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**For Immediate Release**

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**FRESNO CHAFFEE ZOO WELCOMES BABY ANTEATER**

*Fresno, CA* - The Zoo's giant anteater, Chive has given birth to a female pup, Ají. The anteater baby will continue to grow and is being monitored by the Zoo's animal care team. Chive and her baby are expected to be on habitat for guests to visit periodically throughout the spring.

Chive arrived at the Fresno Chaffee Zoo in 2013. Since then, she has had three pups. Chive is an important part of the anteater Species Survival Plan (SSP). The [AZA Species Survival Plan](#) helps to ensure genetically diverse and sustainable populations.

"Chive is a valuable female for the giant anteater population within accredited zoos," said Fresno Chaffee Zoo Animal Manager Michele. "Her parents brought new genetics into the population, and now she has helped pass these valuable genes on through three offspring and a grandchild."

Michele has served as the SSP Coordinator for giant anteaters in the AZA organization since 2018. She works with other AZA organizations in North America and a geneticist to determine which anteaters would be the best match to breed to keep the populations sustained.

"The goal of any SSP program is in 100 years to have the same genetic diversity in species that we do today," said Michele. "Fresno Chaffee Zoo has been a supporter of giant anteaters for many years through the breeding program, and now we offer even more support at the national level through the Species Survival Plan Coordinator position, to further the conservation of this species."

Fresno Chaffee Zoo also supports the conservation of giant anteaters through the Fresno Chaffee Zoo Conservation Fund. [Anteaters and Highways](#), works to reduce the number of giant anteaters killed by motor vehicles in their native areas and is one of the many organizations the Zoo supports.

**About Fresno Chaffee Zoo:** Centrally located in Fresno, California, Fresno Chaffee Zoo is a 39-acre [Association of Zoos and Aquariums](#) (AZA) accredited zoo. It is home to over 200 different species and features wow exhibits—from Sea Lion Cove to African Adventure—that teach guests about animals all across the globe and the conservation efforts to protect them. The Zoo welcomes over 800,000 guests annually, offering a world-class guest experience and conservation education to all who visit. The mission of Fresno Chaffee Zoo is to inspire wonder of our natural world, provide an engaging learning environment, and create a passion for conservation.

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