

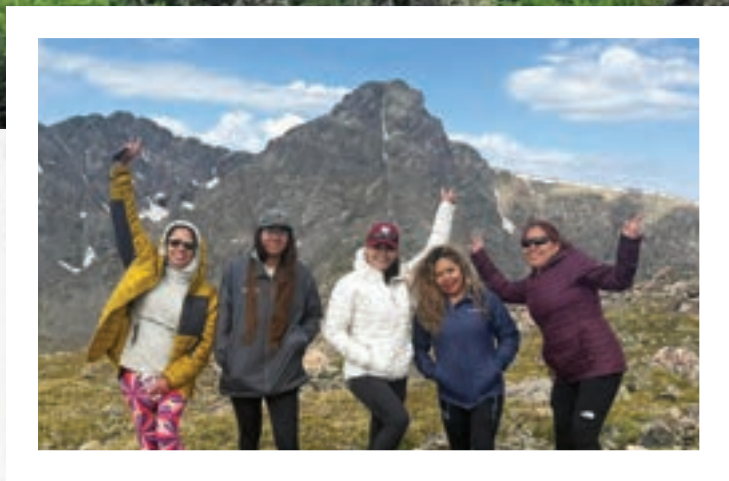


**Walking  
Mountains**

EDUCATION | SCIENCE  
SUSTAINABILITY

# 2025 ANNUAL REPORT





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# Welcome

## Dear Friends,

Reflecting on this past year, I am reminded of how essential our mission has always been. Walking Mountains remains dedicated to inspiring environmental stewardship through meaningful, nature-based learning. This commitment guides our work and our long-term vision.

To secure our mission for future generations, we continued to strengthen our annual fundraising, endowment and planned giving efforts. These investments support our ability to hire and retain talented staff to deliver the highest-quality programming and to care for the exceptional facilities that make our programs possible. Ensuring stability today allows us to deepen our impact tomorrow.

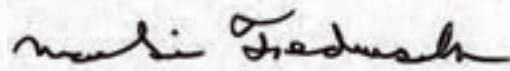
This year also marked the launch of a comprehensive strategic planning process to shape the next chapter of Walking Mountains. As we look ahead to the 15th anniversary of the Avon Tang Campus, we are taking this opportunity to refine our goals and enhance the effectiveness of our programs for the next 15 years.

We remain committed to making our facilities and programs accessible to all. We believe nature is a fundamental right, and we stand firm in our dedication to being a welcoming, inclusive organization.

While this fiscal year brought meaningful progress, it also brought challenges. Changing economic conditions have affected funding streams that once supported key areas of our work. Yet thanks to your generosity, we continue to deliver programs that awaken a sense of wonder and inspire environmental stewardship and sustainability in the community.

Your support sustains our mission and empowers us to build a more resilient, sustainable future for the Eagle River Valley, and beyond. We are deeply grateful, thank you.

With Gratitude,



MARKIAN FEDUSCHAK, PRESIDENT

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# We connect people with nature and empower them to protect it.

Walking Mountains is a leading environmental education organization that fosters stewardship and builds transformative partnerships across Eagle County. We teach people of all ages about our natural world through immersive science-based experiences, groundbreaking sustainability initiatives, captivating programs, and engaging events.

## OUR MISSION

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

## OUR VISION

We envision an Eagle River Valley where everyone understands the science of nature and is inspired to take action as an environmental steward.

## OUR LOCATIONS



◀ AVON TANG CAMPUS



◀ NATURE DISCOVERY CENTER ON VAIL MOUNTAIN



◀ VAIL NATURE CENTER IN FORD PARK



◀ PRECOURT FAMILY SWEETWATER CAMPUS

# Our Annual Impact



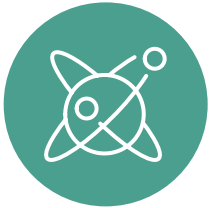
**418,408**

*Total lives reached across all programs.*



What it taught me was that one person can make a huge difference by taking care of nature. Like, it can make a really, really big difference, and if the whole world starts doing it, we can actually take care of our planet more, and it's gonna be a better future."

AVON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENT



*Our Avon Science Center reached 7,714 residents and visitors, offering innovative natural science learning experiences.*



*Our Zero Waste team coordinated 132 event days, promoting waste reduction and reaching 320,000+ people.*



**42,992**

People reached through Youth & Community Programs.



**373K +**

People reached through Sustainability Programs.



**4,410**

Students participated in Field Science programs, exploring the outdoors, practicing scientific observation, and deepening their connection to nature.



Walking Mountains is one of the best field trips we go on all year. It's hands-on, interactive, age-appropriate, and teaches the standards in an engaging way."

KATIE, 1<sup>ST</sup> GRADE TEACHER

# Youth Programs

We positively impact learners by providing equitable experiences that increase science literacy, connect learners to the natural world, and promote environmental stewardship.

**6,263**

Students served through our broader free K-12 science education initiatives.

**480**

Youth participated in summer science camps, with 96% enrollment.

**2,882**

People reached through our early childhood natural science education programs.



## Foley Graduate Program

A multi-faceted, graduate program that focuses on professional development of leaders in the field of K-8th grade science and environmental education.

**12**

Foley Graduate Program students pursuing a master's degree from the University of Northern Colorado.



# Community Programs

We engage community members and visitors of all ages and backgrounds through experiential programs, workshops and lectures, and guided backcountry experiences.

## 36,729

Community members and visitors engaged in hands-on programs utilizing our integrated facilities (Avon Science Center, Vail Nature Center, and Nature Discovery Center) and the natural environment.



In just one year of participating in the Exploremos program, I've explored more of Colorado—hiking, connecting with wildlife, and visiting new places—than in the past 10 years living here.”

ALVARA, PARTICIPANT



## Exploremos

Exploremos is a community group managed by Walking Mountains in collaboration with many partner organizations. We enjoy a variety of outdoor activities to connect more with our world and our people.

## 1,517

People reached through 115 outdoor family programs offered in Spanish.

## 15

Community partners provided inclusive programs to expand access to the outdoors for everyone.

# Sustainability Programs



I am so grateful for your program and everything you do for our community. This has been an amazing experience! I have enjoyed learning about ways to make my home more comfortable and energy-efficient, and my plan is to continue making improvements along the way. Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!"

JANET, GYPSUM RESIDENT

We act 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. We partner with local government to facilitate climate action, energy-efficiency programs, recycling and waste reduction, sustainable business training, and sustainable destination programs.



**66,000+**

Pounds of waste from 132 event days were diverted from the landfill through the Zero Waste program.

**\$660,016**

in energy-efficiency, electrification, and safety rebates were granted following 222 home and business energy visits.

**870**

people attended more than 13 events across Eagle County in seven days for Climate Action Week.

# Philanthropy & Donor Events

With over 66% of our annual operating budget, as well as all capital projects and our endowment, funded through philanthropic initiatives, we are incredibly grateful to our generous community of supporters. Your contributions enable Walking Mountains to make a significant impact on our entire community.



Since I moved to Colorado, Walking Mountains has opened up a new world of outdoor adventures, new friends and knowledge of the natural world through participation in the guided hikes and community science projects. I also developed a great awareness of the responsibility to preserve this environment for future generations.”

JANE CHIAPPINELLI



SAVE THE DATE  
A Taste of  
Nature Gala

# Thank You for Your Support

## INDIVIDUAL, FOUNDATION, GOVERNMENT, AND CORPORATE DONORS

This list includes contributions received for specific programs, annual fund, endowment and planned giving from July 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025. Please see Endowment for the Future Campaign Donors section and Legacy Donors section for commitments for those initiatives. Every effort has been made for accuracy on the following pages. If you feel there is an error, please contact Tessa Allen at (970) 827-9725 x145.

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**\$1,000,000+**

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Oscar Tang and Agnes Hsu-Tang

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Mark and Sunnie Wang  
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*\*With deep gratitude to those deceased*

# ENDOWMENT FOR THE FUTURE CAMPAIGN

---

*We invite you to become a member of the Walking Mountains Stewardship Society in support of our Endowment for the Future Campaign.*

We are now undertaking the Endowment for the Future to ensure the continued capacity of Walking Mountains to fulfill its important mission, and to give its loyal supporters an opportunity to provide a current gift and/or planned gift for that purpose. A successful Endowment for the Future will enable Walking Mountains to create a permanent investment fund that can provide critical funds annually to supplement ongoing annual fundraising efforts, helping to ensure fiscal sustainability.



I can't imagine the Eagle River Valley without Walking Mountains Science Center."

OSCAR TANG



# STEWARDSHIP SOCIETY

Recognized for their commitment to ensuring the long-term fiscal sustainability of Walking Mountains.

## ENDOWMENT FOR THE FUTURE CAMPAIGN DONORS

### \$1,000,000+

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Pam and Ben Peternell  
Oscar Tang and Agnes  
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### \$500,000+

Barbie and Tony Mayer

### \$100,000+

The Brownstein Family  
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Colleen and David Reitan

### \$50,000+

Craig Foley  
Mimi\* and Woody Stockwell

### \$25,000+

Sunny and Phil Brodsky  
Holly and Buck Elliott  
David and Jody (in  
spirit) Smith

### UP TO \$25,000

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Kristie and Fritz Bratschie  
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Nancy and Stephen Dowdle  
Samantha Hodgkins  
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Silvia and Alan Danson  
Craig Foley  
Montine Hansl\*  
Jennifer and Don Holzworth  
Laura and Jeff Malehorn  
Sandy and Fred Pack  
Tony Perry\*  
Susan and Al Pollack  
Karla Rabusch  
Colleen and David Reitan  
Patsy Rowe  
Elizabeth and Brian Sipes  
Jim\* and Barbara\* Spiker  
Pat Tierney  
Laura Tumperi  
Carol and Lance Wellbaum

*\*With deep gratitude to those deceased*



# Financial Highlights

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

### ASSETS

#### Current Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	\$86,739
Restricted cash held for others	551,296
Investments	1,018,544
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for credit loss	447,625
Pledges receivable	683,784
Bookstore inventory	21,625
Other current assets	137,301
▶ <b>Total current assets</b>	<b><u>2,946,914</u></b>

#### Non-current Assets

Pledges receivable	648,754
Endowment cash and investments	3,382,225
▶ <b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b><u>4,030,979</u></b>

Fixed assets, net	20,835,409
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▶ **Total assets** **27,813,302**

### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

#### Current Liabilities

Accounts payable	207,595
Accrued payroll	261,428
Line of credit and cash reserve payable	729,332
Deferred revenue	403,806
Held for others	551,296
▶ <b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b><u>2,153,457</u></b>

#### Non-current Liabilities

Notes payable	163,000
▶ <b>Total non-current liabilities</b>	<b><u>163,000</u></b>
▶ <b>Total liabilities</b>	<b><u>2,316,457</u></b>

### NET ASSETS

#### Without donor restrictions

Net investment in fixed assets	20,672,409
Undesignated	2,315,767

<b>With donor restrictions</b>	<b>2,508,668</b>
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▶ **Total net assets** **25,496,844**

▶ **Total Liabilities and Net Assets** **\$27,813,302**

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the Year Ended June 30, 2025

### OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)

#### Revenues

Contributions and grants	
Without donor restrictions	\$3,047,126
With donor restrictions	187,600
Contributed non-financial assets	482,387
Program fees and tuition	1,542,513
Special events	197,353
Investment income	
Without donor restrictions	196,461
With donor restrictions	70,902
Other	821,068
Net assets released from restrictions	
Without donor restrictions	1,551,818
With donor restrictions	-1,551,818
<b>Total revenues</b>	
Without donor restrictions	7,856,266
With donor restrictions	-1,293,316
▶ <b>Total revenues</b>	<b><u>6,562,950</u></b>

#### Expenses

Programs	4,599,228
Management and general	1,199,243
Fundraising and other supporting services	1,143,361
▶ <b>Total expenses</b>	<b><u>6,941,832</u></b>
<b>Operating loss</b>	<b><u>-\$378,882</u></b>

#### Change in Net Assets

Net Assets - Beginning of Year	\$25,875,726
Net Assets - End of Year	\$25,496,844



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