

*Section 1. Organizational Information*

Organization Name

Mailing Address

City

State

Zip

Authorized Officer for this Grant

Individual's Email Address

Individual's Title

Individual's Phone Number

Have the grant funds been fully expended?

Yes

No

If "No," stop here and contact The Joanna Foundation for consultation.

*Section 2. Grant Summary*Start Date *(date on p.1 - mm/dd/yyyy)*

Grant Amount

Project Title

Overall Purpose *(select one)*

Operating support

Matching funds

Administrative/technical support

Capital campaign

Seed money/startup funds

Facilities/equipment

Specific project/program *(insert title or one sentence summary below)*

Were major changes made to the project after the grant was received?

Yes

No

If "Yes," please explain why and summarize the changes as part of your Summary of Impact.

*Section 3. Summary of Impact*

Separately, using software of your choice, write a concise summary of how the grant helped achieve the objective of the request. For example, you may mention activities to date, progress toward milestones, participation by volunteers, partners or audience members, and/or significant achievements. You may use metrics to show change or anecdotal examples to illustrate impact. You may use bullets or lists. Describe the difference that The Joanna Foundation grant made to your organization in this time frame. We recommend one page of text or less. You may add items that showcase your work, such as a photo, graphic, chart, media article, testimonial, or link to a short video.

**When you are satisfied with your draft, save your Summary of Impact in pdf format, attach any additions, insert your material after this page, and submit the combined file (consisting of this 2-pg form + your materials) as a single pdf file.**

# Avian Conservation Center

## The Center for Birds of Prey

Joanna Foundation Grant Report  
Visitor Amenities Project  
2022 & 2023 Cycles

January 26, 2024

### **Summary of Impact**

As described in the Avian Conservation Center proposal to the Joanna Foundation in March of 2022, the obvious need for – and the related opportunities available from – additional facilities to accommodate a strategic increase in visitor numbers has been a long-term goal of the Center’s planning. The plan was given high priority in 2019, beginning with concept, design, and funding focused meetings, only to be interrupted by the Covid epidemic. The plans were revived in late 2021 and quickly regained momentum into 2022.

Many of the initial professional services were offered as in-kind contributions to the project, but as the planning matured, unavoidable out-of-pocket costs to continue were incurred. Our experience over the years has consistently shown that the most challenging phase of funding a new project is in the beginning when there is little tangible evidence of progress. While funding in those early months can be the most difficult, it can also be the most rewarding and meaningful; thus was the case for the Joanna Foundation gift and pledge that allowed the project to keep its momentum and also provide leverage for additional contributions. The early costs were covered and the confidence and enthusiasm of the Center’s team was bolstered in a profound way.

The creative and ecologically sensitive concept of utilizing repurposed shipping containers as the buildings flourished into a simple, economic, and unique approach for the needed improvements that will resonate for decades. Enthusiasm for the project continues to grow for all involved, who eagerly await the next steps.

While not totally unexpected, the project was slowed considerably by the building permit approval process required by Charleston County, where there was a pandemic-related backlog of applications and shortage of personnel. After months of persistent efforts, the permits were finally issued in October of 2023. Within just a few weeks of receiving the building permits, construction was begun on the foundations for the vertical elements and are now completed. The current construction activity for the project entails completing the interior upfits for the container buildings and their delivery to the site. That is expected to take place within 75 days, which will be followed by the construction of the exterior features including decks, roofed areas, ramps and stairs, etc. We anticipate the completion of this phase of the overall Visitor Amenities project to be completed by the spring of this year, followed quickly by the start of the next phase.

As a direct outcome of the confidence and immense generosity of the Joanna Foundation in providing the early funding for this pivotal project, we have been successful in raising the balance of the funds required to complete the permanent restroom facilities. It is a truly monumental step toward offering memorable educational experiences for thousands of additional visitors and in so doing, creating an associated income stream that will contribute substantially to the long-term sustainability of the Center. It would be difficult to overstate the impact that the support of the Joanna Foundation has had on this organization over many years, and the number of lives – avian and human - that have been enriched by the Center’s reach as a result. We are eternally grateful.

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