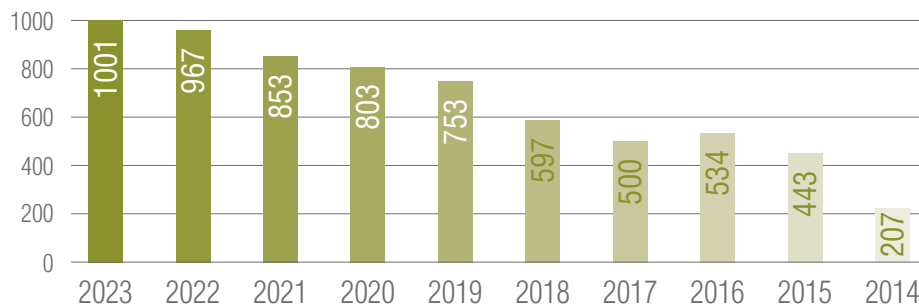
Reptiles



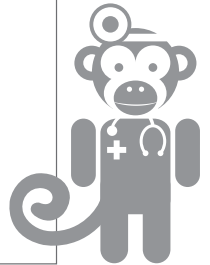
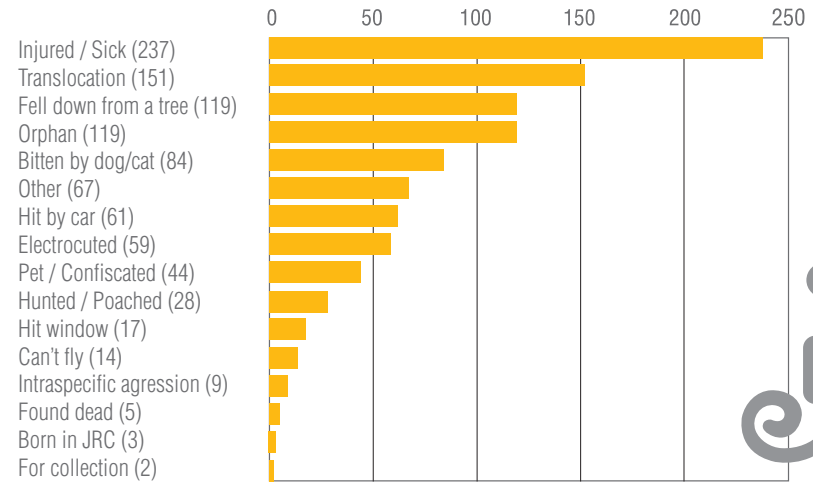
All animals (1001)



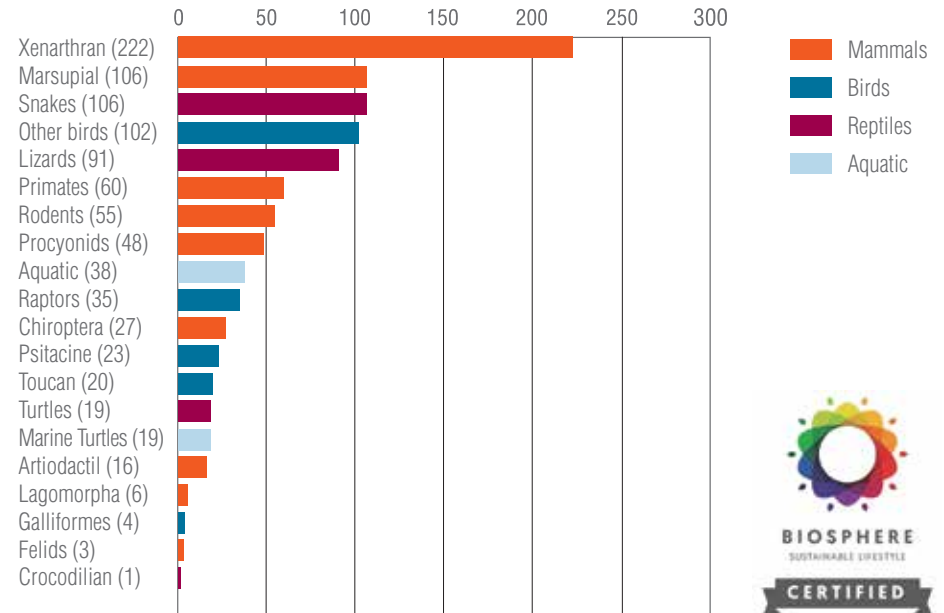
Admissions per year



Cause of admission



Admission by taxon



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

As mentioned, the center has three primary functions: conservation, research, and education. Concerning conservation, the center carries out the following tasks:

Animal Rescue

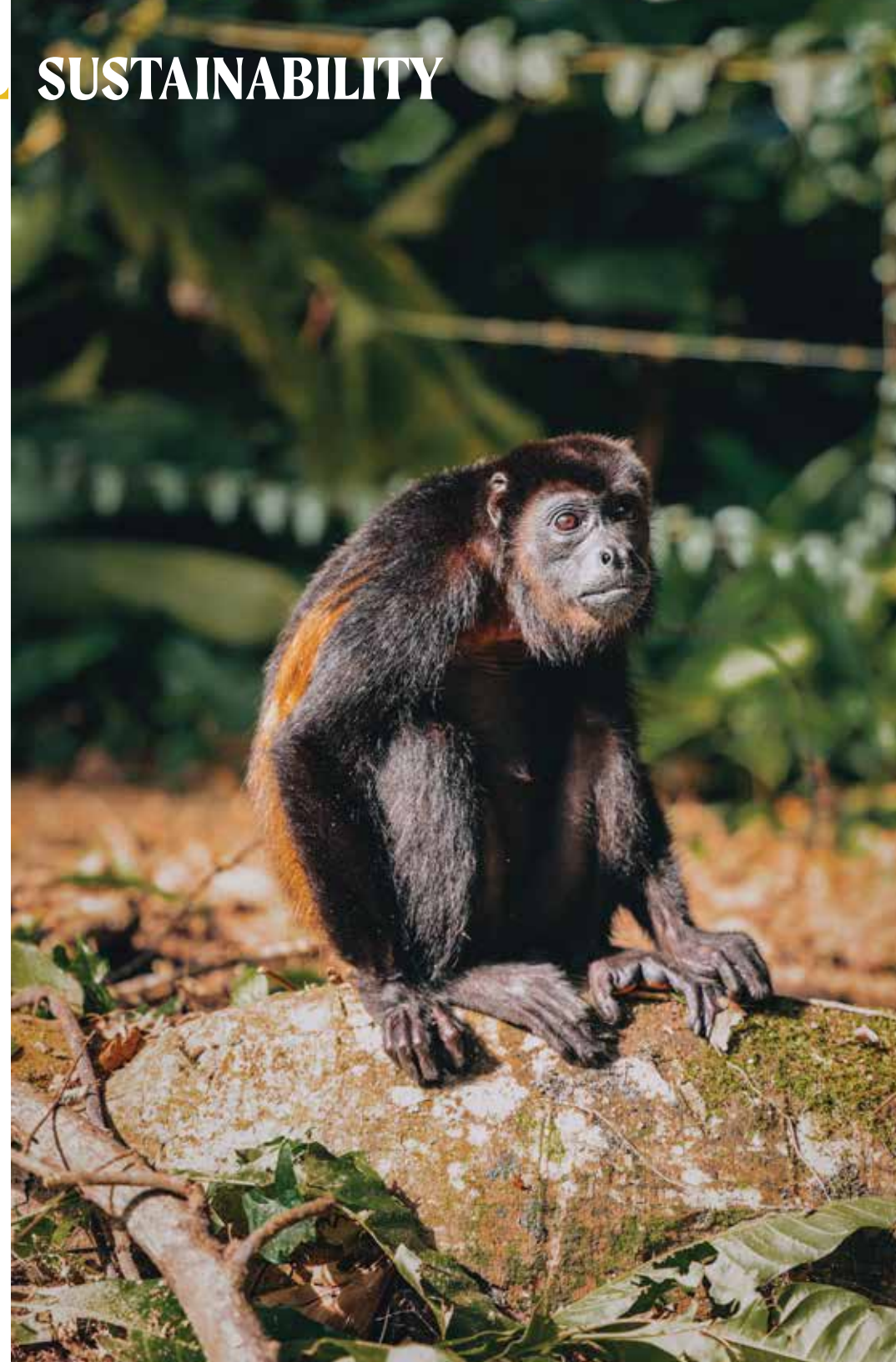
The center actively engages in animal rescues 24/7, all year round. We possess a dedicated vehicle for these rescue operations. In addition to animals delivered to us by the Ministry of the Environment (MINAEC) and other organizations, we also collaborate with government entities such as the Fire Department, Police, Coast Guard, etc.

A groundbreaking initiative by the center involves the creation of a private WhatsApp group with various government entities. This enables us to promptly notify them of animal rescue situations, allowing for coordinated efforts to ensure the safe transportation of the animals to our center from any location within Costa Rica.

In 2023 alone, a total of

1001

animals were rescued
at our center



SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

The JRC actively engages in social sustainability through its commitment to Environmental Education, which is a core aspect of the center's work. Environmental education plays a vital role in empowering individuals to get involved and take action for the betterment of the environment.

The JRC Community program was formalized in 2022 with a primary goal of raising awareness among children, teenagers, and adults about environmental issues.

The program operates through 3 key initiatives:

Educational Tours

Schools, colleges, indigenous associations, women's groups, and local institutions engage in educational tours of the JRC sanctuary. In 2023, we recorded visits from 824 individuals, including 563 minors and 261 adults.



JRC Visits the Community

We organize and conduct talks and educational workshops addressing topics based on the community's interests and needs. In 2023, we held 14 sessions with a total of 276 attendees.

Making a Difference:

Fostering community action through initiatives like public space restoration, waste collection, and tree planting. In 2023, 163 people participated, and we collected approximately 300 kg of solid waste. A total of 1263 individuals participated in various program activities throughout the year.

Offering free admission to the center for community members.

Providing training courses on wildlife handling and care to company personnel and government agency workers.

Conducting educational tours for tourists to raise awareness about the primary causes of environmental issues, the current situation, and actionable steps for improvement.

Generating global media presence to raise awareness about preventing wildlife electrocutions on power lines and electrical transformers.

ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

Positive Indirect Economic Impacts

- The development of the Talamanca area, which has historically had the lowest rates of human development and per capita income in the country, is positively influenced by the presence of the JRC. Many visitors specifically come to the country to experience the JRC, resulting in expenditures on accommodation, transportation, and catering services. Although it is challenging to quantify these expenses precisely, they significantly contribute to the economic and social progress of the area.
- Each job created by the JRC supports a number of individuals, and families who depend on the income generated from those positions.
- The JRC attracts qualified personnel, who, along with their needs, drive progress in the area.
- Through our JRC Community program, community knowledge is enhanced, particularly in relation to the environment, biodiversity and conservation.

- We actively promote collaboration with local producers, helping them distribute their products through our store.
- In collaboration with ICE, we participate in the Shock Free Zone program. The JRC has conducted an inventory of power lines and transformers that pose a threat to wildlife due to insufficient insulation. ICE has invested \$73,927 in various interventions in 2023, such as isolating secondary lines, transformers, and implementing wildlife crossings and semi-insulated conductors.
- The JRC's international media presence continues to grow, with numerous features in newspapers, magazines, and television programs. Our social media platforms (Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and YouTube) have also experienced significant increases in followers, reaching a total of 302,884.

Additionally, our website received 195,265 unique visitors in 2023. This heightened exposure of our destination has attracted an indeterminate number of nature tourists from around the world, as indicated by our visitor surveys.

ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY

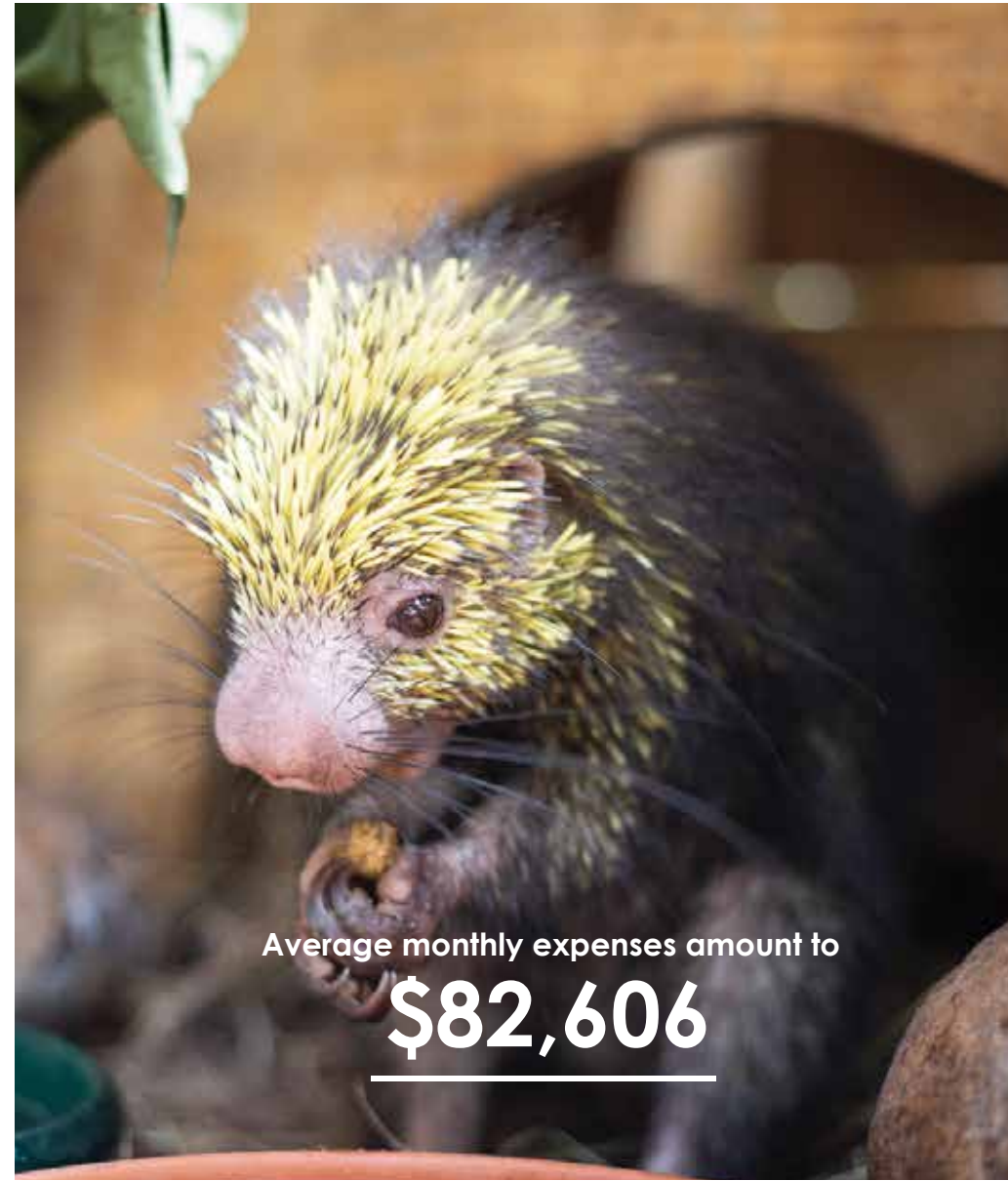
The Structure

The JRC group is a mixed organization. The rescue center is managed by the Ceiba Primary Forest Foundation, which also has the Shock Free Zone and JRC Community programs under its umbrella. The JRC Sanctuary is managed as a private company.

Financial Information

The financial budget of the JRC in the year 2023 was divided into the following items:

ITEM	% Amount over the total
Social projects Ceiba PF Foundation (Shock Free Zone, JRC Community)	0.4%
Public Services (electricity, water, telephones, internet)	2.1%
Rent/purchase of La Ceiba	5.4%
Veterinary services and products	2.1%
Animal Food	9.3%
Maintenance (vehicles, IT networks, veterinary equipment)	1.7%
Facilities and equipment maintenance	13.1%
Professional Services (accounting, biology, security, web, legal)	4.7%
Commissions and bank charges	1.3%
Cleaning supplies	1.3%
Fuels (gas, propane ect..)	1.4%
Construction of new facilities	18.7%
Salaries and Social Charges	38.4%
	100 %



Average monthly expenses amount to

\$82,606

CEIBA PRIMARY FOREST FOUNDATION

The Foundation receives income mainly from donations and the accounts are presented each year to the Comptroller General of the Republic of Costa Rica.

Year 2023

Income:

Donations: \$398.861

Expenses: \$304.307

Administrative expenses: \$57.114

Operating expenses:

Construction of new facilities: \$185.642

Salaries and social charges: \$52.888

Professional services \$4.746

Veterinary products: \$167

Social projects: \$3.750

THE FOUNDATION'S PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED IN 2023

Alongside managing the rescue center, the Ceiba Primary Forest Foundation successfully completed various projects in 2023, thanks to generous donations. These initiatives included:



1. Multipurpose rehabilitation enclosure

This type of enclosure is large in size (12m wide 18m long 5m high) and easily adaptable for different species. It is mostly used for the rehabilitation of mammals like felines, monkeys, and sloths. Having an adaptable enclosure is not only practical but also very important since we never know in advance what type of animals will be admitted at the center. Furthermore, this kind of installation is part of both the rehabilitation and release protocols of mammals because it prepares them to return into their natural habitat at a slow but steady pace and this increases their chances of survival.

2. New vivarium enclosure

The vivarium is an integral component of wildlife rescue centers. Feeding live, healthy rodents to the animals is essential to showcase the hunting ability of various birds, mammals, and reptiles. This year, a new vivarium was constructed at the center to enhance conditions for the rodents and the animals that rely on them for sustenance.

3. New administration area

After many months of being under renovations, having the new administration area operational is a significant achievement. As operational demands increase, its importance grows. Streamlining workflow, improving organization, and enhancing efficiency become essential. It fosters improved communication, collaboration and productivity, ensuring the smooth functioning of the organization.

We are really proud of the new JRC Community Hub, a new multifunctional space that is the core of the JRC Community program



4. Marine animals facilities

On July 2023 the Jaguar Rescue Center received 13 injured green sea turtles, each weighing about 160kg. An indoor enclosure was built and we purchased a specialized water pump for seawater, pipes and four large water tanks, essential for their rehabilitation. They were all released back to the sea, except for one who unfortunately succumbed to her injuries.

With our facilities and experience, we're fully prepared to care for any new turtles in need of assistance.

5. Implementation of the Shock Free Zone Program:

Purchase of ropes for wildlife crossings (transferred to ICE).

Engagement of engineering services to conduct a census and map power lines and transformers from Hone Creek to Manzanillo.

Purchase of a GPS device



6. JRC Community Program:

Procurement of materials for engaging activities with local schools.

Allocation of travel expenses beyond the JRC premises.

7. Veterinary clinic equipment:

Autoclave machine. This machine works by using high pressure and steam to sterilize equipment and materials. This process effectively kills bacteria, viruses, and other microorganisms, making the items safe for medical or laboratory use.

Anesthesia machine and an oxygen concentrator. This machine is valuable to our veterinarian team because it is used to sedate animals during surgery and to cure wounds. Using this gadget to sedate animals is a safer option.

