Why exhibit warthogs?

- Foster an immediate guest connection with this well-recognized and popular wild pig species.
- Enhance savanna exhibits with warthogs, using interpretive connections with many other species: aardvarks (burrow use), elephants and rhinos (dung scavenging), oxpeckers (tick removal), and large predators (defense tactics).
- Present visitors with an active exhibit throughout the day; warthogs are exclusively diurnal.
- Both sexes grow impressive ornamental tusks. Males also develop extensive facial warts - their bizarre appearance captivates visitors.
- Tap into a bounty of marketing opportunities - they are the "naked swine of the savanna!"

Stewardship Opportunities
Northern Rangelands Trust (Kenya)
http://www.nrt-kenya.org/
Field surveys of two warthog species in East Africa
http://www.wildsolutions.nl/

Care and Husbandry

YELLOW SSP: 51.67 (118) in 34 AZA institutions (2019)
Species coordinator: Lisa Smith, Buffalo Zoo
lsmith@buffalozoo.org; 716-837-3900

Social nature: Typically kept in pairs with young offspring. Multiple other configurations are possible under the proper circumstances, including bachelor groups and all-female groups.

Mixed species: Various medium and large hoofstock (gazelles, various antelope, zebras), white rhino, ostrich, and bat-eared foxes. Their digging habits may create trip hazards for other hoofstock.

Housing: Not at all cold tolerant, especially when young. This species can be tough on exhibit terrain and vegetation; barriers must extend underground to prevent burrowing escapes.

Medical notes: Generally robust.

Special requirements: Mud wallows are very popular, especially when temperatures are high. Can be fractious if not properly socialized or exposed to a variety of stimuli when young.

Keeper resources: This species’ use of latrine spots (and separate beds) greatly simplifies daily cleaning. Enrichment is readily used; warthogs also pick up quickly on husbandry training.

Please contact the TAG for full husbandry guidelines.
http://www.azaungulates.org/