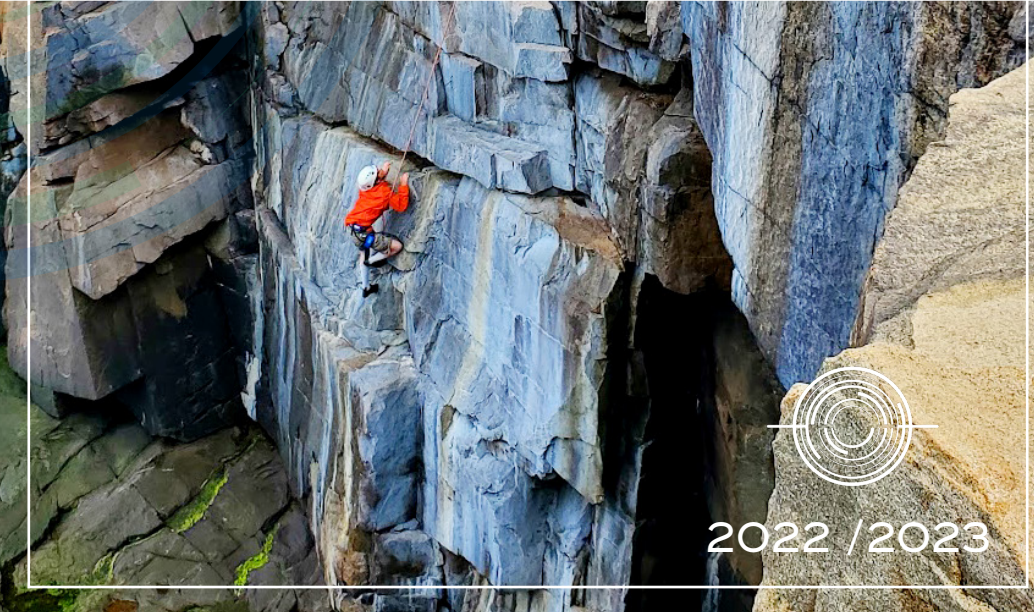




trekkers

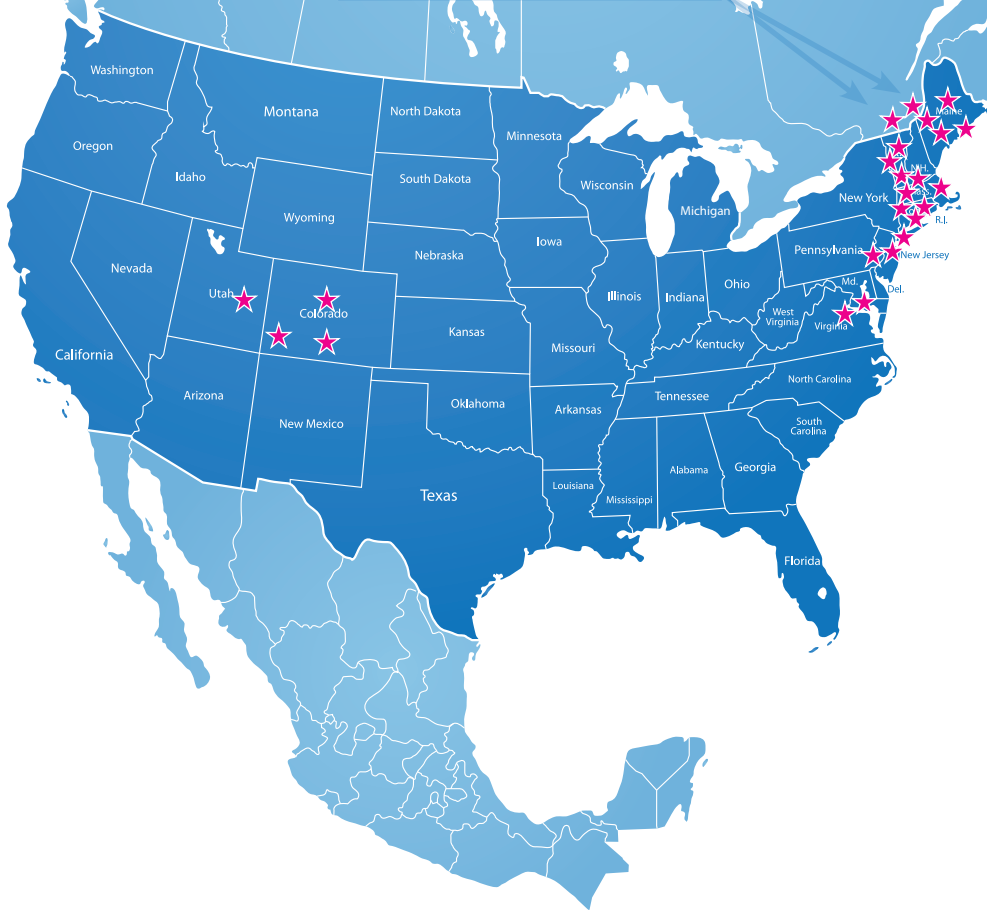
ANNUAL REPORT



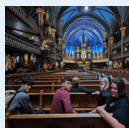
2022 / 2023

WHAT WE DID IN 2022-2023

Teams Sequoia and Yosemite make history on the first international Trekkers expedition



A Sample of Our Educational Components



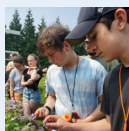
ADVENTURE

Team Yosemite at Notre Dame Basilica, Montreal, QC



WILDERNESS

Team Zenith around a campfire in Acadia National Park



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Team Katmai learns about farming in Vermont



CULTURE

Team Squaliform explores Mesa Verde, Colorado



COMMUNITY SERVICE

Team Crag volunteers at Lamoille Community Food Share in Vermont



Dear Friends and Supporters,

Crafting our annual report provides us with the opportunity to practice the reflection that we encourage in our students – and, as we reflect on our 2022-2023 year, we are reminded what a remarkable year it has been.

As you'll read in the following pages, we served over 100 young people through ten expeditions that took students across the Northeast, to Colorado and Utah, and even to Canada for Trekkers' first ever international trip. **These expeditions, alongside long-term and high-quality mentoring relationships, have a direct and incredibly positive impact on student's social, emotional, and mental wellness and their academic success.**

Additionally, we continue to make exciting progress on our organizational goals of scaling our impact through the Trekkers Training Institute, deepening our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion work, and making Trekkers even more accessible through our partnerships with Maine GearShare and the National Inclusion Project. We are also thrilled to share more about how we are helping to lead an important new initiative in our community, the Midcoast Community Collaborative.

In 2024, Trekkers will be turning 30 and we cannot wait to celebrate with our community – both those who have been with us since our first expedition in 1994 and those who have more recently joined the Trekkers family. After all, **none of our work would be possible without our extensive community network of support** and the generosity of individuals, businesses, towns, and foundations that provide the philanthropic support we rely on to make our programs accessible to young people in our community.

IN COMMUNITY



Kathleen Meil
President of the Board



Amie Hutchison
Executive Director





12th Grade Team
Volcania before
their 36-hour solo

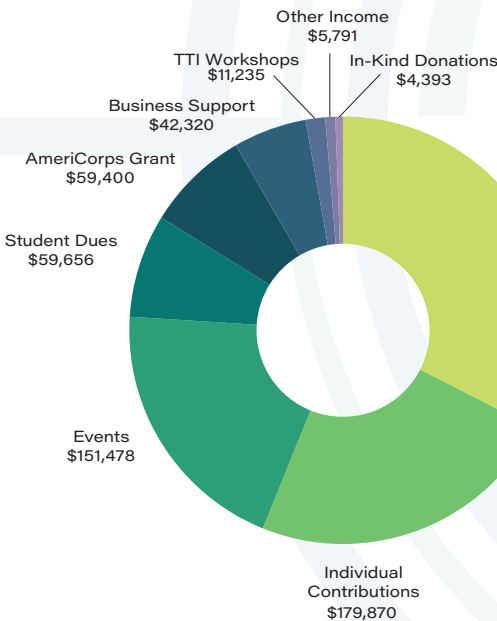


7th Grade Team Zenith in
Acadia National Park

FINANCIAL REVIEW

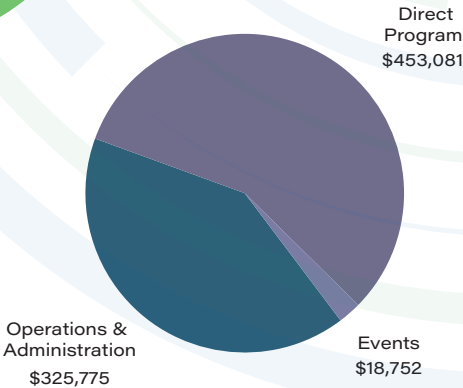
Although we ended FY23 with a \$36,000 deficit, our cash position remains strong. In FY23, we received a \$51,418.70 Thrive Maine loan. Administered by FAME, Thrive Maine is a forgivable loan program for businesses and nonprofits that demonstrate COVID-related negative economic impacts. The program is funded by the American Rescue Plan Act. This loan will be forgiven over the next three years, but for accounting purposes, is not reflected below. Additionally, the timing of our last FY23 AmeriCorps reimbursement payment arrived in September 2023, following the closing of our fiscal year.

We're proud to have diverse revenue streams and a strong network of loyal, dedicated and passionate funders, who help ensure Trekkers has the resources needed to meet the evolving needs of students, their families, and our community.



TOTAL REVENUE
\$761,839

TOTAL EXPENSES
\$797,608



ORGANIZATION UPDATES

Midcoast Community Collaborative

The MidCoast Community Collaborative is a new backbone network of community members and organizations – healthcare, behavioral health, schools, community-based organizations, business leaders, families and youth – focused on supporting the growth and development of healthy children, healthy families, and strong communities in Lincoln and Knox County. Trekkers is honored to help lead this work as a member of the Steering Committee and as a fiscal sponsor.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at Trekkers

In continued collaboration with Chrysalis Consulting, Trekkers has completed phase one of a multiphase project, which included conducting surveys and focus groups with students, families, volunteers, and staff across the community. Today, Trekkers has identified growth areas, developed an action plan, and will begin trainings. Trekkers has also embarked on a new 3-year partnership with the National Inclusion Project this September, to progress towards more inclusive programs and communications.

Trekkers Training Institute Continues to Grow

Diane Sternberg, hired as the Trekkers Training Institute Director in fall of 2022, has been working on expanding access and use of Trekkers Youth Programming Principles and specific practices across the state. She has continued contracts with existing clients, including the Aspirations Incubator partners, has offered a series of youth engagement workshops throughout the summer, and developed new or reimagined programming with schools and teachers, including with Oceanside Middle and High School and St. George School.

School Partnerships

Staff offered weekly 7th Grade programming at Oceanside Middle School, facilitating team-building activities towards relationship and empathy building.

Maine GearShare

Now in our third year of partnership, Trekkers' investment in organizational membership with Maine GearShare provides all Trekkers families free access to borrow outdoor equipment, including personal gear like hiking boots and clothing. This partnership helps make Trekkers even more accessible to all in our community by removing the need (and barrier) for families to have to purchase their own equipment.

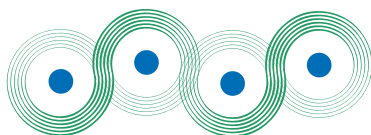
ORGANIZATION UPDATES

The Road Ahead Campaign for Trekkers Future

In late 2021, Trekkers launched our first major Capital Campaign, The Road Ahead Campaign for Trekkers' Future. Since our launch, we have made exciting progress towards our campaign goals of creating a thriving campus by renovating our property in Rockland into an intentional gathering place, fueling our literal travels with a new bus and bus barn, expanding our impact through the Trekkers Training Institute, and establishing a Board Designated Fund to ensure that future Trekkers start off on the right road. To date, we have raised \$1,700,000 of our \$2,500,000 working goal, thanks to the early and generous investments of supporters who share our belief in the future of our community. **To learn more about the Road Ahead, please visit www.trekkers.org/theroadahead.**

New Research

The results of a 3-year study conducted by the University of Southern Maine Data Innovation Project is expected to be released in the winter of 2023-2024. The study compares Trekkers students to their peers at the same school, investigating differences in social-emotional wellbeing, high school attendance, graduation, and GPA, as well as college-going and persistence rates. Initial results demonstrate distinct positive impacts of Trekkers.



The Road Ahead

CAMPAIGN FOR TREKKERS' FUTURE



MAINE

GEAR

SHARE



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.

What is it about Trekkers that has kept you engaged and coming back over the course of many years?
"The people. Traveling is great but the connections and bonds are the real reward."

- 12th Grade Trekker

10th Grade Team
Wobbegong in
Colorado



Here's what Trekkers students say:

87%

report improved
relationships with peers

85%

are more
action-oriented

82%

report increased empathy
toward others

Here's what Trekkers students say:



RESILIENCE

75%

report increased ability
to persevere

79%

say they are more
optimistic

86%

report improved
reflection skills

"My biggest
takeaway was
knowing that if I
ever need to take
a break from the
world I can go
outside."

- 7th Grader

10th Grade Team
Squaliform in Arches
National Park

BUILDING RESILIENCE

Resilience is built by practicing how to use personal strengths to overcome challenges: 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; and having the courage to share something publicly with the group.



7th Grade Team
Zenith in Acadia
National Park



ASPIRATIONS

"[This year taught me] that I have a lot of potential and I can do whatever I put my mind to."

- 7th Grader



Team Yosemite at Great Sand
Dunes National Park



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

- Alumni Professional Panel
- Life Priorities Brainstorm
- Resumé Writing Workshops
- College Visits
- Mock Interview with Business Leaders

Training Leaders

11th and 12th graders are invited to become Student Leaders. With mentor training and opportunities to practice in community leadership, they can apply what they learn.

Here's what Trekkers students say:

91%
report increased
interest in learning

65% are more
academically
motivated

88%
report improved
critical thinking skills

COMMUNITY SUPPORT

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



Thank You!

www.trekkers

4552+

Hours Volunteered

48

Business
Sponsors

164

Volunteers

(That's 23 Alumni + 53 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.

Staff Leadership

Amie Hutchison, Executive Director
Brandon Caron, Program Director
Diane Sternberg, Training Director
Kate Elmes, Development Director
Teresa Valdepeñas, Communications and Impact Manager

2022-2023 BOARD

Kathleen Meil, President
Matthew Graham, Vice President
Eric Waters, Treasurer and Trekkers Parent
Alyssa Landrith, Secretary and Trekkers Alum
Adeline McPhail, Current Trekkers Student
Bryson Cowan King, Trekkers Alum and Campaign Chair
Evelyn Isom
Fletcher Smith-McNaboe
Kaylee Chiaramonte, Current Trekkers Student
Laura Miller, Trekkers parent
Leah Chamberlin
Makaila Hickey, Trekkers Alum
Suzanne Luzius
Jack Carpenter, Emeritus, Founding Member

Platinum
Transparency
2023

Candid.



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

