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To Whom it May Concern:

The Chattanooga Zoo and SunTrust Bank have a relationship that began almost 20 years ago, when the SunTrust Foundation provided a major donation to help with an ambitious new exhibit for the Zoo, Gombe Forest. This project really took the Zoo to a new level.

In subsequent years, the Zoo reached out to ask for a new partnership with SunTrust. The Zoo designed a diversity workforce program called PEDZ (Promoting Ethnic Diversity in Zoos) to create summer jobs for underserved minority students at the zoo. Every summer, 16-20 high school students are accepted into the 8 week employment program. Funds from the SunTrust Foundation have allowed us to make the program stronger and include involvement with the local SunTrust employees to help with understanding how to better manage money. This partnership has made a difference in the lives of children desperately in need of nurturing and encouragement.

In addition to the above partnerships, the Zoo has always been able to count on SunTrust to sponsor some of our fundraising and educational events. We are grateful for the support from all of the different facets of SunTrust. The SunTrust logo may be found throughout our community, working with countless organizations to help provide a better quality of life for our citizens. With the merger with BB&T, we are confident that partnership will enhance both the entities involved as well as the communities they serve.

Sincerely,

Dardenelle Long, CEO