

SAVE THE GIRAFFES 2020

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# Annual Report







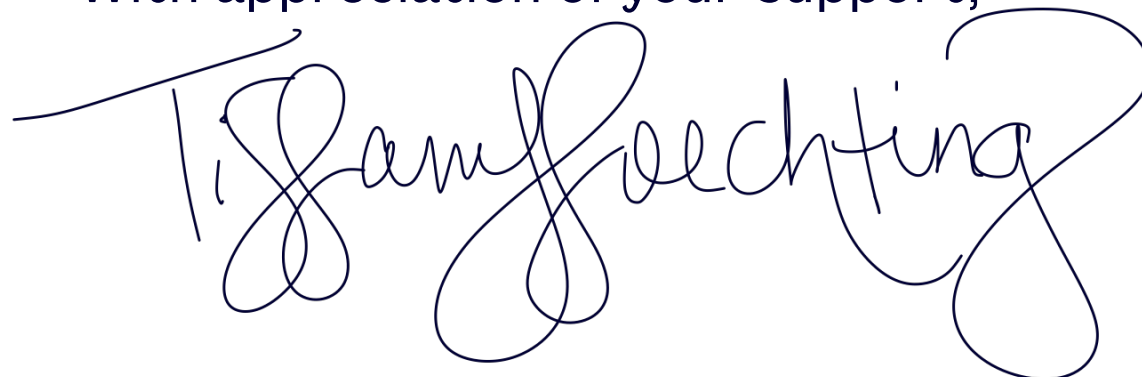
## Letter from the Executive Director

Save The Giraffe Friends,

This has been a crazy year for the world, far more than anyone could have ever imagined. I would like to take this opportunity to send thoughts to all that have been negatively impacted by the pandemic. Save The Giraffes has also seen changes with Dr. Fred Bercovitch leaving the board. We would like to send a HUGE amount of appreciation to Dr. Bercovitch for his leadership in the foundation of our organization. He is an amazing man with an enormous passion for giraffes that will forever carry on through Save The Giraffes.

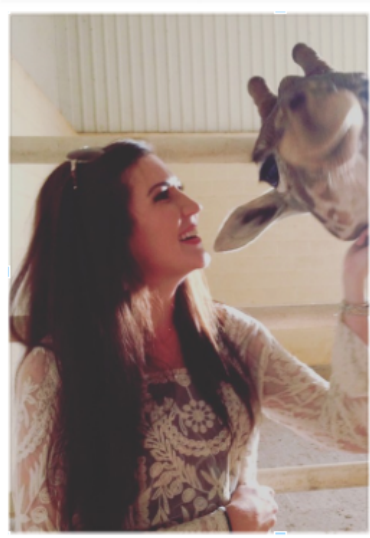
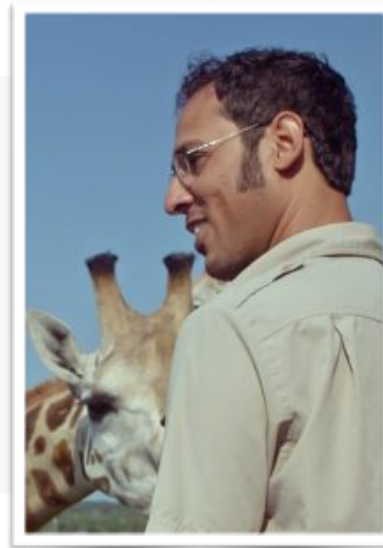
We also found a special blessing in welcoming Jason Pootoolal to Save The Giraffes. Jason's knowledge of giraffes is astounding and his passion is equally impressive. Even with a newly formed organization, bringing in new ideas only helps elevate the vision of Save The Giraffe's future.

With appreciation of your support,



# Board of Directors

**Jason Pootoolal** is a zoologist and conservationist from Ontario, Canada. He has worked in the management and care of animals for over 20 years and has been an active participant in conservation-focused research for over a decade. Although he has worked with nearly every animal species, he found his true passion is working with ungulates.



**Catherine Carter Land** is a Texan with a huge passion for creativity and adventure. Catherine received her degree in Film and Digital Media from Baylor University in 2013 and began her career in news reporting before moving on to become producer of NatGeoWILD's Walking With Giraffes. She has made it her goal to share that same love and appreciation with people around the world for the betterment of our environment.

**Tiffany Soechting** started her career at Natural Bridge Wildlife Ranch in 1985, less than a year after their opening. During that over 30 year span of time, she has been an active part of their giraffe program. She has witnessed first hand the growth spawned from the founding sire and dam into a program with two established breeding herds that have produced over 25 offspring and now the 4th generation to live and thrive in their safe home away from home.



# World Giraffe Day



**WILD  
NATURE  
INSTITUTE**



In celebration of World Giraffe Day 2020, Save The Giraffes is proud to support the Wild Nature Institute and the many programs they do to support giraffe conservation. Programs from huge research endeavors to educating youth with engaging books produced in multiple languages.

Wild Nature Institute scientists are studying wild Masai giraffes in the [Tarangire](#) and [Serengeti](#) Ecosystems of Tanzania using a computer program that recognizes each animal's unique fur pattern from photographs. They are monitoring more than 3500 individual giraffes throughout their lifetimes in an area over 25,000 sq. km. This is the biggest giraffe study in the world, and one of the biggest large-mammal demography studies in history.

Their giraffe research is urgently needed so we can provide effective conservation actions in an ever more fragmented world, and ensure the future of wild giraffes and all creatures of the savanna.



# Reticulated Giraffe Project



Mradi wa twiga aina somali  
**Reticulated  
Giraffe Project**

The Reticulated Giraffe Project operates through formal and non-formal environmental education and by the provision to decision makers and stakeholders of reliable information and advice. At its simplest, our education work involves sharing wildlife experiences with local communities. Many of the giraffes that we know individually are named after people who chose them while spending time with us in the field and who have come to understand the conservation issues better as a result. On a wider scale, we support the County Governments and the Government of Kenya in the development of effective conservation policies and we contribute to the work of international conservation organizations including the **IUCN SSC Giraffe & Okapi Specialist Group**.



The project team leads an exploration of Samburu National Reserve for children from the Samburu Community School in Loruko. Local people have very few opportunities to enjoy wildlife in the way that visitors do. *Dala dala wa twiga* (the giraffe bus) is an environmental-education partnership between RGP and the wardens and rangers of the National Reserve. Photo: Jacob Leaidura/Reticulated Giraffe Project

The Reticulated Giraffe Project is doing work that Save The Giraffes is proud to support in joint efforts for the future of wild giraffe populations. They are working directly with these populations and consecutively focusing on the very important element of educating youth of the importance giraffes hold. The smiling faces we see in the above photo holds a key of the future of this declining subspecies.

# Juma



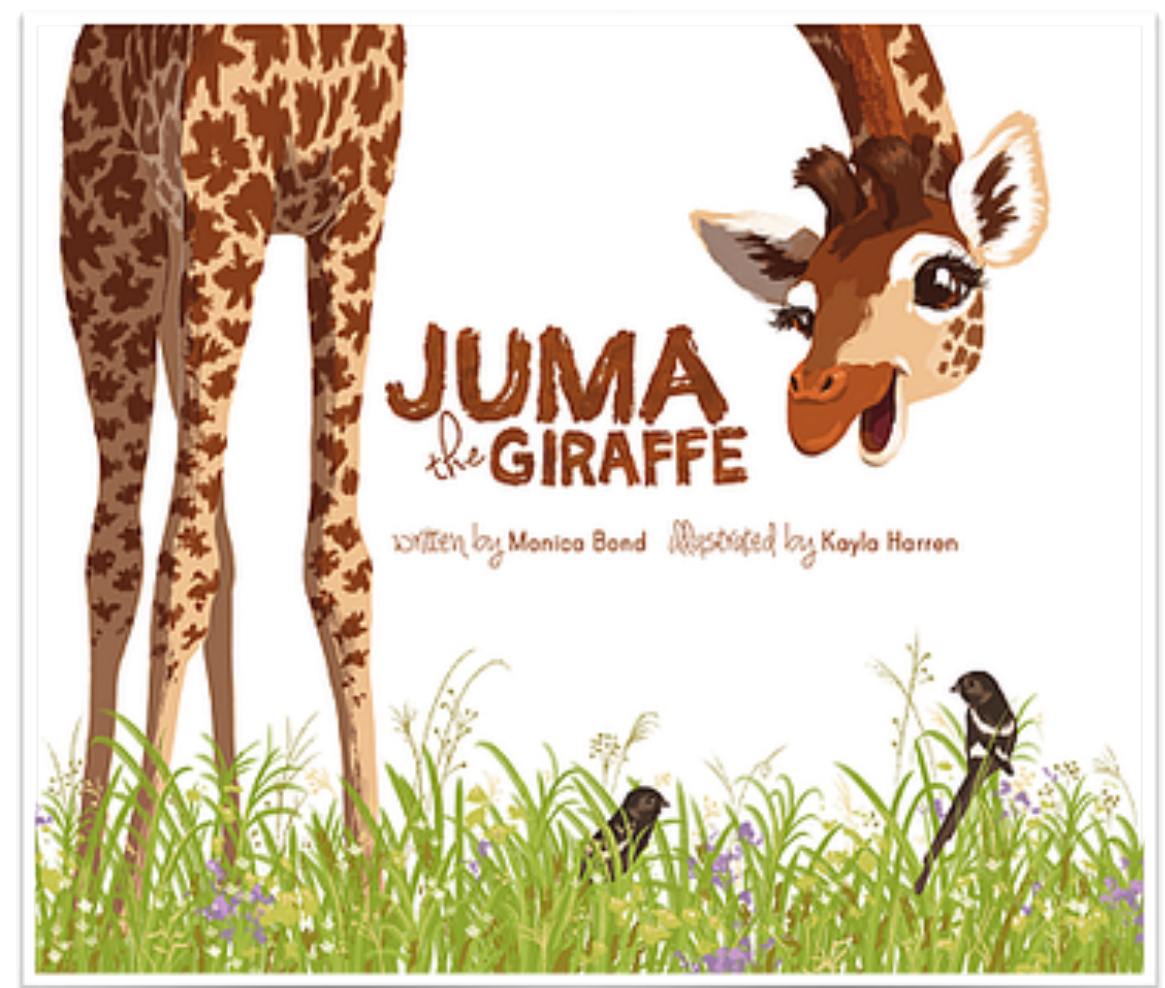
[LINK TO BUY YOUR COPY OF JUMA](#)

After the huge success of our Lucky the Wildebeest book, we developed Juma the Giraffe, the second in an ongoing series of children's educational materials produced by the Wild Nature Institute. Our kid's books teach ecological and social lessons, build national pride in Tanzanian wildlife, and motivate children to learn about their natural world. Juma the Giraffe is a heartwarming story about how every individual is unique and special, both on the outside and on the inside.

Author and wildlife biologist Monica Bond of the Wild Nature Institute was inspired to write Juma the Giraffe while identifying and tracking wild giraffes using their unique spot patterns to understand individual movements and survival. This book provides a fun opportunity for outreach to schoolchildren to discuss the universal theme of individuality while at the same time teaching about giraffe ecology, evolution, and conservation. The book also promotes literacy as it is written in both English and Swahili (the main language in East Africa).

Kayla Harren is a professional children's book illustrator who brought to life Juma, his friends and family, and their African savanna habitat. Together with our Tanzanian partners, the Wild Nature Institute will distribute Juma the Giraffe to thousands of primary school children aged 4 to 8 throughout the country.

For classrooms, we have created and distributed an accompanying Juma poster as well as a lesson plan and activities for teachers to include in their science, math, social studies, and environmental education curriculum.





# Dr. Anne Dagg

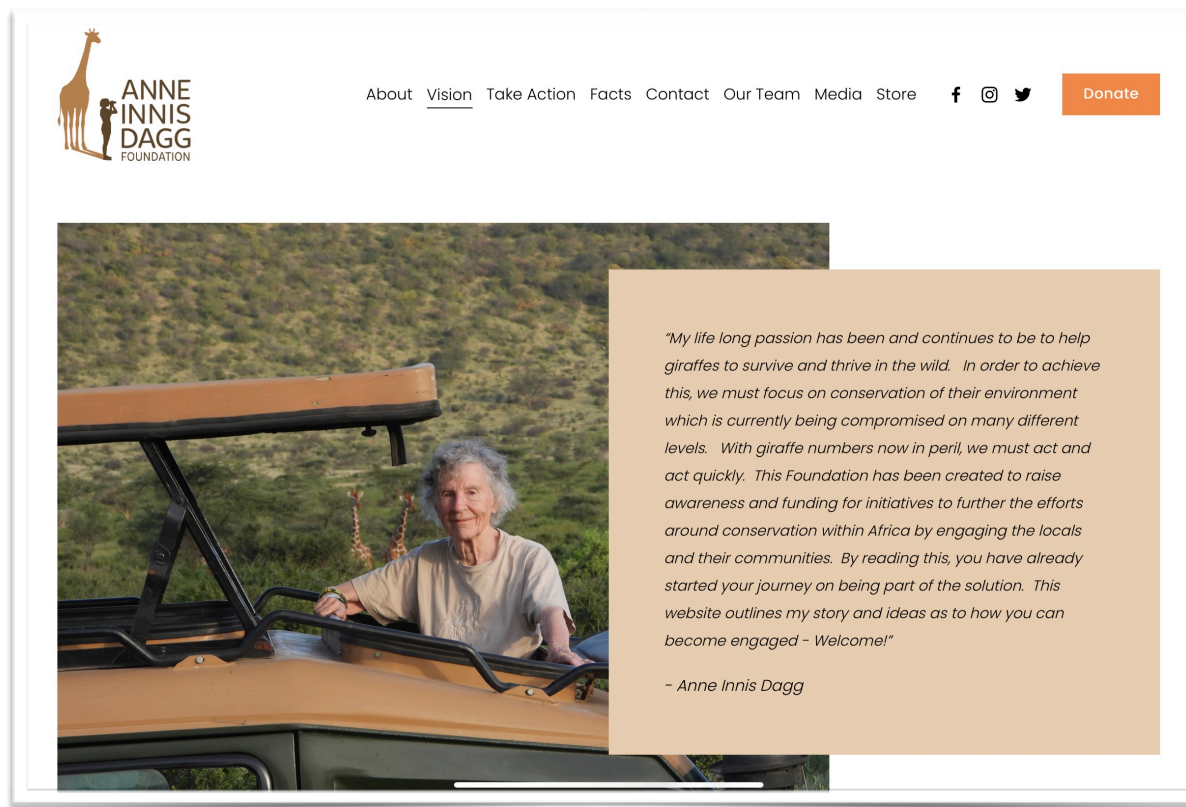
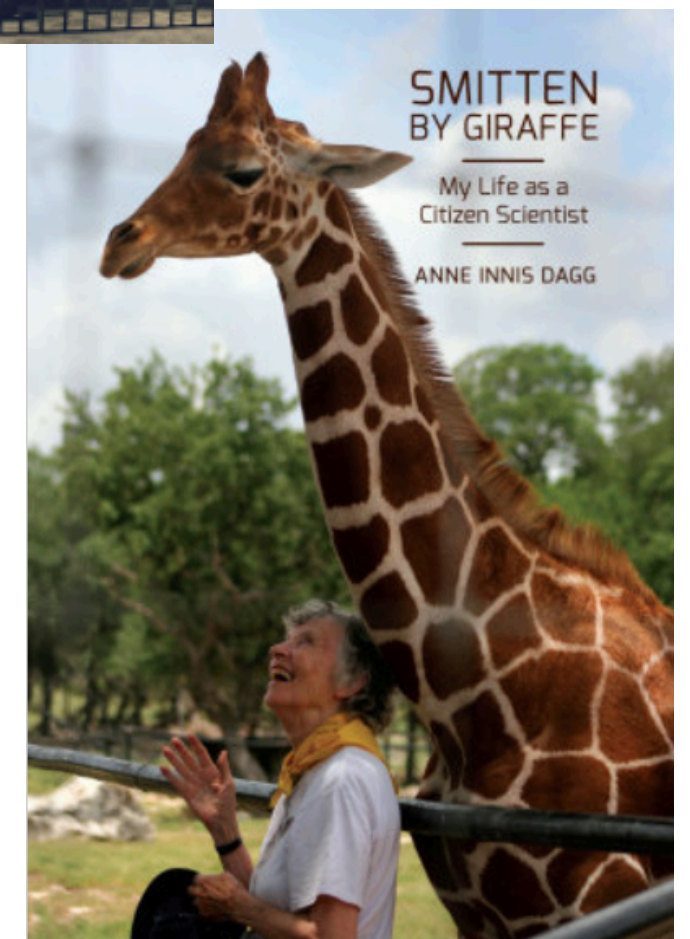
**Dr. Anne Innis Dagg** has spent her life dedicated to understanding more about giraffes and sharing that knowledge with the world. She has been an inspiration to so many across the globe and to our organization. Attached is a link to her foundation.

<https://anneinnisdaggfoundation.org/vision>



On our home page you will also find a link to watch her amazing documentary, The Woman Who Love Giraffes.

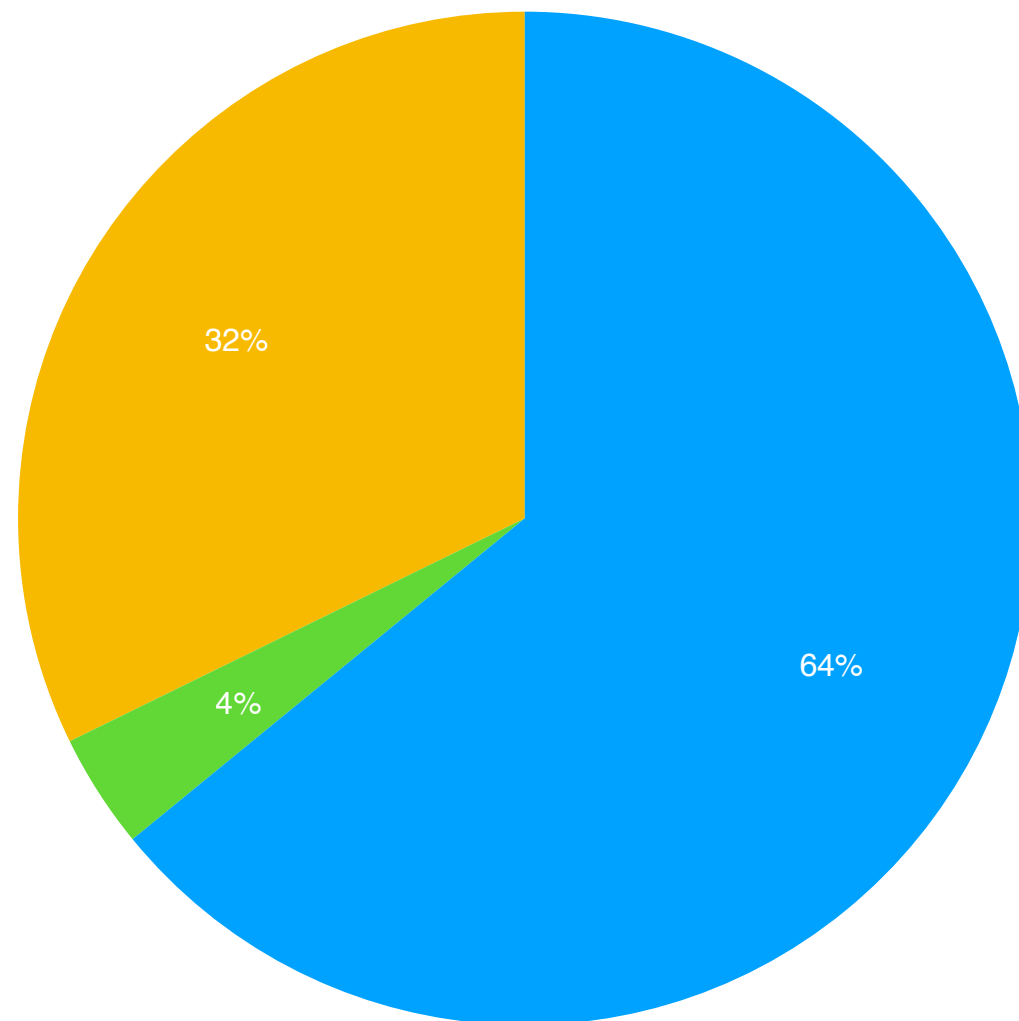
<https://www.SaveTheGiraffes.org>



# Financial Report

## 2020 FINANCIALS OF GENERATED FUNDS

● Funded Projects      ● Operation Expenses      ● [Account Balance]



**This year Save The Giraffes Board of Directors financial decisions were made of caution and uncertainty, as the rest of the world. We were blessed with income from our amazing friends and supporters. We also had those that were able to continue their important work through these troubled times and we were proud to support them. We continue to be operated in a manner of which all administration expenses are donated and we are limited to minor expenses of marketing. As we are in hopes of seeing lockdowns lifted across the globe as the world begins to heal from the pandemic, planning is already begun in the allocation of more funds to our partners from our account balance.**



# Donors

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Laura Landau

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