

TREKKERS ANNUAL REPORT



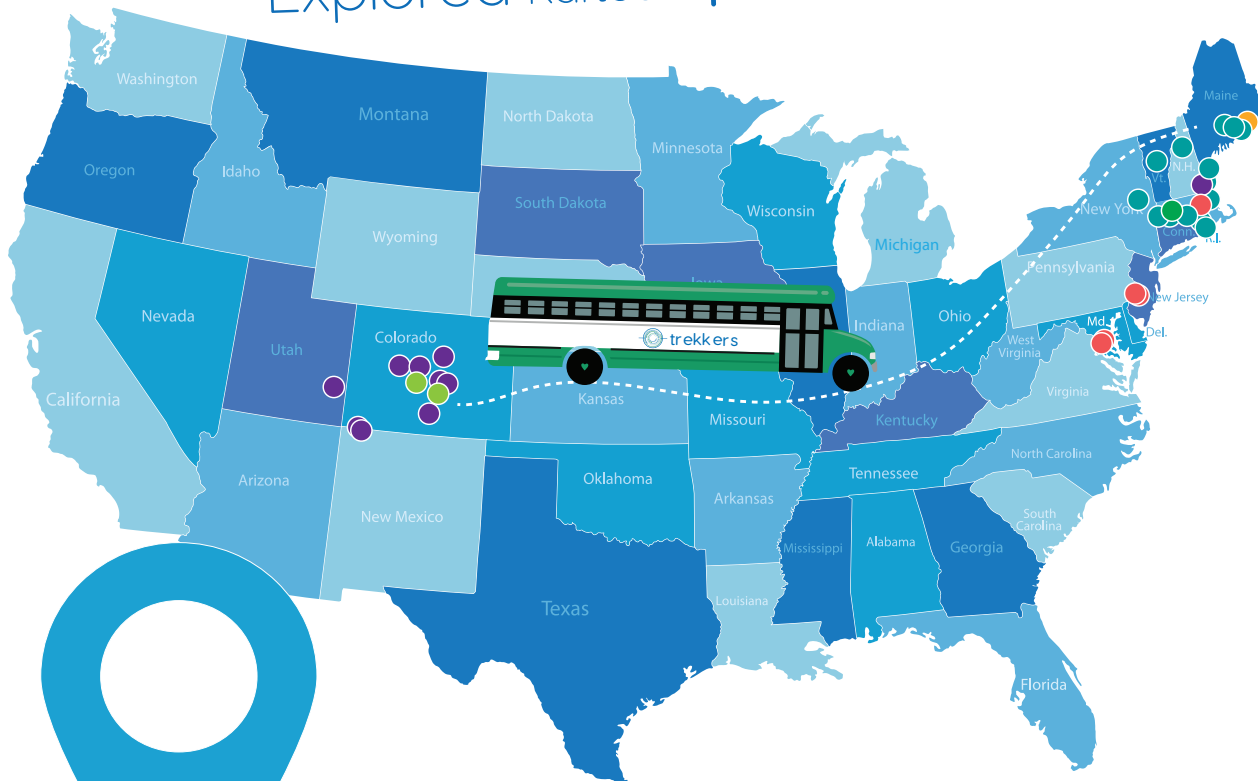
trekkers

September 2021 – August 2022

WHAT WE DID IN 2021-2022



Hiked Rode **Climbed** Sailed
 Learned Visited Toured
 Canoeed Volunteered
 Adventured **Camped** Walked
 Explored Rafted **Zip-lined**



EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHT

For our 10th and 11th grade expeditions, Trekkers staff drove Lucy, one of our outfitted buses, to and from Colorado so that students had a familiar home base out West. Meanwhile, Trekkers students flew to Colorado with their teams. For some, it was their first time on a plane!

7TH GRADE

- Canoeed, Hiked, and Rock Climbed in Acadia National Park

8TH GRADE

- Sailed on the Schooner Adventure
- Learned about Fisheries and Oyster Farming
- Attended a Hartford Yard Goats Baseball Game
- Visited a Buddhist Institute
- Volunteered at an Animal Sanctuary
- Visited the Portland Art Museum
- Went to the Maine Maple Syrup Festival
- Hiked with Maine Coast Heritage Trust
- Adventured at Six Flags Great Escape
- Volunteered at a Soup Kitchen
- Camped in White Mountains National Forest
- Aerial Climbed and Ziplined

9TH GRADE

- Toured Boston's Museum of African American History and Institute of Contemporary Art
- Walked the Freedom Trail
- Met up with Urban Trekkers
- Visited Arlington National Cemetery
- Toured Several Smithsonian Museums, D.C. Monuments, and the Holocaust Memorial Museum
- Explored Philadelphia (with Cheesesteaks!)

10TH GRADE

- Camped and Hiked in White Mountains National Forest
- Learned about the Victor Gold Mines in Colorado
- Explored Cliff Dwellings
- Hiked in Arches National Park
- Hiked Hoosier Ridge
- Visited the Colorado Wolf & Wildlife Sanctuary
- Rode in a 4x4 for an Off-Road Tour of Moab, UT
- Visited the Denver Museum of Nature & Science

11TH GRADE

- Toured Boston University
- Visited Fenway Park
- Took a Ghost Tour
- Attended a Native American Dance at Cortez Cultural Center
- Volunteered with Habitat for Humanity
- Toured University of Denver
- Hiked Great Sand Dunes National Park
- Rafted the Arkansas River
- Explored Canyonlands National Park
- Camped in Mesa Verde National Park

12TH GRADE

- 36-Hour Wilderness Solo in Western Massachusetts

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Have you ever noticed that time seems to speed up as we age? In our teenage years, days seem to last forever because our brains process and store information at rapid speed. The experiences and relationships we build at this time can inform how we see ourselves and the world for the rest of our lives.

In this crucial time, Trekkers is there to teach young people skills that last, like how to build positive relationships, how to name and pursue goals and aspirations, and how to cultivate an ability to be resilient as challenges arise. Over the course of six years with Trekkers, students learn to build consensus, make complicated travel plans, share meals, reflect, converse, and overcome all kinds of challenges. These experiences lead up to the moment when students transition to creating a life of their own – one, we hope, rooted in community, optimism, and always reaching to be at one's truest, best self.

In the following pages, you'll read how Trekkers has worked toward continual, intentional progress – both with students, who have adapted and grown despite a host of challenges, and with the schools and organizations that share our mission to champion them forward.

Thank you for helping to lift up our students so they can build the lives they want, and deserve.



Kathleen Meil
President of the Board



Amie Hutchison
Executive Director



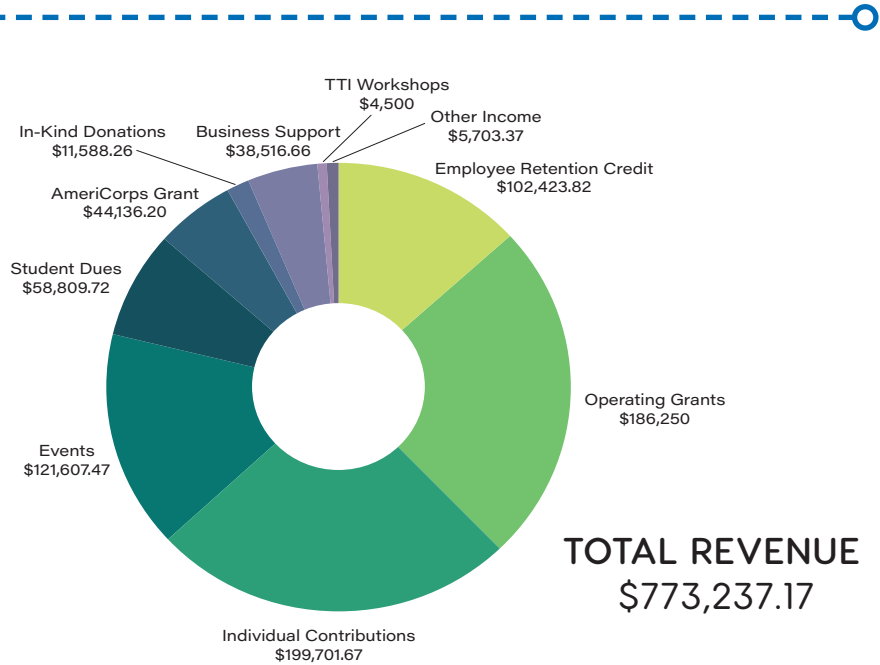
Team Katmai at
Acadia National
Park in Maine



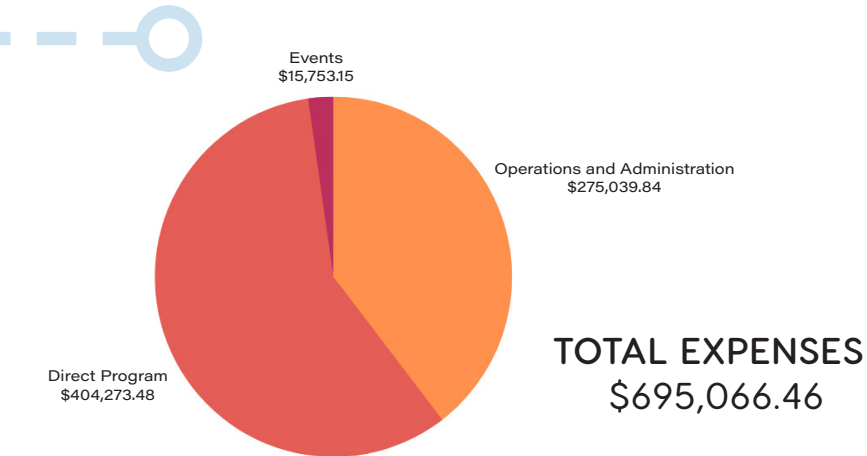
Team Sequoia at the Great
Sand Dunes in Colorado

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Trekkers ended FY22 with a small surplus. Your philanthropic support makes our programs possible and accessible for all students, regardless of their ability to pay for dues. This spring, Trekkers received an Employee Retention Tax Credit for retaining 100% of staff throughout COVID-19. We're proud of having diverse revenue streams and a strong network of loyal, dedicated, and passionate donors, who together help ensure Trekkers has the resources needed to meet the evolving needs of students, their families, and our community.



TOTAL REVENUE
\$773,237.17



TOTAL EXPENSES
\$695,066.46

ORGANIZATION UPDATES

Automatic Admission and Scholarship to University of Maine

Recognizing their impact on helping students build aspirations, the University of Maine announced Trekkers and Aspirations Incubator students with a minimum 3.0 grade point average receive automatic admission and a minimum \$500 scholarship to its Orono or Machias campuses.

Diversity Equity and Inclusion at Trekkers

In an effort to better understand ways it can grow, Trekkers has embarked on extensive multi-month evaluation, training, and planning with Chrysalis Consulting (through the gracious support of the Rocking Moon Foundation). Trekkers has also instated a Gender Identity Policy this year, so that students can self-identify.

Growth at Trekkers Training Institute

TTI continued to offer trainings to new and existing partners. A new director position was created this fall.

TTI Collaborations

Goodwill Northern New England
Maine Indian Education
Aspirations Incubator sites:
Chewonki, Old Town/Orono YMCA,
Maine Seacoast Mission, The
Game Loft, The University of
Maine 4-H Camp and Learning
Center at Bryant Pond

School Partnerships

Staff continued to offer biweekly programs at St George School, helping students learn to work together as a team. Program managers participate in special events at Oceanside Middle and High School during the year.

Maine Gear Share

Maine GearShare helped to equip seventh grade students on their expedition to Acadia, offering free use of gear and removing the need (and barrier) for families to have to purchase their own.



Team Sequoia Hiking Uneva Peak in Colorado

COMMUNITY

FUN FACT
Trekks students
visited **over 15**
different museums
in 2021-22!

Team Volcania with
Habitat for Humanity
in Colorado

"Everyone lives a
different life. And
our normal isn't
other people's
normal."

- 9th Grader

CREATING COMMUNITY

At Trekkers we create community through cultural immersion and acts of service, as well as by amplifying voice and choice within teams. Every team, from 8-12th grade, has built a team charter, written a full value

contract, and made consensus decisions about where to go and what to do. With a platform to voice opinions, each team feels a sense of control and agency to observe their impact on the world.



Team Crux at a Buddhist
Institution in Vermont

Here's what Trekkers students say:

87%
report improved
relationships with peers

84%
report increased empathy
toward others

80%
are more
action-oriented



RESILIENCE

Here's what Trekkers students say:

71%

report increased ability
to persevere

72%

report improved
reflection skills

71%

say they are more
optimistic

"On this Trekkers
trip, I found it
easier to let go
and be myself."

- 8th Grader

Team Crag on a
Schooner in
Gloucester, MA

BUILDING RESILIENCE

Resilience is built by practicing
how to use personal strengths to
overcome challenges. For example,
letting others help you overcome a
fear of heights. Pausing to reflect

on thoughts and actions, even
when it's easier to move to the next
thing. Having the courage to share
something publicly with the group.

FUN FACT

80% of students said
they tried something
new or challenged
themselves this year
with Trekkers.

Team Crag Ziplining
in Massachusetts

ASPIRATIONS

"I developed a strength of putting myself into whatever we do. Really actually trying."

- 9th Grader

FUN FACT

3 in 4 Trekkers students say they feel confident they can achieve what they set their mind to.

Team Yosemite at Great Sand Dunes National Park

Team Squaliform in Washington, D.C.

DEVELOPING ASPIRATIONS

Trekkers inspires students to be curious and see a world of possibility, to follow their interests, and to experiment with plans for the future in a safe environment. Students cultivate their aspirations and build the confidence to pursue their goals.

Exposure to Professions & Skills

- Alum Professional Panel
- Team Communication Workshop
- Résumé Writing Workshops
- Mock Interview with Local Business Leaders

Training Leaders

11th and 12th graders are invited to become Student Leaders. Trained in community and global leadership, they can apply what they learn on expeditions with younger teams.

Here's what Trekkers students say:

85%

report increased interest in learning

60% are more academically motivated

82%

report improved critical thinking skills

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Our work is made possible by our community of volunteers, donors, and supporters.

Thank You!



35

Business
Sponsors

4,240

Hours Volunteered

16

Event
Sponsors

169

Volunteers
(That's 19 Alumni + 58 Students)

15

New Volunteers

**VOLUNTEER
WITH TREKKERS!**

Learn more at
trekkers.org/volunteer

WAYS TO GIVE

Join Trekkers in investing in young people and the future of Maine.

Donate Today

Donate online at trekkers.org/donate or by mail: 325 Old County Road, Rockland, ME 04841

Monthly Gifts

Trekkers' Compass Club is a meaningful plan for helping local youth chart their future. An automatically deducted monthly gift in the amount of your choosing provides Trekkers with the consistent support we need so we can do the same for our students.

Set up an automatic, recurring gift at trekkers.org/donate or call us at (207) 594-5095.

Carpenter Legacy Circle

Adding Trekkers to your IRA, will, or life insurance policy is a wonderful way to leave a legacy and impact the next generation. If you are interested in naming Trekkers as a beneficiary, please contact us at (207) 594-5095.

For more information on ways to give, please call our philanthropy department at (207) 594-5095 or email Kate Elmes at kate@trekkers.org.

**Platinum
Transparency
2022**

Candid.

BOARD

Kathleen Meil, President
Matthew Graham, Vice President
Eric Waters, Treasurer
Alyssa Landrith, Secretary and Trekkers Alum
Makaila Hickey, Trekkers Alum
Bryson Cowan King, Trekkers Alum
Evelyn Isom
Fletcher Smith-McNaboe
Laura Miller
Leah Nickerson
Suzanne Luzius
Adeline McPhail, Current Trekkers Student



Cultivating the inherent strengths of young people through the power of long-term mentoring relationships

TREKKERS.ORG | 325 OLD COUNTY ROAD, ROCKLAND ME 04841