



# How African Primate Sanctuaries Have Fared During the 2020 Global Pandemic

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## The Role of PASA

(PASA) was founded in 2000 to help connect sanctuaries caring for

that PASA plays is facilitating and enhancing communication between primate sanctuaries, something that is extremely important during times of crisis. Communication has allowed for advancements in care, sharing of

in 13 countries across Africa. Similar to AZA Accreditation for zoos, PASA accreditation requires sanctuaries to have a clearly organized and ethical management plan and a budget to be

corruption and ensure that funds are being directed toward caring for their primates. PASA has several different

earned by being a reputable and ethical

at many different primate and animal care conferences across the world. His contributions to AAZK Conferences

and volunteers to get involved with conservation initiatives impacting the

every single member sanctuary has

increased need for support all at the

and businesses, they were forced to close their doors to combat the global

entire year.

## Increased Precautions at PASA Member Sanctuaries

to-human spread of this deadly virus, PASA member sanctuaries have had to deal with another major concern for their primates. Primates are susceptible to the same illnesses as humans,

contracting and possibly spreading

illness from international travelers has been a manageable concern in the past (Muehlenbein et al., 2010), the highly contagious novel coronavirus has changed precautionary methods

(Mohapatra et al., 2020). Sanctuaries have had to create strict quarantine protocols for animal care staff and for incoming primates (Colin, 2020). With

cared for at PASA member sanctuaries, the increased cost of personal protective

PASA member sanctuary staff members are required to wear protective gear

disinfected, and many staff members have been rotating on and off in multi-

per day at their sanctuary (Colin, 2020).

## Hardships and Triumphs at PASA Member Sanctuaries

At Lola Ya Bonobo, doors were closed to visitors at the same time that staff began living at the sanctuary to

the increased hours employees needed to be paid has made for an incredibly

Wildlife Center created promotional

of their international volunteers is one of the things that has impacted them

the hardest. Estimated nm3005cd[(t l5o-Y.ig.401390003  
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*Chimpanzee rescue with increased PPE at Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage. (PASA Primates, & Chimfunshi Wildlife Orphanage. 2020)*



stood out as a leader for positive and effective social media communication

that family. We have had some incredible donors that have pledged to match

funds to aid in the efforts of supporting

sanctuaries have banded together and supported one another through joint fundraisers, sharing social media techniques to raise awareness and connect with donors, and by offering words of encouragement when times are particularly grim. With the support of many volunteers, PASA has been able to increase our presence on social media which has cultivated more connections

AAZK members have offered a helping

volunteer roles with PASA and our member sanctuaries. One person can

a sanctuary, and one organized group of dedicated and passionate animal lovers

place for primates and all other species we share this planet with. 🐒

## References

American Association of Zoo Keepers. n.d.

org/about-us/  
Colin, C. 2020. Wildlife rescue centers protect chimpanzees from coronavirus. Chimpanzee Conservation Center. Retrieved from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-jebfovUy60>

*Thanks to the support of many dedicated volunteers, PASA has been able to increase their presence across social media platforms to connect with more people during the current pandemic.*

