



**Friends of the Greenville Zoo, Inc.**

DBA: Greenville Zoo Foundation  
150 Cleveland Park Drive  
Greenville, SC 29601  
[Greenvillezoofoundation.org](http://Greenvillezoofoundation.org)

**Project:** Greenville Zoo Farmyard and Orangutan Exhibits

**Amount:** \$1,500,000

**Recipient:** Non-Profit 501(c)3 Organization

**Tax ID#** 57-0654589

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**1. The activity, function or project for which earmark is intended.**

All funding provided by the state will be utilized by the Greenville Zoo Foundation to update the Farmyard and Orangutan exhibits. The improvements will support the health and wellbeing of the Zoo's animals and ensure the Zoo meets the requirements for accreditation by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). The Greenville Zoo has been accredited with the AZA for 30 years, and to stay accredited, the Zoo must keep up with changing animal practices and exhibit standards.

• **New Farmyard Exhibit**

The new farmyard exhibit will increase the current exhibit space, expanding into the currently unused hillside and include new barns with public access and an animal contact yard. The project will allow the Zoo to double the species in the farmyard and create a more natural space for the animals. The project will focus on "Farmyards Around the World," and the primary function will be to educate the public and provide a family experience for everybody to connect with wildlife and interact with animals.

• **New Orangutan Exhibit**

The new orangutan exhibit is designed to meet the most current AZA standards by increasing the indoor and outdoor space, improving indoor air quality and providing more climbing opportunities. It will also provide the Zoo's orangutan family with improvements to their overall wellbeing by offering them a space that allows them to engage in more natural behaviors such as climbing at higher elevations and foraging in trees.

The Greenville Zoo houses a family of Sumatran orangutans that includes an adult Male (Kumar) an adult female (Lana) and their four year old offspring, Adira. The Zoo has been successful in breeding this endangered species and will continue to contribute to AZA's Species Survival Plan Program in the future.

The existing orangutan exhibit will be updated to house a family of Siamangs.

**2. Public purpose served by the project**

Home to over 200 animals representing 79 species, the Greenville Zoo is one of just 239 Zoos and Aquariums in the United States accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). AZA accreditation acknowledges the highest standards of animal health, enrichment and welfare, conservation, education and recreation. Maintaining this accreditation ensures the animals at the Greenville Zoo are receiving the greatest care and the South Carolina community is provided the maximum benefits for education and recreation.

**3. Project Budget**

Farmyard Exhibit – \$2,000,000

Orangutan Exhibit - \$4,000,000

**4. Demonstrated community support and need.**

The Greenville Zoo has a wide appeal throughout the community, attracting over 300,000 guests each year. The Zoo partners with schools to allow over 500 school visits, and the award-winning education department serves over 40,000 school children each year. Over 500 community volunteers assist the Zoo per year, and the Zoo partners with many corporations such as Prisma Health, Spartanburg Regional and PNC Bank. The Greenville Zoo is a unique education resource that often supplements schools' education curriculums. Many of the programs are free with admission to the Zoo. The goal of the Greenville Zoo is to connect the community to wildlife and inspire a life-long appreciation for the world and its value to the community is immense.

**5. Details of any state funds previously appropriated to the same or similar purpose.**

The Greenville Zoo Foundation received \$1,000,000 in 2022 for Infrastructure and Exhibit Updates to the Greenville Zoo. The funds received contributed to Giraffe Feeding Platform, the Africa Plaza with ADA Compliant Pathway, and the architectural design plans for the Farmyard and Orangutan exhibits. The remaining \$500, 000 is earmarked to begin the Farmyard Exhibit. The Giraffe Feeding Platform is under construction, and the African Plaza will be ready to go to out for bids no later than Spring.