

## 2019 Issue I

Wildlife In Need Center  
W349 S1480 S. Waterville Road  
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262-965-3090

[www.helpingwildlife.org](http://www.helpingwildlife.org)



## What's Inside

From our Founding Board Member	Page 1
The Sandhill Crane And Wildlife In Need Center's Connection	Page 2
Mange Red Fox	Page 3
A Summary Glance at Patient Statistics	Page 4
Great Blue Heron	Page 5
Education History Part 1	Page 6
Education History Part 2	Page 7
WINC Volunteers Are Extraordinary!	Page 8
Barred Owl Pair	Page 9
Historical Financial Information	Page 10
The Red-tailed Hawk	Page 11
July 20th celebration schedule & WINC calender	Page 12

## From our Founding Board Member

**WOW... twenty five, XXV, 25 Years !!!** No matter how you say it or write it when it comes to WINC it's not just a number.

When Kim asked me as a founding board member to write an article for the Newsletter to reflect on our first 25 years my brain was immediately flooded with more thoughts than you can imagine. To begin with, this is my first article ever for the Newsletter. I'll make a commitment to all of you now, if this gets past the editors, to write an article every 25 years.

Writing this is difficult because space doesn't allow for a full accounting of your accomplishments over these 25 years. Regardless of the role you have played, it all comes together to allow the Center to be where it is today. Many of you have participated as donors, staff and volunteers, often filling more than one of these needed roles. I've said often that the passion demonstrated by the people involved with the Center is beyond any I've seen with other organizations.

I'm sure my reason for getting involved when asked by the founding Director Nancy Frank is similar to many of you.

I thought it would be a way to give something back to the outdoors which my family has enjoyed forever. I don't feel it's overstated to say the work done at the Center adds to the quality of life within and beyond the communities it serves.

One reason I feel the Center is here after 25 years is because the Center has never lost sight of its core mission. This focus has allowed the Center to excel in the areas of patient care and education. Education not only with respect to the many presentations given each year but also through the thousands of calls the Center receives regarding interaction with wildlife within the community.

I can't begin to tell you how much I've left out due to space so I'll end with a sincere thank you to all of you for your efforts and results and a thank you for allowing me to be a part of it all these 25 years.

Please enjoy our 25th anniversary edition of Wildlife Tracks, featuring a glimpse of the past 25 years.

**Story By Wayne Grandy**

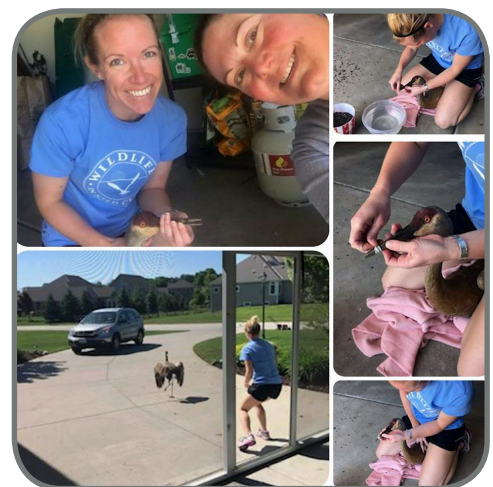
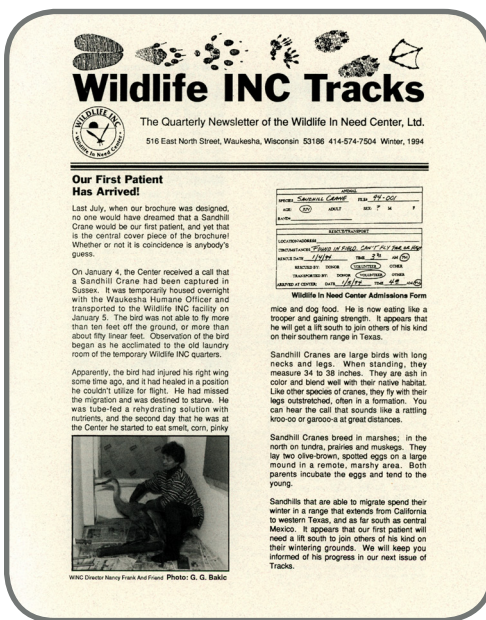


## Mission Statement

*To provide wildlife rehabilitation to Wisconsin wildlife with the intent to release back to the native habitat, conduct research designed to further the positive impact of rehabilitation, and provide quality community education programs and service.*



# The Sandhill Crane and Wildlife In Need Center's Connection



Top left: WINC's first patient, a Sandhill Crane and founder/executive director Nancy Frank

Bottom left: In 2018 staff helped a Sandhill Crane! The staff caught the Sandhill Crane and were able to safely remove the rubber ear bud piece that was stuck on her beak, and then successfully released it

Middle and right: The Wildlife In Need Center's very first "Tracks Newsletter" and the most recent "Tracks Newsletter"

1993 – Wildlife INC (In Need Center) logo was designed with an image of a Sandhill Crane flying away into the sunset.

January 5th, 1994 our first patient was a Sandhill Crane. It had an injured wing and was unable to be released, but it was placed as an educational animal at a zoo in Wisconsin.

January 1, 2019 our first patient was a Sandhill Crane. For a couple months our staff, along with some community members have been trying to catch a crane with an injured wing (not an easy task when they still can run and have decent food supply with this milder weather). Unfortunately, this year's first patient's injury was much worse than the original crane. Our recent Sandhill Crane had suffered a compound (open) fracture of its right humerus (wing). The fracture was old and infected, sadly not a good injury for placement so we did have to humanely euthanize. Although it is not the ending we wish for with our patients, it is an ending we can provide to help an animal that is suffering.

Could this be a coincidence?

In 1994 WINC featured the first patient, a Sandhill Crane in its first newsletter Wildlife Tracks. WINC continues to publish currently twice a year, featuring education stories and animal highlights as well as WINC news and events.

**IT'S NO COINCIDENCE THAT YOU HAVE BEEN THERE IN THE PAST.  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFUL SUPPORT NOW AND OVER THE NEXT 25 YEARS.**





## Mange Red Fox

Late summer/early fall of 2011, we admitted an adult male Red Fox that was suffering with mange. The Fox was found in the Mukwonago area and the landowners had noticed that the fox was missing fur, so set live-traps to safely catch it. Once it was in a live-trap they brought it to WINC for an exam and care. The fox was severely emaciated from being sick for so long. Several patches of fur were missing, especially on his back legs. Dead, dry skin had built up on his body causing the fur loss and areas of his skin were so bad they had cracked open and it had open wounds. Staff began pain medication, antibiotics, wound treatment and, a critical care diet

After a couple weeks of gaining strength, the fox was safely sedated to allow staff to give a bath to remove all the dead skin. The condition was so bad, that the fox ended up needing two baths to remove all the dead skin.

Once baths were done the fox needed time to gain healthy weight and regrow fur before being released into Wisconsin fall weather. This process can take several weeks or a couple months of care.

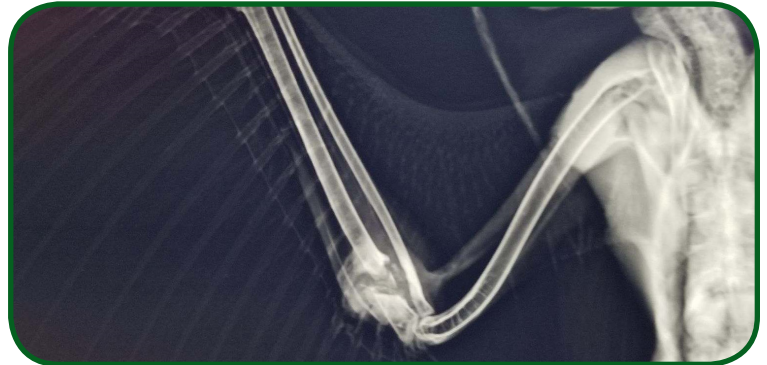
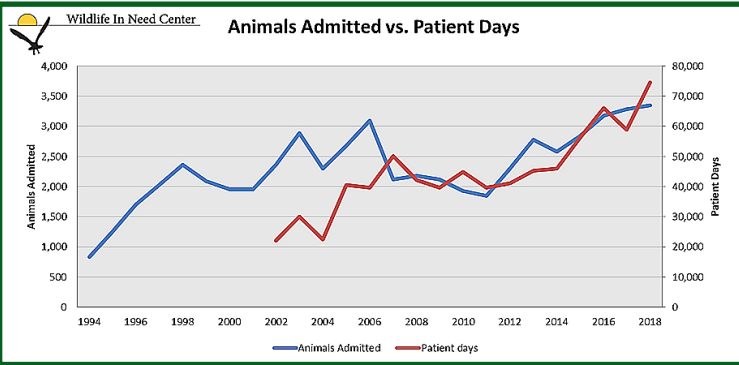
Eventually, he was released with a beautiful coat of fur.

Cost of mange care - \$200

Food cost of care - \$100



# A Summary Glance at Patient Statistics



## Animals: Most Frequently Admitted 2001 to 2018

Rank	Animal	Annual Average	Total Admitted
1	*Eastern Cottontail	508	8,628
2	Raccoon	257	4,371
3	Eastern Gray Squirrel	212	3,606
4	American Robin	142	2,409
5	Mallard	136	2,314

\*Eastern Cottontail was highest admitted animal every year since 2001.

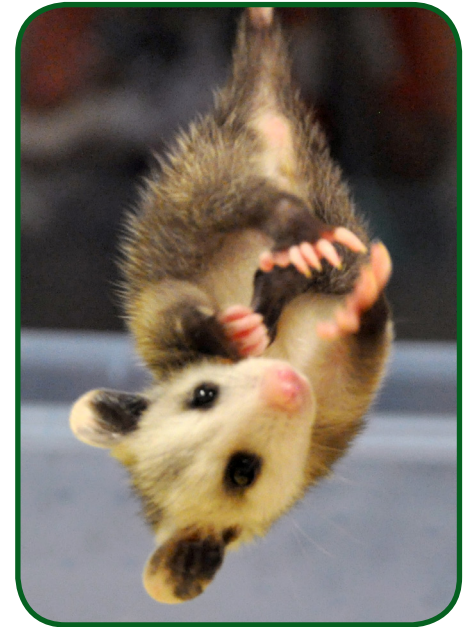
➤ 69-71% of every dollar raised goes to animal care and education.

➤ Admissions continue to increase as well as patient days in our care

➤ Some patients with complex medical needs require longer stays

➤ Patient days between 2004 and 2018 increased 350%

➤ An increase in admissions and patient days escalates expenses



## Cities: Most Animals Admitted 2001 to 2018

Rank	City	Annual Average	Total Admitted
1	*Waukesha	443	7,080
2	Oconomowoc	295	4,719
3	Brookfield	156	2,498
4	Pewaukee	122	1,950
5	Dousman	115	1,845

\*The City of Waukesha admitted the highest number of animals each year since 2001.  
Note: 2006 was omitted due to missing data

## Counties: Most Animals Admitted 2001 to 2018

Rank	County	Annual Average	Total Admitted
1	*Waukesha	1,872	29,947
2	Jefferson	338	5,410
3	Milwaukee	55	879
4	Washington	54	856
5	Dodge	44	697

\*The County of Waukesha admitted the highest number of animals every year since 2001.

## Wildlife in Need Center Board of Directors

<b>Kim Banach</b> President	<b>Wayne Grandy</b> Vice President	<b>Lou Banach</b> Treasurer	<b>Shane Roeber</b> Secretary
<b>Holly Schlenvogt</b> Past President	<b>Bridgett Brown</b> Director	<b>Thomas DeMers</b> Director	<b>Sarah Ellenberger, DVM</b> Director
<b>Gottlieb John Marmet</b> Director	<b>Heather Merewood</b> Director	<b>Barb Muir</b> Director	<b>Rick Nicolai</b> Director
<b>Thomas Roberts, MD</b> Director	<b>Annette Wallace</b> Director	<b>Lynn Wilde</b> Director	<b>Dean Pipito</b> Director

The Board of Directors sincerely appreciates your shared passion for Wisconsin wildlife.

We could not have reached this milestone without the support of caring individuals, like you, our dedicated members, volunteers and the communities we serve.

Please join us on Saturday, July 20 as we "Celebrate 25 years of Saving Wild Lives"!

## Wildlife in Need Center Staff

<b>Kim Banach</b> Executive Director	<b>Lisa Rowe</b> Director of Operations	<b>Mandy Feavel</b> Director of Animal Care	<b>Alexa Cushman</b> Animal Care
<b>Alex Schlecht</b> Raptor Training Specialist	<b>Mitch Ruiz</b> Wildlife Rehabilitator	<b>Madilyn Williams</b> Education Coordinator	
<b>Angela Nirk</b> Wildlife Educator	<b>Jenny Watton</b> Bookkeeper	<b>Debbie Verhalen</b> Marketing and Administrative Assistant	

## WINC Advisory Board

**Mike Guzniczak**  
**Harry Muir, PhD**





## Great Blue Heron

This Great Blue Heron came in near the end of the summer in 2015 with a fishing lure and line wrapped around its wing and hooked into the webbing of its wing, not allowing the bird to extend its wing for flight. Staff very carefully (under slight sedation) removed the fishing lure and line. Days later it was taken to the vet for minor surgery to suture the wing tissue together. Since it was unable to fly for so long with the lure and line wrapped around it, the Heron was also emaciated. So staff worked through a critical care diet schedule to help the bird recover. After weeks of medication, antibiotics, and emaciation care, the heron was officially eating on its own and gaining weight.

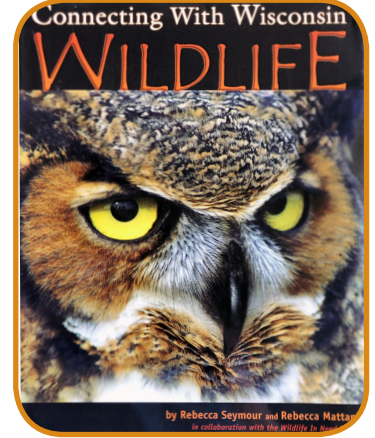
Cost of medication and vet care - \$420

Cost of food during care - \$300





## Education History Part 1



When the Wildlife in Need Center first began, the founders believed education was a crucial part to helping wild animals and was an important “piece of the puzzle” to our mission. The central focus was about spreading the Wildlife in Need Center’s mission of wildlife rehabilitation and release, and to get the word about services provided at WINC. Education efforts began at veterinarian offices, pet stores, local civic clubs and festivals. WINC then expanded to schools and scout groups.

Nancy Frank and Nan Calvert were the first staff members to help run the education, as well as taking care of the wild patients. Along with early staff members, volunteers played an integral role in giving education programs and running education booths (also called awareness booths as seen in the far left picture). In the early education years, volunteers used a slide projector, and then transitioned to props and skulls. In 1999, the first animal ambassadors were introduced.

In a 1996 newspaper article: “We have a two-pronged mission,” said Frank, “We not only work with the animals, but we also educate people and teach a respect for the earth as a whole.” Nancy further commented, “Volunteers from the Center frequently visit schools and libraries to teach children about what the Center does and how important it is to respect nature’s children.” This practice continues today!

In 2003, Leslie Kiehl (middle right picture) was the first person hired at the Wildlife in Need Center specifically for the Education Department. During her time from 2003-2015, Leslie educated more than 100,000 people and instilled a newfound respect for wildlife within the public. In memory of Leslie, the Leslie Kiehl WINC Education Program Fund was created in 2015 to provide funding for groups who unable to pay the program fee.

WINC’s current education department consists of an Education Coordinator, a Wildlife Educator and Education Volunteers who work as a team to provide wildlife education programs from Madison to Milwaukee and everywhere in between.

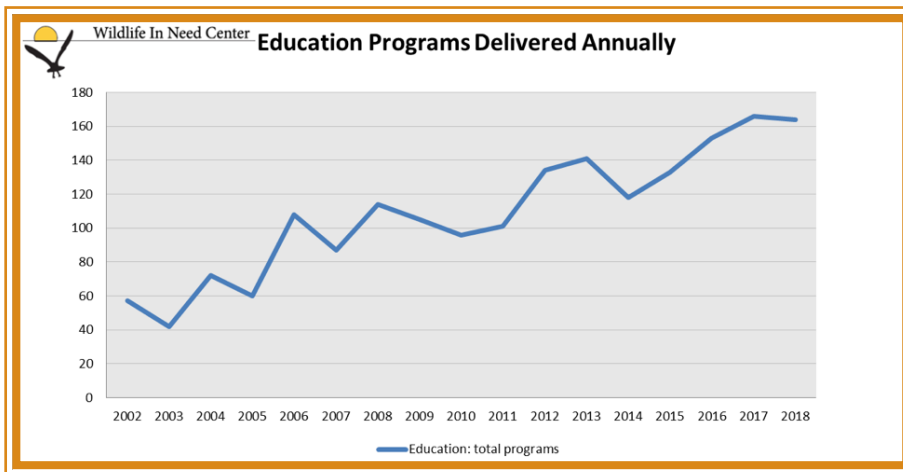
In 2013 WINC published a book, *Connecting People with Wisconsin Wildlife* authored by Rebecca Mattano & Rebecca Seymour (far right picture). This book is about Wisconsin wildlife while featuring several animal ambassadors including Dakota the Great Horned Owl.

Today, WINC’s Education Department (middle left picture) continues to meet the demand for wildlife education in Waukesha County and surrounding communities. WINC’s mobile education team travels frequently, reaching a wide variety of groups and people of all ages. The education mission endures to teach people about living harmoniously with wildlife. Since 1999, WINC’s education team has reached over 500,000 people.





## Education History Part 2



### WINC Education Stats

- 1999 WINC delivered 28 education programs reaching 1,660 people
- Today, WINC delivers an average 160 education programs annually reaching 25-115,000 people

### The first ambassador crew: (year they became an ambassador)

- Zip the Bullsnake 1999
- Digger the Eastern Tiger Salamander 1999
- Slither the Western Fox Snake 1999
- Ralph and Maggie the Black-tailed Prairie Dog 2000
- Dakota the Great Horned Owl was our first bird in 2000



### Current Education Ambassadors: (year they became an ambassador)

- Dakota the Great Horned Owl 2000
- Daphne the Muscovy Duck 2007
- Jewel the Ornate Box Turtle 2005
- Raenah the Red-tailed Hawk 2008
- Antoinette the Western Painted Turtle 2010
- Gregory the Groundhog 2010
- Grace the American Kestrel 2011
- Chloe the Eastern Screech Owl 2012
- Sova the Barred Owl 2012
- Meadow the Bull Snake 2013
- Evie the Eastern Fox Snake 2015
- Bella the American Toad 2015
- Chase the Striped Skunk 2016



Top Right: Stacey Zacher, Education Volunteer and Grace, the American Kestrel

Top middle & bottom left: Madilyn Williams, Education Coordinator with Meadow, the Bull Snake and Chase, the Striped Skunk

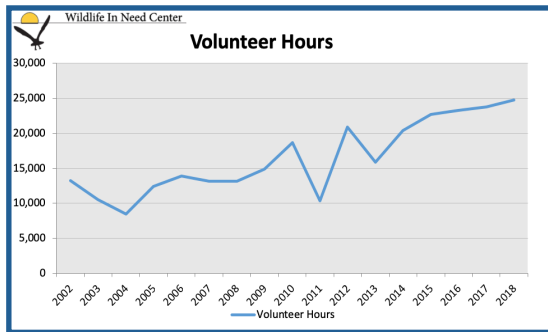
Bottom middle: WINC mobile donated by Dean Pipito, pictured right, with WINC staff. Used for education and animal care.



Bottom right: Angela Nirk, Wildlife Educator and Dakota, the Great Horned Owl



# WINC Volunteers are Extraordinary!



Bottom left: Volunteer Katie Pfaff holding Meadow, the Bull Snake, alongside office volunteers Pat Adams & Judith Neal

Right: Lauren Grunewald Grounds Volunteer

- Volunteers helped Nancy Frank plan WINC before it ever opened.
- WINC has a small staff and could not care for the more than 3,000 wildlife patients we admit each year without the helping hands and caring hearts of our many volunteers or provide community outreach education booths.
- Volunteers work hands-on in **Animal Care** feeding and cleaning patients and handling patients for staff to provide medical care.
- **Office volunteers** greet visitors, answer phones, admit patients, and do data entry and mailings.
- **Education volunteers** help present educational programs and staff booths at many summer and fall events to inform people about WINC.
- **Maintenance and Grounds volunteers** help with building and equipment repairs, and managing the beautiful gardens around WINC for the enjoyment of our patients, local wildlife, and people.
- **Fundraising and Marketing volunteers** help us with fundraising events to pay for medical care and food for our wildlife patients as well as the Education Program.
- **Students 12 and 13 years of age can volunteer in WINC's Baby Bird Feeding program** with an adult helping; students 14 and older can volunteer alone. Students are preparing food, hand feeding baby birds, cleaning birds, and charting their work. This is a summer only program – that's when we admit baby birds and then students are out of school so it makes a great match.
- **WINC's Board of Directors** are all volunteers who help guide WINC.
- WINC has **internships** in Animal Care, Education, Development, Graphic Design, and Media for qualified individuals who are looking to fulfill their college internship requirements or who wish to expand their classroom knowledge to include hands-on experience.
- In 2018 WINC Volunteer hours donated **22,780 hours**, or equivalent to **11.9 FTE!**





## Barred Owl Pair

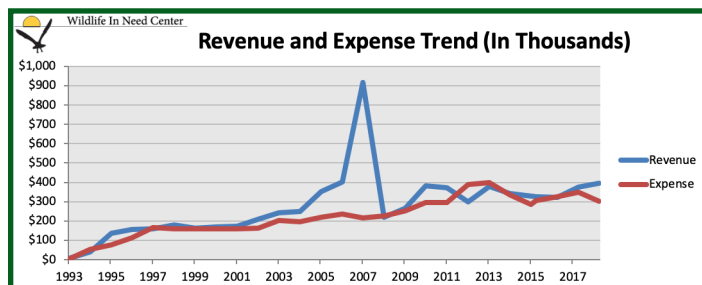
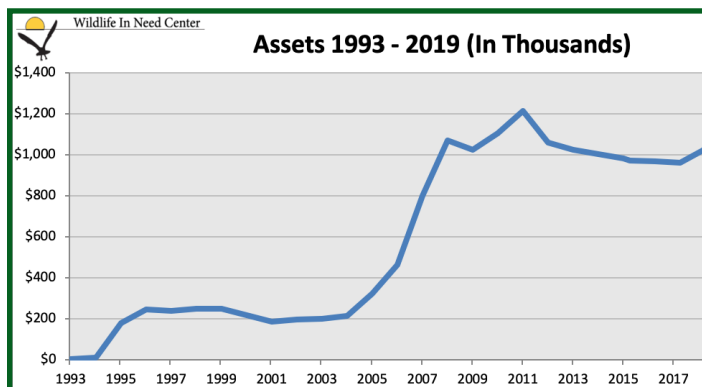
A pair of Barred Owls (a male and female), which came to us after both were stuck in a chimney of someone's home after mistaking the chimney as a cavity to nest in. The pair came in to WINC together on Valentine's Day 2010. Both owls were a little thin and dehydrated, so after about two weeks of care they were able to be released together. The pictures show them in side by side mews in our ICU, together in the flight enclosure, and then their release.

The cost of their two weeks of care was approximately about \$30-40 for food, and \$20 for fluids.



# Historical Financial Information

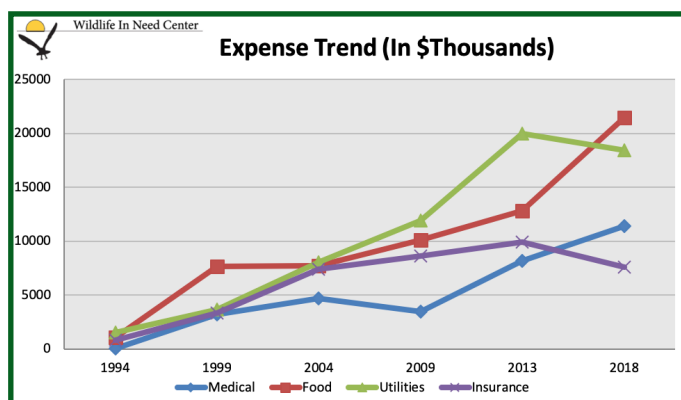
- 1993 – Opening checking balance in June 1993 was \$30.00; by the end of the year passionate fundraising efforts had raised \$7,233.00.
- Roll forward 25 years and WINC's operating budget is \$378,000.
- Today we have made noticeable progress in building liquidity reserves, BUT the fundraising demand never sleeps!



➤ Included in Revenue in 2005-2007 are the proceeds of the successful capital campaign

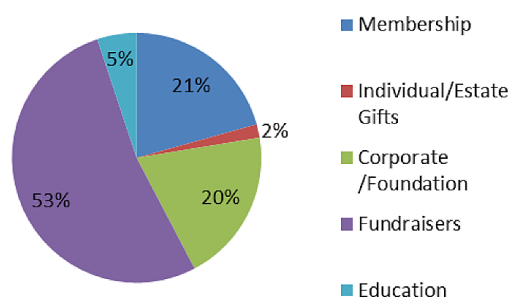
## Key Dates

- 1994-1995 operated out of a one bedroom house in Waukesha with monthly rent payments
- Fall of 1995 WINC purchased farm on Hwy C in Oconomowoc with monthly mortgage payments
- 2007 Farm paid off in full
- 2011 Completion of a capital campaign to build a 6,000 sq. ft. facility which resulting in no loan (shown in the picture to the right)



➤ Expenses reflect more complex medical care as well as increasing admissions and longer patient stays

## F2018 Revenue by Percent



- Slightly more than 50% of revenue comes from fundraising events
- Every year WINC is challenged to raise revenue to meet increasing wildlife treatment expenses





### **The Red-tailed Hawk**

This Red-tailed Hawk was found with an injured wing, and brought into WINC on November 22, 2013 while riding in the passenger seat of the rescuer's vehicle. The adult Red-tailed Hawk had a fractured wing that needed to be surgically repaired to have the chance of release back to the wild. Our vet performed surgery on the hawk that ended up being more complicated than anticipated, lasting almost 4 hours. Metal pins were placed in the bone to help the humerus heal in proper alignment for flight again. After weekly trips to the vet, the pins were removed on December 30th, and the Red-tailed was given a slightly larger enclosure. After two weeks in an intermediate enclosure the Red-tailed hawk was able to move to our largest flight enclosure. It was conditioned in our flight enclosure for three weeks and then finally released!

Food cost for length of stay - \$130 and surgery cost - \$800

WINC would like to dedicate this article in memory of Patricia Turner, who brought this Hawk in for care and countless other wild animals that needed help. Pat was a special lady with a devotion to her pets and wildlife in need. Her legacy lives on at WINC, as a Dakota Society member. She will be missed but not forgotten.



Wildlife In Need Center  
W349 SI480 S. Waterville Road  
Oconomowoc, WI 53066  
262-965-3090

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## *25th Anniversary Celebration at the Wildlife In Need Center*

### *July 20th, 2019 Schedule*

*10:00 am – 5:00 pm*

#### All Day Events

10:15 – 4:30	Animal Ambassador Rotation at the Wildlife In Need Center
10:30 – 4:30	Kid's Activities in the kid's tent
11:00 – 3:00	Face painting in the kid's tent
10:00 – 4:00	Raffle and door prize located in the Field Station
10:30 – 5:00	Gift shop at the Wildlife In Need Center
11:00 – 1:30	Grill Shack featuring Hamburger, Hot Dogs, and Klements Bratwurst
12:00 – 4:00	Chocolate Factory Ice Cream Sundae Bar
10:00 – 5:00	Snack Shack

#### Special Events & Tours

10:30 – 11:00	Bird Walks led by the Benjamin F. Goss Bird Club
10:15 – 11:15	Behind the Scenes tours for the public, preregistration required
11:00 – 11:15	Wildlife Release
11:30 – 12:00	Bird Walks led by the Benjamin F. Goss Bird Club
11:30 – 12:00	Prairie Tour and Talk with Marlin Johnson
11:30 – 1:30	VIP reception and Behind the Scenes tours
2:00 – 2:40	Program & Wildlife Release
2:40 – 3:00	Cupcake Celebration with attendees
3:00 – 4:30	Behind the Scenes tours for the public, preregistration required, links on website
3:00 – 3:45	Prairie Tour and Talk with Marlin Johnson
4:00	Wildlife Release

Please visit our website for the most up to date information here  
<http://www.helpingwildlife.org/july-20th-25th-all-day-celebration/>

Please contact Debbie at [dverhalen@helpingwildlife.org](mailto:dverhalen@helpingwildlife.org) with any questions

**We hope you to see you on July 20th,  
as we celebrate 25 years of Saving Wild Lives!**

## *Calendar 2019*

### *July, 2019*

*Sunday, July 28th, 3:00 pm – 4:00pm*

WINC Owl Pellet Dissection, Pre-registration required  
Wildlife In Need Center

### *August, 2019*

*Saturday, August 10th, 10:00 am – 11:00 am*

WINC Education Program, Pre-registration required  
Wildlife In Need Center

*Thursday, August 15th, 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm*

Adult Volunteer Orientation, Wildlife In Need Center

### *September, 2019*

*Saturday, September 7th, 3:00 pm – 7:00pm*

**Wildlife in the Park.** Cory Park, Dousman, WI

*Saturday, September 14th, 10:30 am – 12:00pm*

Adult Volunteer Orientation, Wildlife In Need Center

*Saturday, September 28th, 4:00 pm – 7:30 pm*

Spaghetti Dinner, Lions Club  
235 N. Main St, Dousman, WI 53118

### *October, 2019*

*Saturday, October 19th, 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm*

**Hallo-WINC Event,** Wildlife In Need Center

*Monday, October 21st, 6:30 pm – 8:00pm*

Adult Volunteer Orientation, Wildlife In Need Center

*Friday, October 25th, 6:00 pm – 9:30 pm*

**Annual Fine Wine and Dine,** Westmoor Country Club  
400 S Moorland Rd, Brookfield WI 53005

### *December, 2019*

*Tuesday, December 3rd, All day – midnight*

**Giving Tuesday,** Wildlife In Need Center

*Saturday, December 7th, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm*

**Holiday Meet and Greet,** Wildlife In Need Center