



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: JJ Vitale ▪ 904.757.4463, ext. 145 ▪ cell: 904-635-5035 ▪ vitalej@jacksonvillezoo.org
Janet Wesley ▪ 904.757.4463, ext. 210 ▪ cell: 904-472-3699 ▪ wesleyj@jacksonvillezoo.org

Wildly Successful Lend a Paw Supply Drive at Zoo

October 9, 2017 – *Jacksonville, FL* – Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens' inaugural Lend a Paw supply drive was incredibly successful this past weekend, with nearly two elephants' weight worth of supplies donated to those in the community affected by Hurricane Irma.

Supporters flocked to the Zoo with non-perishable food, hygiene items, cleaning supplies and pet food in exchange for free tickets to the Zoo. Close to 700 tickets were distributed in two days! Zoo officials could barely contain their excitement at the number of people who participated in the drive.

The pet supplies will be divided between S.A.F.E. Animal Shelter and Friends of Clay County Animals. The human supplies will be distributed to those in need in Clay County, specifically the Black Creek area. Gleaners Dispatch filled two trucks with the abundance of food and supplies collected at the Zoo.

The Zoo will be hosting future supply drives. As a nonprofit organization with a strong commitment to the community, the Zoo knows that sometimes you need to Lend a Paw to those around you. Follow the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens on Facebook to find out about ways to get involved.

The Zoo would like to thank The Promise Radio for their otter-ly amazing help in reaching the Jacksonville audience to promote the supply drive.

About Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens

For over 100 years, the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens has aimed to inspire the discovery and appreciation of wildlife through innovative experiences in a caring environment. Starting in 1914 with an animal collection of one red deer fawn, the Zoo now has more than 2,000 rare and exotic animals and 1,000 species of plants, boasting the largest botanical garden in Northeast Florida. **The Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens is a nonprofit organization and a portion of every ticket sold goes to the over 45 conservation initiatives Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens supports around the world, and here in NE Florida.** JZG is proud to be an accredited member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. For more information, visit jacksonvillezoo.org.