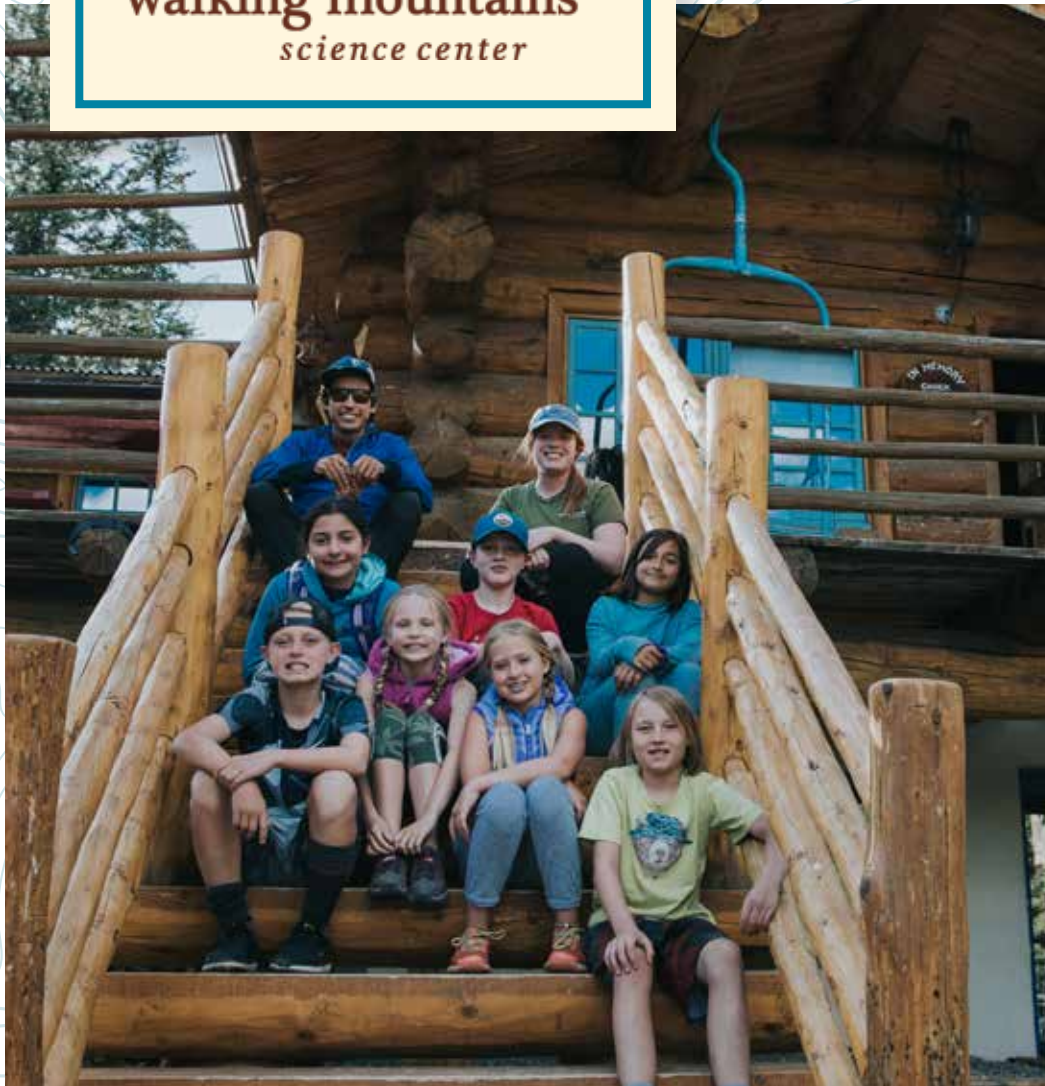


ANNUAL REPORT 2019

walking mountains[®]
science center





OUR MISSION

To awaken a sense of wonder and inspire environmental stewardship and sustainability through natural science education.



DEAR FRIENDS,

Walking Mountains is pleased to bring you the Annual Report for fiscal year 2019 (July 1, 2018 -June 30, 2019). While few years can compare to last—our twentieth anniversary—we are proud of all we accomplished in this twenty-first year, in no small part due to your exceptional generosity and support.

For the first time in our history, we surpassed reaching 200,000 people in a single year. No small accomplishment when you consider that in our first year we reached 900 people.

Additionally, in 2019 we surpassed reaching 1,000,000 people since our founding in 1998 through programs, events, experiences, camps, talks, hikes, sustainability initiatives and much more. Knowing that our mission has touched that many people over the years is inspiring, to say the least.

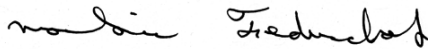
By now we hope that you have seen or toured our spectacular new Borgen Precourt Center for Sustainability, opened officially in June. With this new building, we have doubled our classrooms which will significantly increase the number of Eagle Valley students who will have the opportunity to be inspired and empowered to preserve and protect the earth. Our increased space has also enabled us to serve even more groups and serve as an important community convener. We’ve hosted countless students, non-profits, government agencies, and others on our Avon Tang Campus due to our increased meeting space.

Our sustainability programs also continue to thrive. We conducted a record number of Zero Waste events throughout the Valley and had another record-breaking year of diverting waste. We also continue to grow our energy efficiency and sustainable business certification programs. We even launched a mobile app to educate the community about recycling (Eagle County Waste Wizard) and a tool to help you easily calculate your cost to purchase 100% renewable electricity (walkingmountains.org/renew).

As our students grow into the stewards we hope them to be, their education at Walking Mountains grows with them, and the impact is felt within the confines of our Valley and beyond.

Walking Mountains cannot do the work we do without you. Your consistent and generous support is inspiring and we are deeply grateful for you and all you do for us. Thank you for helping us reach our first million people and inspiring us to reach our next million potential environmental stewards in the future.

With Best Regards,



Markian Feduschak
President



Ellen Moritz
Board Chair



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Alan Danson
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Holly Elliott



ONE

SINCE 1998

MILLION PEOPLE SERVED

Thank you for enabling us to inspire environmental stewardship and sustainability in over one million people.



With Your Support We've Achieved

1,107,639 **PEOPLE REACHED SINCE 1998**

OVER
430,000
VISITORS

TO THE AVON TANG CAMPUS, VAIL NATURE CENTER AND NATURE DISCOVERY CENTER



75,726 **EAGLE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT**
STUDENTS REACHED THROUGH
PLACE-BASED NATURAL SCIENCE EDUCATION



1,514
HOME ENERGY ASSESMENTS
PERFORMED IN EAGLE COUNTY HOMES

304 INDIVIDUALS & BUSINESSES TRAINED



250,000+ 
POUNDS OF WASTE
DIVERTED
FROM THE LANDFILL THROUGH
ZERO WASTE EFFORTS

\$495,624+
ENERGY REBATES
PAID TO EAGLE COUNTY HOMES & BUSINESSES



\$951,650+
UTILITY COST SAVINGS
IN LOCAL HOMES & BUSINESSES
ANNUALLY



Walking Mountains completed construction of the new Borgen Precourt Center for Sustainability at the Avon Tang Campus. The net zero facility will enable us to address growing capacity needs for programs and staff.

**CONTINUED
EXPANSION**



OVER 280,000 PEOPLE REACHED

A dramatic 69% increase year-over-year and the first time we've reached more than 200,000 in a single year!



YOUTH PROGRAMS

Increasing science literacy, promoting systems thinking, and creating a sense of place while fostering environmental stewardship.



**INTRODUCED
3,225
PRESCHOOL-AGED
CHILDREN TO
SCIENCE AND NATURE
EXPLORATION**

A 17% increase
year-over-year!

YOUTH PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

EAGLE COUNTY PUBLIC & PRIVATE SCHOOLS

School Field Science Programs

Preschool Programs

Sowing Seeds In-School Gardening “Special”

STEM PROGRAMS

Girls In Science

STEM Curiosity Lab

Solar Rollers: Highly Engaging Energy Education

SUMMER SCIENCE CAMPS

Single Day Camps

Week Long Camps

10th Mountain Hut Trips

EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY PROGRAMS

EarthKeepers

Nature Tykes

4,170 Eagle County Students
ATTENDED A FIELD SCIENCE PROGRAM
A 16% increase year-over-year.

5,565 TOTAL YOUTH PROGRAMS PARTICIPANTS
A 10% increase year-over-year in Eagle County students served.



COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Engaging community members and visitors of all ages through experiential opportunities, integrated facilities and the local environment.

52,777
PEOPLE REACHED
THROUGH
COMMUNITY
PROGRAMS

HIKING AND SNOWSHOE
PROGRAMS REACHED
7,535
PEOPLE



COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS + LECTURES

The Science Behind Series
High Country Speaker Series
The Sustainable Film Series

FREE GUIDED NATURE WALKS + HIKES

FAMILY NATURE EXPERIENCES

CUSTOM GROUP PROGRAMS

GUIDED BACKCOUNTRY EXPERIENCES

OUR LOCATIONS

The Avon Tang Campus
Nature Discovery Center on Vail Mountain
Vail Nature Center





EAGLE VALLEY OUTDOOR MOVEMENT

Breaking down barriers that prevent access to the outdoors through collaborative partnerships, safe outdoor spaces, and engaging youth and family programming.

EVOM PROGRAMS

K-12 continuum of outdoor and environmental education programs.
110 outdoor programs offered
1,988 youth served

EVOM PATHWAYS

Environmental leadership career development for high school students.
2 mentorship experiences serving 212 youth
9 Environmental Leadership Interns
1,386 hours of work experience

EVOM PLACES

Increasing access to outdoor spaces for under-represented communities.
1 new teams course
1 new community park
2 new nature play areas
1 new picnic shelter
1 new bike track



EVOM PARTNERS

Ascentia
Betty Ford Alpine Gardens
Colorado Parks & Wildlife
The Cycle Effect
Eagle County Government
Eagle County School District
Eagle River Watershed Council
Eagle Valley Land Trust
MIRA
Mountain Youth
Neighborhood Navigators
SOS Outreach
CSU Extension
Walking Mountains Science Center
Mountain Recreation
YouthPower 365

SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMS

A resource and education hub to inspire action from local to global.



62,203 lbs of waste diverted from landfill and **SENT TO COMPOST OR RECYCLE**
A 26% increase year-over-year.

93 days **OF ZERO WASTE** performed at marquee events including GoPro Mountain Games, Bonfire Block Party, Vail Farmers Markets, Burton U.S. Open, Taste of Vail and more.



10 new certified sustainable businesses

179 HOME ENERGY ASSESSMENTS

223,418 **PEOPLE REACHED**
A 117% increase year-over-year.



1 New Eagle County Waste Wizard Recycling app **TO IMPROVE RECYCLING IN EAGLE COUNTY.**



SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMS

CLIMATE ACTION



ENERGY EFFICIENCY & ASSISTANCE



RECYCLING & WASTE REDUCTION



SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS TRAINING + CERTIFICATION



SUSTAINABLE DESTINATIONS + TOURISM



CLIMATE ACTION COLLABORATIVE

Our goal: Reduce Eagle County carbon emissions
25% by 2025 & 80% by 2050.

NEW 2019 INITIATIVES

Sustainable Building Code Task Force
Coordinated Standardized Eagle County Recycling Signage Efforts
Launched U.S. Green Building Council Chapter
Benchmarking Pilot Program
Electric Vehicle Deployment Planning

12 **PRESENTATIONS**

to local governments, boards, and councils

1

RENEWABLE ENERGY CALCULATOR

enabling Eagle County residents
to better understand and purchase
renewable power through local utilities.

15 LED lightbulb swaps resulting in a combined
REDUCTION OF 100,927 LBS OF CO₂

86%
THINK
LOCAL GOVERNMENTS
NEED TO ACT ON
CLIMATE CHANGE



2
e-bike demos

4
**US GREEN BUILDING
COUNCIL EVENTS**

**CLIMATE
ACTION
COLLABORATIVE**

FOUNDING PARTNERS

Colorado Mountain College – Edwards
Eagle County
Eagle County School District
Eco Transit
Edwards Metro District
Eagle River Water & Sanitation District
Holy Cross Energy
Mountain Youth
R.A. Nelson
R&H Mechanical
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Town of Basalt
Town of Eagle
Town of Minturn
Town of Red Cliff
Town of Vail
Traer Creek
Vail Daily
Vail Health
Vail Honeywagon
Vail Resorts
Vail Valley Foundation
Walking Mountains Science Center
Mountain Recreation

#BeBetterTOGETHER

SPECIAL EVENTS



SAVE THE DATE
FOR 2020
Tuesday, July 7th

A TASTE OF NATURE GALA

Each July, the Walking Mountains' community comes together for our fundraising gala at the Avon Tang Campus to celebrate recent successes, honor those who have made a transformational impact on the organization and raise revenue for our field science education programs. The event sells out annually with over 400 guests in attendance and raises more than \$500,000 each year.



REACH FOR THE PEAK AWARD RECIPIENTS



2019 - Amanda J Precourt

"What is so incredible about Walking Mountains is that it provides not only adventurous activities in nature but also full immersion in natural sciences and STEM for us all – regardless of age, gender or socio-economic status." - Amanda J Precourt



2018 - Kim Langmaid

"Through her actions – and not her preaching – she has taught me (and I think all of us) that a life lived where we return as much or more as we take, is a more joyful life. In this way, Kim has become an important part of the soul of our valley" - Oscar Tang

FOUNDER'S STEWARDSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS



2019 - Pam and Ben Peternell

"...great organizations like Walking Mountains require a compelling vision and a special calling. But, maybe even more important they require a great team of highly skilled professionals." - Ben Peternell



2018 - Vail Resorts/ Rob Katz

"This is one of the most thoughtful, most constructive, most productive partnerships we have in any community, and my hat's off to everyone at Walking Mountains. It's a real honor to receive this award tonight." - Rob Katz



MEMBERSHIP + DONOR EVENTS

A program series exclusively for our donors, these unique and engaging events combine learning and the opportunity to socialize with other supporters.

EDVENTURES

Fall 2018: Sweetwater Campus Hike
Winter 2019: Tennessee Pass Snowshoe
Summer 2019: Piney Lake Exploration

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING

ON CAMPUS PRIVATE GATHERINGS



GRADUATE + INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS



Local students today.
Global environmental stewards tomorrow.

FOLEY GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

In partnership with the University of Northern Colorado, the Foley Graduate Fellows teach field science programs and summer science camps while earning a Master's degree in Science Education.

5 GRADUATE FELLOWS

HIGH SCHOOL NATURAL RESOURCE INTERNSHIPS

Creating employment and volunteer opportunities for Eagle County high school students through conservation stewardship projects that enhance the resiliency of our mountain landscapes.

11 HIGH SCHOOL INTERNS

NATURALIST INTERNSHIP

Staff nature centers, and teach environmental education and interpretive programs. Interns receive NAI's Certified Interpretive Guide training.

20 NATURALISTS

SUSTAINABILITY INTERNSHIP

Gain hands-on outreach skills in fostering sustainable behaviors while also gaining valuable experience learning how mountain communities, governments, and businesses are taking action and monitoring their environmental impacts.

12 SUSTAINABILITY INTERNS

THANK YOU DONORS

This list includes contributions made from July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019. Every effort has been made for accuracy.

If you feel there is an error, please contact Tessa Allen at 970-827-9725 Ext. 145.

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Visionaries (\$1,000,000+)

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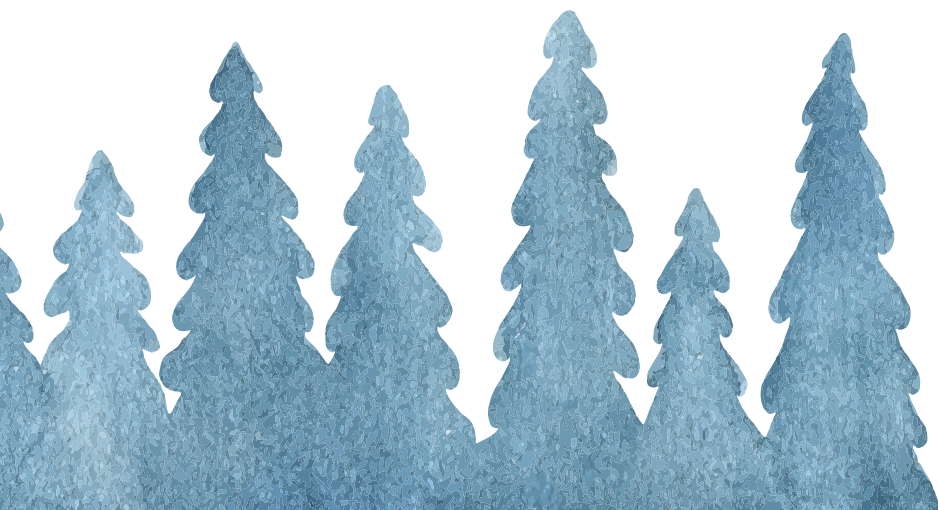
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Recognized for their contributions to our Comprehensive Campaign for expansion.

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Emily Zeigler

LEGACY DONORS

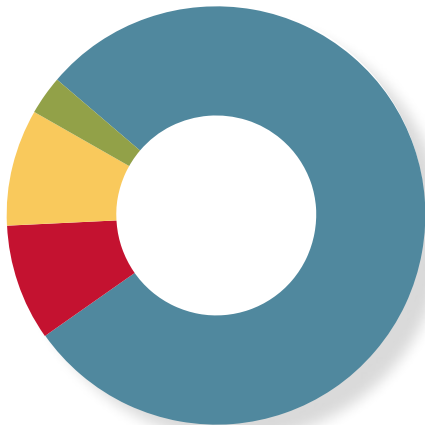
Recognized for making a planned gift of financial endowment to support sustainability and science education in our community.

Karen Berndt
Montine Hansl
Tony Perry
Pam and Ben Peternell
Susan and Al Pollack
Mary and Sherwood Stockwell
Laura Tumperi

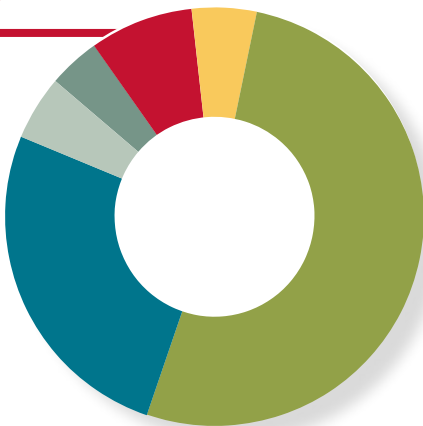
FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

ANNUAL OPERATING EXPENSES \$3,808,386

79%	Programs	\$3,008,625
9%	Operations	\$342,755
9%	Annual Fundraising	\$304,671
3%	Special Events	\$152,335

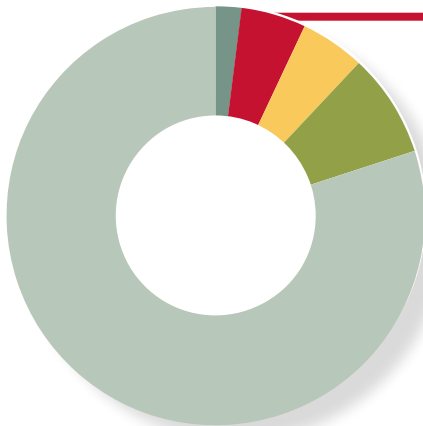


TOTAL REVENUE \$4,444,193



4%	Corporate Contributions	\$165,486
8%	Foundation Contributions	\$373,447
5%	Government Contributions	\$242,283
52%	Individual Contributions	\$2,293,932
26%	Program Fees	\$1,148,434
5%	Other Income	\$220,611
* Capital restricted revenue		\$834,050
* Operating revenue		\$3,610,143

TOTAL ASSETS \$22,142,516



2%	Operating Cash/Reserves	\$480,445
5%	Capital Cash	\$1,056,989
5%	Endowments	\$1,163,785
8%	Accounts Receivable	\$1,743,652
0%	Other Current Assets	\$83,043
80%	Fixed Assets	\$17,614,602
* Accumulated depreciation		-\$1,581,386

COMPREHENSIVE CAMPAIGN

\$12,703,980

RAISED TOWARD CAPITAL EXPANSION

34%	Center for Sustainability
9%	Staff Housing
24%	Avon Campus Expansion
11%	Sweetwater
22%	Left to Raise



Full financial reports available online at walkingmountains.org/reports

walking mountains[®]
science center

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970.827.9725

Walking Mountains Science Center operates under a special use permit from the White River, San Isabel, and Pike National Forest and is an equal opportunity service provider. All or part of this operation is conducted on Public Lands under special permit from the U.S. Bureau of Land Management.

PHOTO CREDITS: Walking Mountains Science Center, Chris Cohen, Matt Inden
Photography, Andrew Taylor, Mackenzie Koffenberger, Karina Schorr, Eddie Campos,
Haley Baker, John-Ryan Lockman

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