Lauren Townsend Memorial Wildlife Fund Grants

The Lauren Townsend Memorial Wildlife Fund was established in 1999 by the family of Lauren Townsend, a vibrant and inspiring young woman who was a class valedictorian and co-captain of the girls’ volleyball team at Columbine High School. Lauren was one of 13 victims killed in the shootings on April 20, 1999.

Lauren worked at an animal hospital and loved everything from wolves to spiders and any other animal that needed protection. “We established the fund to honor Lauren’s love for animals and learning,” said Dawn Anna, Lauren’s mother. She would be humbled to know that she is still able to help others even after her death.

The fund awards grants to nonprofit organizations that focus on animal welfare or wildlife preservation. Organizations that need funding for a specific project and smaller nonprofit organizations are particularly encouraged to apply. Agencies that have received awards in the past are welcome to apply again.

Organizations with 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status that focus on animal welfare or wildlife preservation are eligible to apply for funding. Grant requests must be for programs operating in the United States. To be considered for the 2018 cycle, submit a grant request postmarked on or before Friday, May 18, 2018 to:

The Lauren Townsend Memorial Wildlife Fund  
c/o The Denver Foundation  
55 Madison Street, Suite 800  
Denver, CO 80206

If you wish to submit a request electronically, please send the items requested below as one pdf to townsend@denverfoundation.org. Emails must be received by 5:00pm MST on May 18, 2018.

Grant requests must include all of the following to be considered:

1) A concise summary of the organization’s mission, history, and goals.
2) A concise summary of the organization’s programs and services.
3) The amount of the grant request and a detailed description of how the money would be used.
4) A copy of the organization’s current budget and most recent balance sheet.  
(Please note: IRS Form 990 is not an acceptable substitute for the above.)
5) A copy of the organization’s nonprofit letter of exemption showing current 501(c)(3) status.

Grant requests must be signed by the nonprofit organization’s Executive Director and include his or her contact information. A letter will be mailed to all applicants regarding the selection committee’s decision on or before July 6, 2018. Questions can be sent to townsend@denverfoundation.org.

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One to five grants are made each year. The following are some of the animal welfare and wildlife preservation organizations that have received grants from the Lauren Townsend Memorial Wildlife Fund over the last five years:

- **Bluff Lake Nature Center** – $2,747 for the purchase, installation, and management of wildlife video cameras
- **Bow Wow Buddies** – $4,000 to support the Scout’s Angels therapy dogs that traveled to Newtown, CT with a team to work with the Newtown community in 2013
- **Butterfly Pavilion** – $4,000 to support the education presentation space part of the Invertebrate World Exhibit
- **Center for Native Ecosystems** – $2,000 to support the Front Range Pika Project
- **Colorado Wolf and Wildlife Center** – $4,000 toward constructing a sprinkler system for fire prevention
- **Ellicott Wildlife Rehabilitation Center** – $4,000 to build the ‘Lauren Townsend Wildlife Infirmary’ and $3,000 for materials to complete a NICU for baby birds and mammals
- **Freedom Service Dogs** – $3,421 to provide room and board for ten months for one service dog in training
- **Gold Country Wildlife Rescue** – $4,000 toward purchasing analytical lab equipment (biological compound microscope, centrifuge, refractometer, autoclave)
- **Hoo Haven Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center** – $2,000 for providing Ambassador Programs and $1,500 to support funding the building of a Wildlife Tracking Plot
- **Raccoon River Bend** – $3,000 toward the construction of a nursery building for care for animals as they are being rehabilitated, and $500 to support animal enclosure improvements
- **Rocky Mountain Raptor Program** – $2,324 for cage repairs and improvements • **Rocky Mountain Wild** - $2,000 to support the Front Range Pika Project
- **The Wildlife Experience** – $4,000 each year for expenses related to ‘Lauren's Live Animal Days’ during the 2009-2010 through 2014-2015 academic years
- **The Wild Animal Sanctuary** – $4,000 for developing large acreage habitats for great cats, bears, wolves, and other large carnivores, $5,000 for use toward building an exterior deck for the Bolivian Lion Observation Deck, $5,000 to extend the walkway to the Observation Deck, $3,000 toward the fall 2014 rescue and transportation of 19 lions and 4 bears from Spain, and $4,000 to support a new bear habitat
- **Wild Heart Ranch** – $1,000 to build a new born fawn outside pen
- **W.O.L.F.** – $3,350 for building three fire resistant den structures and $2,970 for creation and installation of feeder and water bucker brackets in animal enclosures