The Covid-19 pandemic is causing difficult times for everyone and wildlife conservation programs like ours have been extremely hard hit.

From March through October each year, we usually bring in about $35,000 from our outreach programs and private tours. This year, our income has been zero.

Additionally, for the first time since 2004 (16 years), we will not be able to hold our annual summer open house fundraiser at the WCE&CF compound.

However, we have a plan for providing enough funds for the care of our cats and support of our in-situ conservation partners that works within the social distancing limits imposed by the pandemic.

We will hold eight “mini” open houses on Saturdays during August, September and October. Each one will be for a maximum of six guests, which will allow for proper social distancing. Each fundraiser will be held from noon until 4 pm and will include a conducted tour of the compound, gourmet boxed lunch and cheetah run. The cost of a ticket is $175 per person.

The dates are:

| Aug 29 | Oct 3 |
| Sep 5  | Oct 10 |
| Sep 12 | Oct 17 |
| Sep 26 | Oct 24 |

As we have done in previous years, we will have a raffle and a “Cheetah Challenge”. The raffle includes your choice of a Marie Scarpa original handmade wildcat pendant necklace or a wild cat painting.
This year, the Cheetah Challenge will be a “combined event”, with the times being collected from the runs at each of the eight mini open houses. The fastest time overall will determine the winner.

![Themba running in the 2016 Open House Cheetah Challenge](image)

We will sell raffle tickets and Cheetah Challenge squares at each event. We will announce the raffle and Cheetah Challenge winners in a live stream on Facebook on Sunday, October 25th at 2PM.

If you cannot attend one of the eight mini open houses, you can still purchase raffle tickets or Cheetah Challenge squares by email or phone.

We so very much appreciate the support you have provided us through the years. Your donations not only enable us to give our cats the best possible care, but also help us contribute financially to our in-situ conservation partners, whose incomes have been dramatically reduced. With your generous support, we will send our full annual donations to all our conservation partners this year.

The goal of the Wild Cat Education and Conservation Fund has always been to keep healthy wild cat populations in the wild, where they belong.

To attend one of our mini open houses, or to make a donation if you are unable to attend, please contact us by email at wildcat@wildcatfund.org or by calling us at 707-874-3176.

We hope to see everyone soon!

Warmest regards –
Rob, Barbara, the WCE&CF board and the cats

![Baruti is looking forward to seeing you!](image)