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**Animal Handler Internship Information**

Dear Applicant,

The following information is intended to give applicants more information about WRI and this Internship position.

**Wildlife Rehabilitation Ireland**

WRI [www.wri.ie] is a not for profit NGO established in 2010 working for the general advancement of wildlife protection and rehabilitation in Ireland. It is a registered charity and private company limited by guarantee.

WRI promotes and encourages best practice and sets high ethical standards for the rescue and rehabilitation of wildlife; is a data collection point for records of wildlife casualties; unites Ireland with the International wildlife rehabilitation community; and offers wildlife educational events to all interested in Ireland’s wildlife.

**Emergency Interim Hospital**

In2020 as a result of COVID there was an increased awareness of the natural world around us, with many people appreciating nature and wildlife like never before. Lockdown resulted in a significant increase in demand for rehabilitation for orphaned birds, hedgehogs, bats and birds of prey among a growing number of animals brought into centres for treatment.

This rise in injuries is part of a wider trend of increasing awareness of habitat loss and the threats to the natural world, but experts also point to the Covid-19 lockdown as a significant factor in this year’s increase as the public become more aware of the wildlife on their doorstep.

Due to this huge increase and awareness, we are delighted to be opening our first wildlife hospital in Ireland.

**Location:**

*WRI Wildlife Hospital, Garlow Cross, Navan, Co Meath, C15 V9TW*

We are in a scenic part of Ireland with the historic Hill of Tara only a stone throws away. We are located two mins drive off junction 7 on the M3. The hospital is serviced by a bus route from Dublin City Centre & Dublin Airport. Our nearest town is Navan, which is only a ten minute drive from the Hospital.

**Start date:**

Flexible starting dates.

**Requirements:**

The successful applicant will ideally have a degree or equivalent experience in the area of Veterinary, Biology, Zoology, or a related field. Preference will be given to applicants with previous roles in or work experience in wildlife rehabilitation. Applicants must be comfortable with public speaking, giving direction/teaching, and using Microsoft Office.

Being organised and self-motivated is essential. Applicants should be agile with a good sense of balance in order to manoeuvre around the enclosures and holding areas and must be able to lift 25 kilograms. Applicants must possess the ability to adapt to an ever-changing work environment, and be available to work long hours, nights, weekends, and holidays for the duration of their stay. Applicants must be over 18. Ideally the suitable candidate will have a clean driving record and a driver’s license that is valid in Ireland.

**Duties Include:**

• Assist in coordination of releases and other conservation events.

• Management of wildlife records database.

• Responsible for managing specific programs within the organization.

• Responsible for hospital inventory and stock checks.

• Supervising and participating in daily animal diet preparations, routine cleaning of enclosures, giving medical treatments, tube feeding, and maintenance of the grounds.

• Overseeing daily operation of hospital and visitor centre, medical treatment plans and upgrading animals and diets with other managers.

• Assist and coordinate rescue of sick, injured & orphaned wildlife including assisting with the wildlife helpline.

• Participate in educational talks and tours.

• Provide assistance to the Animal Manager, Hospital Manager, and other management as needed.

• Assisting with fundraisers, educational events, clerical duties, and office work as needed

• Representing Wildlife Rehabilitation Ireland at networking events

**Additional Information:**

This fast paced, full-time position is for a minimum of 3 months but we would encourage and will prioritise those able to stay for a longer period. The animal handler internship is an unpaid position. Housing is offered on site at the Hospital. Successful applicants will be in shared accommodation (2-3 per room), at a weekly cost of 80 euro. Interns will be required to provide and cook their own food. They will also be responsible for their own travel and associated expenses.

For more information don’t hesitate to contact us on [office@wri.ie](mailto:office@wri.ie)

*Looking forward to meeting you*!