



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH

## MAMONÍ VALLEY

Kaminando aims to protect the Americas' vulnerable wildcats and their habitats...by engaging communities in conservation and inspiring new generations of nature conservationists.

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## PARTNERS IN ACTION

RAISING AWARENESS AND CHANGING  
PERCEPTIONS!

### THE OAKLAND ZOO IN MAMONÍ

Books containing images of jaguars, wildlife from the region, and the world, along with signed banners reading, “**Mamoni Valley Guardians of the Jaguar**” and other supplies were collected from generous donors and visitors to the [Oakland Zoo](#). Sam and Vicky were the designated zoo staff to deliver the educational materials to each of the four schools in the Mamoni Valley.

On July 1<sup>st</sup>, Sam and Vicky landed at the Tocumen airport in Panamá, it was their first time visiting the tropical montane cloud forest. Upon arrival, the temperature 30 C (86 F) and high humidity was apparent. Although July is considered the wet season, they had arrived during “El Veranillo”, a short summer period characterized by sporadic light rain and sunny days. However, the micro-climates within the Valley and the mountains were evident during a two-day trek to check camera traps, when during the night, a surprisingly heavy rain dismantled part of our camp site!

Following their jungle experience, it was time to deliver the educational materials to the schools. Our team was met with anticipation by both the teachers and children. The teachers were thrilled to have new teaching materials and supplies, but for the children, it was like opening a bag full of presents! It was such a delight to watch them discover each book and enthusiastically share with their classmates. At that moment, we knew that our donations had made a tremendous impact on the children and their teachers. We know that these educational tools will help to make the classrooms more interactive, and our conservation work more pragmatic, thanks to the partnership between Kaminando and the Oakland Zoo.



## DOCUMENTING KAMINANDO'S WORK

Filmmakers, Sarina and Mikenzie ([Selvavision](#)) visited our study site to continue documenting both our jaguar research and our community outreach work in the Valley. The goal is to create a documentary portraying the effects of climate change on the survival of the iconic jaguar, and how it relates to forest fragmentation in the narrowest section of Panamá

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## LINCOLN UNIVERSITY IN THE VALLEY

Dr. Jennifer McCarthy and her student Samantha McGonigle and Jorge Perea (Panamanian Volunteer) spent two weeks in the Mamoni Valley interviewing residents to acquire knowledge on one of the most urgent wild cat conservation issues today, "human-felid conflict". Dr. McCarthy is interested in determining if, and how, small cats negatively affect the livelihoods of the local communities.

## KIMBERLY'S 2-YEAR JAGUAR RESEARCH

Kimberly's dissertation results have provided Kaminando with new information to build our educational toolbox. This translates into documentaries, presentations, and other materials that can be given to both children and adults throughout the Valley. These deliverables further Kaminando's efforts to raise awareness to reduce deforestation and promote positive attitudes towards wildlife.

Kimberly's results may also have implications for the conservation plans the Panamanian Government seeks to implement. Kaminando promotes consultation and conversation with government agencies and other researchers to determine the best approaches to protecting the jaguar and its habitat in Panamá.

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During our visit to Volcán, western Panamá, our meetings with Janson's Coffee Farm, and the Ministry of Tourism opened up opportunities for Kaminando to build new venues for research and tourism, in both Volcán and the Mamoni Valley areas.

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