

News from the Field ~ Thailand

Elephant Healthcare & Welfare Emergency Lifeline Fund*

Supporting the wellbeing of Asian elephants during the COVID-19 pandemic

Caring for elephants, from the ground up!

When it comes to caring for elephants living in captivity during the pandemic, having timely access to professional veterinary care is often the difference between longterm disability and much-needed relief. This is especially important when an elephant's feet are involved; front feet bear 60% of an elephant's weight so immediate treatment is critical to overall wellbeing.

Dr. Panida Muanghong—one of 15 Thai veterinarians and vet technicians supported by the "Elephant Healthcare and Welfare Emergency Lifeline Fund"—was recently called upon to treat Playa Shabu's painful, swollen foot. When she arrived she found that his festering abscess had ruptured and required immediate care.

Using bananas, Dr. Panida coaxed Shabu into raising his 'good foot' to ensure he wasn't able to move his sore foot during treatment. She then thoroughly cleaned the wound and administered a vaccination to prevent tetanus. She instructed Shabu's keepers on how to carry out proper care until the wound is fully healed, which could take a month or more.

We wish Shabu a speedy recovery and thank Dr. Panida for her work! Of course, her work would not be possible without the financial support of our kind and generous donors. *Thank you!*

♥ [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more or donate to our Elephant Emergency Lifeline Fund*

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* A collaborative project of Elephant Care International, Work for Wild Life, and Golden Triangle Asian Elephant Foundation