

WILDLIFE RESCUE SUPPORT



THE WILDLIFE CENTER ACCOMPLISHES its mission not only through the support of the local community but also through partnerships with other organizations. Two such organizations are Lake Humane Society and Hiram College Field Station.

Lake Humane Society, located in Mentor, receives funding solely through donations and grants. Recently, they received a grant that will allow their staff to provide animal rescues 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Since the Kevin P. Clinton Wildlife Center does not currently provide wildlife rescues, Lake Humane Society offered to help us. They have started providing wildlife rescues to those animals in need of help after we have closed for the day. We provided safety training to their staff so that they can handle wild animals without getting injured. We also taught them how to capture wild animals without causing injury or distress to the animals.

The Kevin P. Clinton Wildlife Center is open seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. During this time, injured and/or orphaned animals can be brought in for examination. After 5 p.m., we have a drop off animal cage where anyone can bring an injured wild animal to be examined the next day. However, there are some cases where an animal may need to be handled by a trained professional. If that is the case, Lake County residents can call the local police department and they will contact the Lake Humane Society if needed for a rescue.

Another collaboration valued by the staff at the Kevin P. Clinton Wildlife Center is with the **Hiram College Field Station**. The field station focuses on wildlife research and education and has received money to build a new wildlife rehabilitation facility. To help prepare them to be successful in this endeavor, Wildlife Center staff is providing hands-on training for the students who will be performing rehabilitation at the station. In return, the college pays the students and they help us with research so we can provide better care to the animals we rehabilitate. This is a great way for the students to receive field experience. It is a win-win situation—we benefit from the students' research skills and the college gains training for students by professionals in the field.

Through these partnerships we are all more successful. Each organization has a unique niche and together we can help educate our communities about helping animals. Thank you to Lake Humane Society and Hiram College Field Station for their hard work and support.

