















As the world changed around us, we continued to deliver our mission.

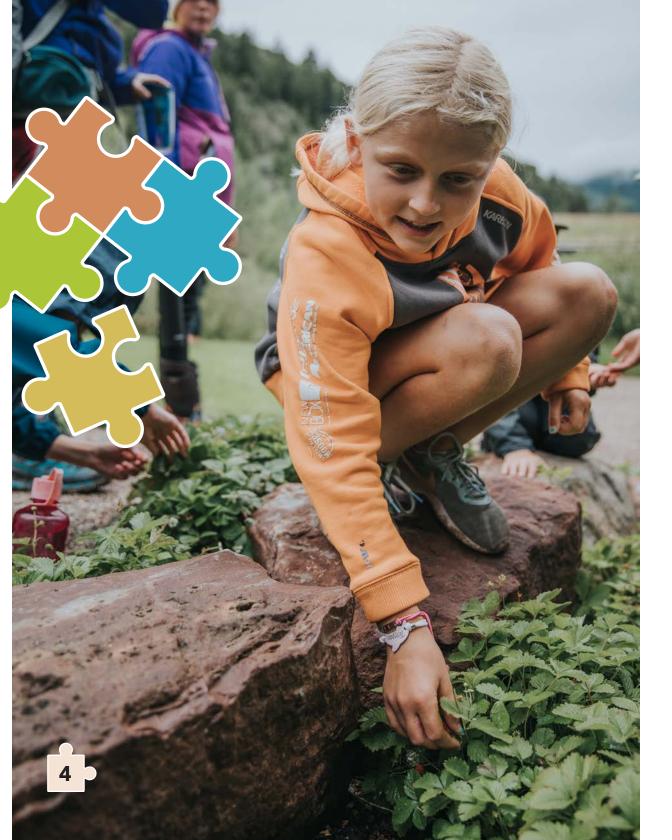
To awaken a sense of wonder and inspire environmental stewardship and sustainability through natural science education.

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DEAR FRIENDS

We are pleased to bring you the Annual Report for our fiscal year 2021 (July 1, 2020 - June 30, 2021).

The past year has been a story of perseverance, creativity, positive impact, and the increasing importance of our mission. Despite changing conditions due to the pandemic, our dedicated staff delivered programs for our students and community that deepened understanding of, and passion for, environmental stewardship.

The puzzle of climate change consists of many pieces. The solutions are complex and the challenge is urgent, requiring generations of inspired global citizens to work together. We are proud of our work and we know that from our beautiful valley in the Rocky Mountains, we are doing our part to seek solutions.

Last year, our Board of Directors decided to eliminate fees for our Field Science Programs in public schools. Since all public school field trips were canceled, we brought these programs to schools and served more students than ever before! This was an important step in our efforts to make natural science and sustainability education accessible to all members of our community.

We completed construction on the Pete & Pat Educator Community and the Foley Graduate Fellows moved into this employee housing on our campus. The impact of staff housing and hiring more fellows was immediate through the expanded programming of our Youth Programs department.

Our educators and naturalists never stopped teaching. From adapted summer camps to virtual programs, from our facilities on the Avon Tang Campus, the Vail Nature Center, and the Nature Discovery Center to the expansive backcountry, and in Eagle County classrooms. All from pre-K to gray!



Our sustainability teams reached almost 100,000 people, helped over 200 homes and businesses operate with more energy efficiency, and updated the Climate Action Plan to reduce carbon emissions in Eagle County by 50% by 2030 and 80% by 2050.

In an ecology system every part whether big or small is important.

In our system, we know that each donor, participant, student and attendee is a piece of the puzzle to create a healthy and sustainable Eagle County.

In 2020, we were unable to gather for our annual fundraising gala, A Taste of Nature. Even without the event, you exceeded our expectations to help us surpass our fundraising goals! Additionally,

you helped us close the capital campaign for the completion of the Avon Tang Campus which now features six energy efficient buildings and eleven acres of beautiful land along Buck Creek.

As you read this, we are celebrating the important milestone of the 10th anniversary of the opening of the Avon Tang Campus and we hope you plan a visit to walk the paths, enjoy the exhibits, and reflect on our responsibility to protect our natural environment together.

Thank you for your generous support -- we cannot do this work without you.

Stay Curious,

madri Freductof Cichellons

Markian Feduschak President Rick Travers Board Chair

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

As of June 30, 2021 Rick Travers, Chair

Colleen Reitan, Vice Chair

Emily Zeigler, Secretary

Alix Berglund

Hans Berglund

Kriston Bortuglia

Fritz Bratschio

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Scott Schlosse

John Shipp

Elizabeth Sipe

David Smith

Carroll Tyler

Carol Wellbaum

EMERITUS DIRECTORS

Kathy Borgen Phil Brodsky Kelly Bronfmar Alan Danson Buck Elliott Holly Elliott Craig Foley Jenny Maritz Pat Tierney



THIS YEAR CHALLENGED US TO CREATE UNIQUE SOLUTIONS

Due to the COVID-19
pandemic, our youth and
community programs were
unable to welcome students
off the bus to campus.
Instead, we adapted and
brought our classes, learning,
adventures and place-based
science to them without a
single COVID-19 incident.

Students learned and observed in their own backyard for the 1st time in many years.

Teresa Cierco Edwards 4th Grade Teacher







PEOPLE REACHED

Whether virtual, at campus, or on location... we never stopped teaching.



We really appreciate Walking

Mountains thinking outside of the
box and finding meaningful, safe
experiences for our students during
a pandemic. It was a breath of fresh
air to experience a normal field trip!

Amazing efforts put into providing
our students with meaningful outdoor
education. It was more than just a fun
day; our students learned through
experiencing the outdoors.

Kelly Place, ECCA 2nd Grade Teacher







YOUTH **PROGRAMS**

Youth Programs positively impacts the education of students by providing education experiences that increase science literacy, promote systems thinking, and create sense of place while fostering environmental 8 stewardship.

FREE

FIELD SCIENCE **PROGRAMS**

6,392 STUDENTS TAUGHT IN

130 STUDENTS participated in after-school STEM programs

360+ pounds of produce

harvested and donated to teachers, families & the Community Market from Sowing Seeds





PARTICIPANTS

experienced an Early Childhood Program at no cost



EAGLE COUNTY SCHOOLS

Preschool Programs (3-6 year olds) School Field Science Programs (K-8th grade) Sowing Seeds "Garden Special" (K-5th grade)

STEM PROGRAMS

Girls In Science (3rd-5th grade) STEM Curiosity Lab (Middle School)

SUMMER SCIENCE CAMPS

Single Day Camps (Kindergarten students) Week Long Day Camps (1st-8th grade)

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS

EarthKeepers (3-6 year olds) Nature Tykes (1-3 year olds) 9





Community Programs engage members and visitors through experiential opportunities using our integrated facilities and the natural environment.

PROGRAMS

We inspire stewardship and help people develop a positive relationship with the natural world.





16,621
people reached through
Community Programs



OUR LOCATIONS

THE AVON TANG CAMPUS

Located in Avon

NATURE DISCOVERY CENTER ON VAIL MOUNTAIN

Located atop Eagle Bahn Gondola

VAIL NATURE CENTER

Located in Ford Park

PRECOURT FAMILY SWEETWATER CAMPUS

Located in Western Eagle County



WORKSHOPS + LECTURES

The Science Behind Series
The Sustainable Film Series

GUIDED INTERPRETIVE NATURE WALKS

Wildflower and Birding Walks
Beaver Pond Tours

FAMILY NATURE EXPERIENCES

Stories in the Sky
Early Childhood Family Programs

GUIDED BACKCOUNTRY EXPERIENCES

Science Behind on the Trail Backyard Backcountry Series Hiking Club





The Eagle Valley Outdoor Movement (EVOM) is a group of community members and local organizations working together to strengthen community and appreciation of nature through shared outdoor experiences for people of all ages, abilities and cultures.



El Eagle Valley Outdoor Movement, EVOM por sus siglas en inglés, es un grupo de miembros de la comunidad y organizaciones locales trabajando juntos para fortalecer la comunidad y la apreciación de la naturaleza a través de experiencias compartidas al aire libre para personas de todas las edades, habilidades y culturas.



110 K-12 **EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS**

offered to 1,988 youth











ORGANIZATIONS THAT OFFERED PROGRAMMING

Americas for Conservation + the Arts Betty Ford Alpine Gardens **Buddy Mentors** Colorado Mountain Medical Colorado Parks and Wildlife Colorado Rocky Mountain School Colorado Trout Unlimited Diversify Whitewater Eagle Climbing & Fitness Eagle County Behavioral Health Eagle County Open Space Eagle River Watershed Council Eagle Valley Land Trust Fourth Street Farm Get Outdoors Leadville! Gypsum Fire Station Habitat for Humanity Knapp Ranch Mountain Recreation Mountain Valley Horse Rescue Mountain Youth My Future Pathways Neighborhood Navigators Promotores Verdes Salvation Army SOS Outreach Strength for the Journey The Cycle Effect Toma Mi Mano Town of Eagle Vail Nordic Center Vail Valley Mountain Trail Alliance Walking Mountains Science Center 13 Youth Power 365





SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMS

The Sustainability Programs
department acts as an agent
of change to achieve local
climate action goals and improve
the social, economic, and
environmental resilience of the
Eagle County community.
We serve as a resource and
education hub to inspire
action from local to global.

CLIMATE ACTION

CLIMATE ACTION COLLABORATIVE

ENERGY EFFICIENCY & ASSISTANCE





RECYCLING & WASTE REDUCTION



SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS TRAINING & CERTIFICATION



SUSTAINABLE DESTINATIONS & TOURISM









99,372

166

RESIDENTIAL + COMMERCIAL
ENERGY ASSESSMENTS

37 days
of zero waste
events

12,296lbs
of waste diverted from landfill and
SENT TO COMPOST OR RECYCLE

56
people trained in
business sustainability
best practices

CLIMATE ACTINEN COLLABORATIVE

Climate Action Collaborative is a talented group of community stakeholders dedicated to combating climate change and fostering a more sustainable Eagle County community.

#BeBetterTOGETHER

FOUNDING PARTNERS

Colorado Mountain College - Edwards Eagle County Eagle County School District

Eco Transit

Edwards Metro District

Eagle River Water & Sanitation District

Eagle River Youth Coalition

EagleVail Gold Club

Eagle Valley Land Trust

Holy Cross Energy

Mountain Recreation

Mountain Youth

R.A. Nelson

R&H Mechanical

The Community Market

Town of Avon

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 Mountain School

Vail Resorts

Vail Valley Foundation

Valley Valley Partnership

Walking Mountains Science Center

146 **CLIMATE ACTION MEETINGS**

241 ATTENDEES

totalling 180+ hours

at CAC Quarterly Stakeholder Meetings

LAUNCHED TRENDS WITH BENEFITS **CAMPAIGN**

To reduce emissions from transportation and improve business resiliency.

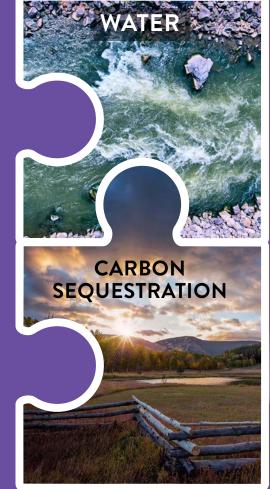


THE GOAL

Reduce Eagle County carbon emissions 50% by 2030 & 80% by 2050.

In the last year, the CAC updated and released the new Climate Action Plan with a revised carbon reduction target and modeled priority actions to meet our target.









GRADUATE FELLOWS & INTERNSHIPS

Local students today. Global environmental stewards tomorrow.

We know that our puzzle must include all ages learning to become stewards. Through internships and graduate programs, we are expanding our reach locally and nationally.



INTERNSHIPS Local students today.



THIS YEAR WE HIRED:

8 FOLEY GRADUATE FELLOWS

Fellows teach field science programs and summer science camps while earning a master's degree in Science Education from the University of Northern Colorado.

8 HIGH SCHOOL NATURAL RESOURCE INTERNS

Eagle County high school students are employed through paid conservation stewardship projects that enhance the resiliency of our mountain landscapes.

17 NATURALIST INTERNS

Naturalists staff nature centers, and lead environmental education and interpretive programs. They receive NAI's Certified Interpretive Guide training.

SUSTAINABILITY INTERNS

Interns gain hands-on skills in fostering sustainable behaviors while also gaining experience learning how communities, governments, and businesses are taking action to improve their environmental impacts.







Following the completion of the Pete & Pat
Frechette Educator Community,
we were able to welcome a second cohort of
Foley Graduate Fellows allowing us to expand
our education programming.

The Frechette educator housing is the reason I'm able to be here now, participating in the Foley Graduate Fellowship. It's a dream to work for an incredible nonprofit, living in such a beautiful place, and being surrounded by the best coworkers and roommates right on campus!

Anna Kiewra
Foley Fellow Class of 2021-2023





JUSTICE EQUITY DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

Walking Mountains Science Center believes that equity, inclusion, and cultural relevance are foundational values of a just world and sustainable future. We know that every piece of our puzzle is important, valued and needed.

As this work is never done, follow our developments and initiatives as we work to create a more inclusive place to work and learn.

walkingmountains.org/JEDI



Growth takes time, passion and an eagerness to create meaningful impact.

Walking Mountains has been making important changes to our hiring, training, governance, and employment practices to better diversify our organization and culture.

We involve our community to inform our work through committees, one-on-one interviews, community surveys and focus groups at local schools. In recent years, we wanted to create a new system of gathering feedback from our community so that we may dive deeper into the issue of an equitable outdoors.

Working with our Board of Directors, in 2020 we established a Community Advisory Committee. This committee hosts a broader representation of our community we hope to serve and provides a comfortable setting to learn and grow as leaders. Meeting bi-monthly, their responsibilities closely align with the work of Walking Mountains' JEDI committee. This committee will ensure more diverse groups are represented and have a voice in the conversation.

The goal is to create a system that allows us, our community members, staff and board, to make decisions that are addressing the needs of our whole community. The Community Advisory Committee provides strategic and operational input to assure programs are accessible and relevant to our diverse community of residents, families and students.



PHILANTHROPY & DONOR EVENTS

Nearly 70% of our operating revenue comes from the charitable giving of individuals, foundations, businesses, and governments.





A TASTE OF NATURE GALA

JULY 7, 2022





152+ DONORS

participated in
EdVentures taught by
20 DIFFERENT
EDUCATORS



THE EDVENTURE SERIES

Donors of \$1,000 or more annually are invited to educational adventures that bring our mission to life, showcase our educators and partners, and introduce new places across Eagle County. We are proud to have expanded our donor programming during the pandemic. We explored a wide variety of topics in person and via Zoom.

The program at Walking Mountains yesterday was wonderfully informative and presented in such interesting ways as are all events at Walking Mountains. We loved learning on the beautiful campus and spending time with intelligent and fun people. Thank you so much for the opportunity!!!

Laurie and Claude Pupkin
Walking Mountains Supporters

FOR BEING A CRUCIAL PART OF BUILDING OUR PUZZLE

INDIVIDUAL. FOUNDATION. **GOVERNMENT AND CORPORATE DONORS**

Ambassadors (\$100,000+)

Kelly and Sam Bronfman Dana Tang and Andrew Darrell Craig Foley Frechette Family Foundation Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) Mary Ashley Laine and Joel Holland Jennifer and Philip Maritz Mary Sue and Mike Shannon

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Kathy and Bjorn Borgen Don Brownstein and Lisa Tannenbaum and the Brownstein Family Foundation Colorado Health Foundation Harvey Family Foundation National Forest Foundation June and Paul Rossetti Sipes Architects, Inc. The Tang Family United States Department of Agriculture Vail Resorts Epic Promise

Stewards (\$25,000+)

Karen and John Arnold Borgen Family Foundation Charlene Chen and Jim Shim Amy and Steve Cover Nancy and Stephen Dowdle Fredman Family Foundation George Family Foundation, Penny and Bill George Holy Cross Energy Jennifer and Don Holzworth Kathy and Neal Kimmel Betsy and Mark Kogan Gail and Jay Mahoney R.A. Nelson & Associates Colleen and David Reitan Susan and Rich Rogel The Scrooby Foundation Sidney E. Frank Foundation - Colorado Fund Elizabeth and Brian Sipes

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Bob Stephanoff and Rhonda Woodruff with Balance Point Construction Xcel Energy Foundation

Champions (\$5,000+)

This list includes contributions received from July

1, 2020 through June 30, 2021. Every effort has

been made for accuracy. If you feel there is an

error, please contact Tessa Allen

at 970-827-9725 Ext. 145.

Active Energies Solar, LLC Alan-Bradley Windows & Doors American Association of University Women Ed Bell Gretchen Brigden

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Mia and Bobby Glick

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Ioni and Paul Gotthelf

Nancy Gragg Erin Green Iill Hacker Iordan Halter

Wendi and Bill Hanlon Larisa Haytmanek

Carol and Tom Helms Cliff Hendrick

Colleen Higgins Susie and Wes Horner Jennifer and David Hsu Sarah and Tait Johnson Sarabeth and Michael Keating

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Gail and Jay Mahoney Maker + Stitch Kate Manzer

Jeanne and Dale Mosier Nina McLemore Boutique

Organic Housekeepers Paragon Guides Riverwalk Theater

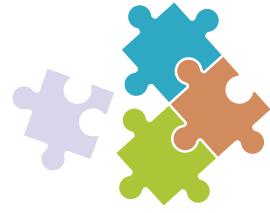
Riverwalk Wine & Spirits Rocky Mountain Raclette Second Nature Gourmet

John Shipp Spa Anjali Sweet Basil The Westin Riverfront Resort & Spa Vail Resorts Epic Promise Vail Symposium Vail Valley Landscape Supply Vail Valley Paragliders Wolf Property Services, LLC Zip Adventures of Vail

LEGACY DONORS

Recognized for making a planned gift or 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



Thanks to you, we completed the second phase of our Avon Tang Campus

CAMPAIGN FOR GROWTH DONORS

\$1,000,000+

Alpine Bank The Borgen Family Eagle County Open Space Frechette Family Foundation Pam and Ben Peternell Jav and Amanda Precourt Mary Sue and Mike Shannon The Tang Family

\$500,000+

Kelly and Sam Bronfman Craig Foley Penny and Bill George Barbie and Tony Mayer

\$250,000+

Don Brownstein and Lisa Tannenbaum and the Brownstein Family Foundation Mary Ashley Laine and Joel Holland Jennifer and Philip Maritz Teri and Tony* Perry Ann Smead and Michael Byram

\$100,000+

Amy and Steve Cover Susan and Harry Frampton Rose and George Gillett Jennifer and Don Holzworth Kathy and Neal Kimmel Betsy and Mark Kogan R.A. Nelson & Associates Amy and Jay Regan Colleen and David Reitan Susan and Rich Rogel June and Paul Rossetti Argie Ligeros and Pat Tierney

Charlene Chen and James Shim

\$50,000+

Anonymous Jon-Erik and Brooke Borgen Randi Borgen Holly and Buck Elliott Gates Family Foundation Iill and David Mertens Kaia and Misha Moritz The Scrooby Foundation John Shipp Laura Tumperi Janice and Dee Wisor

\$25,000+

Alix and Hans Berglund, Berglund Architects Todd Biekkola Gretchen Brigden Sunny and Phil Brodsky Nancy and Stephen Dowdle El Pomar Foundation Betsy and Jesse Fink Jane and Greg Johnson Gail and Jay Mahoney Jeanne and Dale Mosier Karen Nold and Robert Croteau Sandy and Fred Pack

Katherine and Tom Shoup Elizabeth and Brian Sipes Sipes Architects

Jody and David Smith Town of Avon

Rick Travers, Wear Travers Perkins, LLC Carroll Tyler

Sandra and Greg Walton

Up to \$25,000

Karen and John Arnold Anderson Design

Kristen and Steve Bertuglia Christy and Fritz Bratschie

Iim Butterworth

Eagle Valley Land Trust

Foundation for Sustainability and

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Megan Gilman and Jason Weingast

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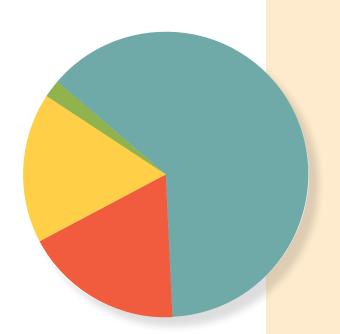
Emily Zeigler

28

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

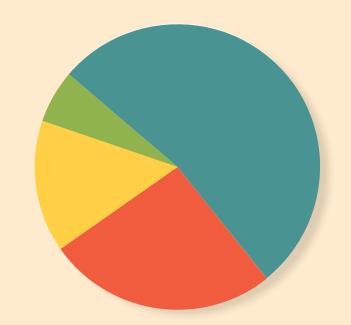
ANNUAL OPERATING EXPENSES \$3,593,197





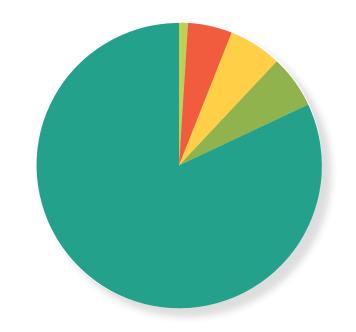
ANNUAL OPERATING REVENUE \$3,547,439

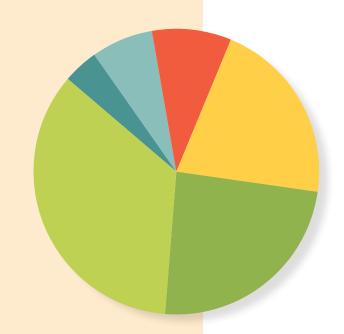
53% Fundraising \$1,896,997 26% Programs \$926,162 15% Special Events \$533,420 6% In-kind & Other \$190,860



TOTAL ASSETS \$23,636,649

82% Fixed Assets	\$19,348,236	
6% Operating Cash/Rese	rves \$1,486,280	
6% Endowments	\$1,460,270	
5% Accounts Receivable	\$1,159,442	
1% Other Current Assets	\$108,730	
0% Capital Cash	\$73,691	
* Accumulated depreciation -\$2,389,618		





TOTAL REVENUE \$3,929,666

35%	Individual Contributions	\$1,375,186
23%	Program Fees	\$924,695
21%	Government Contributions	\$812,940
9%	Foundation Contributions	\$348,260
7%	Corporate Contributions	\$272,467
5 %	Other Income	\$196,118

^{*} Capital restricted revenue \$382,227

^{*} Operating revenue \$3,547,439

walking mountains

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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, Mart Inden Photography, Andrew Taylor, Mackenzie Koffenberger, Karina Schorr, John-Ryan Lockmar

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