



Dr. Barbara Baker
President & CEO,
Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium

2021

Woman of Distinction
STEM: Science & Conservation

In the 31 years at the Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium, Dr. Baker has grown the 77-acre zoo from a city-managed facility into the most visited cultural attraction in western Pennsylvania and one of the top ten zoos in the country with a million visitors annually.

Under Dr. Baker's leadership, The Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium is home to over 52 endangered and threatened species and was the first North American zoo to develop an off-site facility designed for the care and management of African elephants. The 1,000 acre International Conservation Center is currently home to six African elephants, including a valuable breeding bull, Jackson. Under Dr. Baker's guidance, the zoo's annual budget has increased from \$3 million to over \$20 million a year. The zoo's education department grew from offering a few classes a year to educating over 400,000 participants of all ages.

Dr. Baker received a doctor of veterinary medicine degree from Auburn University and a master of business administration from the University of South Carolina. She began her career as an intern at the Bronx Zoo, was associate veterinarian at the Lincoln Park Zoo, then director of animal health and research at the Riverbanks Zoo working as a zoo veterinarian for over eight years. Dr. Baker is the definition of a true leader and inspires others around her to reach their full potential.

