Emma Hayes

5836 Blue Spruce Ln., Cincinnati, OH, 45224 | 513-203-5791 | hayes\_emmal@live.com

January 19, 2019

Heike Stackmann

Volunteer Coordinator and Public Relations Officer

Cheetah Conservation Fund

P.O. Box 1755

Otjiwarongo

Namibia

Dear Heike Stackmann:

I am writing to express my sincere interest in the position of working guest. Through my time as a volunteer and employee at the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden, I have developed a passion for the environment and aspire towards a career in global conservation. I am motivated to explore conservation on an international scale with the Cheetah Conservation Fund. I am dedicated to the Cheetah Conservation Fund’s mission to become a globally recognized center of excellence for cheetah conservation. My prior experience in animal care, and my leadership skills from a supervisor background, would make me an ideal candidate to further that mission.

I have developed a wide variety of skills that would allow me to thrive as a working guest. During my time at the Cincinnati Zoo, I have worked in animal care, education, and guest interaction. I have volunteered in various animal care areas throughout the Zoo, from darkling beetles and armadillos in the Interpretive department to king penguins and hornbills in the Bird House. Creating animal diets, cleaning living spaces, and renovating habitats were regular responsibilities. Even when I was up to my elbows in a bucket of raw fish, I had fun and developed a thorough understanding of quality animal care. My current position at the Zoo is supervisor for the ZooTeen program. I train, teach, and guide teenagers in the local community to become adept leaders and advocates for the environment. In order to help each of the 250 teens under my care succeed, I have learned to adapt to new challenges and think on my feet. I am constantly looking for ways to better the quality, impact, and efficiency of my work with the ZooTeen program. Most recently, I created the first structured training program and manual for incoming ZooTeen supervisors. I will be training the new supervisors this spring to best prepare them for their summer season with the ZooTeens.

Through most of my career with the Cincinnati Zoo, I have been immersed in the Western perspective of education and conservation. While these experiences have helped me develop valuable skills, I am longing for a chance to experience conservation on an international scale. Working with the Cheetah Conservation Fund would allow me the chance to experience conservation in a new place, culture, and context, which I would use to help broaden my understanding and further my career in conservation.

No matter the task or position, I maintain a deep level of dedication to my work. I would love to bring that same energy, accompanied by my skills and experience, to help further the mission of the Cheetah Conservation Fund. Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to hearing from you soon about this exciting opportunity!

Sincerely,   
  
Emma Hayes