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Shy Wolf Sanctuary considers joining in coalition of animal rescue sanctuaries.

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There is a common plight among many of our community's wolves, panthers and arrots: they need a safe, nurturing place to call home. Whether they are facing economic challenges, zoning law changes or other significant obstacles, several of our area's rescue organizations, including Shy Wolf Sanctuary Education & Experience Center, are on a mission to secure land to house and protect their animals.

Philanthropist and animal lover Howard Petrie has created the Coalition of Sanctuaries (CoS), a 501(C)(3) umbrella organization which will be comprised of individual member rescue organizations. The CoS will be responsible for the purchase of an appropriate parcel of land to be shared by all of the member sanctuaries.

"The idea is that Shy Wolf Sanctuary, Lucky Parrot, a parrot rescue center in Naples, and other like organizations will live and work side by side and share common areas such as a repair shop, climate controlled storage, veterinary exam room and surgery, and an educational/visitors center," said Petrie. "Each member sanctuary will continue to operate with complete independence, cooperating with the others in the spirit of doing what's best for the animals. This effort will result in no monetary gain, and no breeding will take place."

For Petrie and the participating sanctuaries, the primary challenge is to locate a single property where they are permitted to operate. Southwest Florida offers the best notential but the group is open to other Florida land opportunities.

While awaiting a land opportunity, Shy Wolf Sanctuary continues to plan fundraising efforts to support the more than 50 animals they care for. On March 22, they will host

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