

LEAVING A BEQUEST TO CROW

Your legacy, their future.

Your compassion lives on

180k+
Animals rescued

190k+
Children educated

65k+
Animals released

Centre for Rehabilitation of Wildlife

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WEBSITE
crowkzn.co.za

EMAIL
director@crowkzn.co.za

LOCATION
Durban, South Africa

History of CROW



1977

Isolde Mellet established CROW, running it out of her garage.



1980

CROW officially opens its doors in Yellowwood Park, Durban.



1980–1999

CROW admits various game species into its care, such as lions and rhinos.



2015

The first fully accredited wildlife rehabilitation centre in South Africa.



Today

CROW rescues, rehabilitates and releases 3,000–4,000 animals every year.

Founded in 1977 by local conservationist Isolde Mellet, CROW was among the first wildlife rehabilitation centres established in South Africa. After relocating to Yellowwood Park in 1980, the centre expanded its efforts, rescuing, rehabilitating and releasing thousands of injured, orphaned and displaced animals each year.

Today, almost five decades later, CROW remains Durban's only registered wildlife rehabilitation centre. A dedicated team of staff and volunteers cares for over 3,000 animals annually – mongoose, genets, monkeys, birds, reptiles and antelope – giving them a second chance at a free, safe and sustainable life.

As one of South Africa's leading rehabilitation centres, CROW is committed to enhancing wildlife care and educating the public about KwaZulu-Natal's remarkable biodiversity to ensure its protection. True to our motto:

"The best cage is an empty cage."

How your bequest makes a difference

Including CROW in your Will is a meaningful way to create a lasting legacy for wildlife conservation. Your gift funds the rescue, rehabilitation and release of injured and orphaned wildlife, and the education that helps safeguard South Africa's rich biodiversity for future generations.

You can leave your gift unrestricted, to be used where the need is greatest, or designate it to one of the areas below.

Sustained impact

Rescue, rehabilitation and release of wildlife continues long after your lifetime.

Critical infrastructure

Enclosures, rescue vehicles and medical facilities to respond to emergencies.

Education and outreach

Programmes that encourage communities to protect local wildlife and habitats.

A personal legacy

Honour your values and passion for nature, and inspire others to follow.

AREAS YOU CAN DESIGNATE YOUR GIFT TO



Operational costs



Enclosure upgrades and equipment maintenance



Environmental education and outreach



Medical equipment and supplies



Rescue and release vehicles

Why bequests matter

CROW receives no government or municipal funding.

We are completely reliant on donations to keep our doors open. Bequests provide essential, long-term support for lifesaving care and conservation education across KwaZulu-Natal.

Over 60%

of the donations CROW has received over the years have come from bequests.

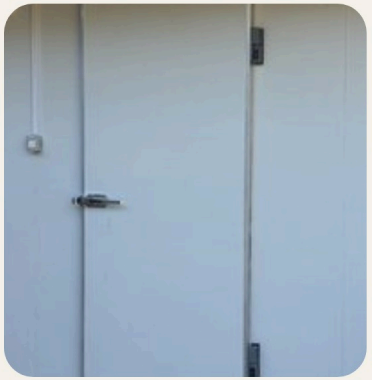
THREE EXAMPLES OF WHAT BEQUESTS HAVE MADE POSSIBLE



2024 · VEHICLE

A new Suzuki Eeco – a lifeline for indigenous wildlife

Thanks to a generous bequest and support from Key Durban and Suzuki, this much-needed vehicle transports wildlife for rescues, releases and conservation education across KwaZulu-Natal.



2024 · FACILITIES

A lifesaving upgrade: a new fridge and freezer

When our 20-year-old walk-in fridge and freezer broke down beyond repair in January 2024, a generous bequest and the Olsen Animal Trust helped us rebuild it by March.



2025 · ENCLOSURES

A bigger, better home for our vervet monkeys

We care for injured, orphaned and displaced vervet monkeys from a day old to adulthood. A 2023 bequest and a major 2024 fundraiser let us rebuild their enclosures in 2025 – removing old gum poles, extending the enclosures and raising the roofs.

Financial management and transparency

CROW's funds are overseen by the Executive Committee and Operations Director, who report to the Board of Trustees. All transactions require dual authorisation, and restricted donations are managed in dedicated accounts with detailed expenditure records accessible to donors. CROW is audited annually by CC Steyn, with AGM reports and audited financials available on request. The breakdown below shows the share of funds going to direct services versus administration.

81% of funds go directly to animal care, education and research

COST BREAKDOWN 2025



66%	**Animal care and maintenance**	Animal care expenses (animal food, medication and clinic nurses) Operational expenses (electricity, water and fuel for rescue and release vehicles) Maintenance (enclosures, facilities and clinic)
9%	**Education**	Personnel expenses (education and agricultural officers) Education material (books and talks)
6%	**Research and project management**	Project management (alien plant control, vegetable garden and aquaponics) Research and collaboration (research partnerships and post-release monitoring) Onsite sustainable practices (solar power)
19%	**Overheads**	Operational expenses (insurance, rent and security) Administrative expenses (staff, professional fees and technology)

06

Legacy planning and recognition

CROW offers both options: a bequest can be publicly recognised or kept anonymous, depending on your preference. Public recognition allows us to honour your contribution and inspire others, while choosing anonymity ensures your privacy is respected.

WAYS CROW WILL HONOUR YOUR LEGACY

- A plaque on our Wall of Memory
- Acknowledgement in our annual reports
- Project dedications, marked with a sign on site



Sustainability and long-term impact

Over the years, CROW's Board of Trustees has allocated funds to an investment portfolio that has carried us through lean funding times – keeping our doors open through COVID, the 2021 riots and the 2022 floods. Through our appeals, and with support from our Trustees and Executive Committee, we have replenished these funds to keep CROW operational through hard financial times. We continuously review and revise our growth plan and funding channels.

2020
NETWORK

CROW joined CORE (Coalition of Wildlife Expertise) as a founding member. CORE works with all NSPCA-accredited wildlife rehabilitation centres across Southern Africa, enabling us to network, exchange expertise and assist wildlife outside KZN.

2024
PROGRAMMES

We rebranded our international volunteer programme, which has the potential to cover 50% of our operational costs each month, relaunched the Guardians – our monthly membership programme – and refreshed our education programme.

Ongoing
REACH

We are constantly increasing our reach by expanding our depots and release sites, and by setting up satellite stations in Zululand and on the KZN South Coast.



How to leave a bequest

1

Decide on your gift

A specific amount, a percentage of the residue of your estate (what remains after other gifts and costs), or a specific asset such as property or shares. You can leave it unrestricted or designate it to an area that matters to you.

2

Speak to your attorney

Ask your attorney or financial advisor to include CROW in a new Will, or to add a codicil to your existing Will. A ready-made codicil is on the last page of this brochure.

3

Let us know

Tell us about your gift at **director@crowkzn.co.za**, so we can thank you personally and discuss how you would like it to be used.

DETAILS FOR YOUR ATTORNEY

Centre for Rehabilitation of Wildlife (C.R.O.W.)
15A Coedmore Avenue
Yellowwood Park, Durban, 4004

NPO No. 046-598
PBO No. 130004901

SUGGESTED WORDING FOR YOUR WILL

"I bequeath to the Centre for Rehabilitation of Wildlife (NPO No. 046-598, PBO No. 130004901), 15A Coedmore Avenue, Yellowwood Park, Durban, 4004, [the sum of R_____ / ____% of the residue of my estate / the following asset: _____], to be used for its general purposes [or: for _____]."

Specific terms of the bequest

Designating your gift

If you would like your gift to go towards something specific, please outline this in your Will with your attorney or financial advisor. We have kept the areas broad, as there will always be a need for funding in each of them. If a project you specify has been completed, we will allocate your gift to another that closely aligns with your wishes. On request, we will send the expenditure report to your next of kin, attorney or financial advisor.

Adding a codicil

A codicil is an additional document that is read together with your Will. It saves you having to write a new Will should you decide to add a bequest. You can add as many codicils as you like, but each must be properly witnessed and signed by two people, neither of whom stands to benefit from the codicil or the original Will.

A ready-made bequest codicil is on the last page of this brochure.

Registered NPO and PBO – Section 18A tax benefits

CROW is a registered Non-Profit Organisation (NPO No. 046-598) and Public Benefit Organisation (PBO No. 130004901), which qualifies it to issue Section 18A tax certificates for tax-deductible donations. Bequests to CROW are also exempt from estate duty.

Please confirm how this applies to your estate with your attorney or financial advisor.



Thank you

If you have made a bequest to CROW in your Will, please let us know, so we can thank you now instead of your executors later. It also gives us the chance to discuss how you would like your gift to be used, and to ensure your memory lives on.

For more information about leaving a bequest to CROW, please contact us:

Centre for Rehabilitation of Wildlife
15A Coedmore Avenue
Yellowwood Park, Durban, 4004

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director@crowkzn.co.za (bequests)
WhatsApp +27 83 212 5281
info@crowkzn.co.za (general)
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Important: this brochure is intended as a guide and should not be used as a substitute for legal advice.



Bequest codicil

If you already have an existing Will, you may add a section called a codicil, which names CROW as a beneficiary. Simply complete the codicil below.

This is the Codicil of me, _____

(full name), Identity Number _____, to my

Last Will and Testament dated _____.

I bequeath to The Centre for Rehabilitation of Wildlife, NPO number 046-598, PBO number 130004901, the sum of R _____ OR _____ % of the residue of my estate for one/more of the following categories:

- ☐ General purposes (where the need is greatest)
- ☐ Operational costs
- ☐ Enclosure upgrades and equipment maintenance
- ☐ Environmental education and outreach
- ☐ Medical equipment and supplies
- ☐ Rescue and release vehicles

If more than one category is selected, the bequest is to be divided equally between them.

In all other respects I confirm the provisions of my aforesaid Last Will and Testament.

Signed _____ (the Testator) as and for his/her Last Will and Testament, in the presence of:

WITNESS 1

Full name _____

Signature _____

WITNESS 2

Full name _____

Signature _____

And in the presence of each other, all being present together at the same time at _____ on the _____ day of _____ (months-years).

Once you have finalised your bequest by adding the above codicil to your Will and informing your executor, please let us know that you have benefitted CROW in your Will by sending a copy to **director@crowkzn.co.za**.